



Blue Ridge Bugle: Fall 2019
A publication of the Blue Ridge Neighborhood Association (BRNA)

Neighborhood Association Board Members:
President Debora (Ralf) Shaw, Vice President Cory Rutz,
Treasurer Sarah Wasserman, Secretary Susan Catt
Directors at large: Kelly Bogan, Dylan Grigar,
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SIDEWALK REPAIR

The Bloomington Municipal Code says property owners are responsible for keeping their sidewalks in good repair. Weather, trees, and general wear and tear have caused cracks and misalignments with neighborhood sidewalks and the neighborhood association wants to encourage repairs through a group contract with a reputable contractor. Board member Kelly Bogan will oversee this project, which is open to all BR homeowners. The first step is to identify how many neighbors will participate and how many sidewalk squares this will involve. We expect the cost to be around \$300 per square. Homeowners with squares with at least 1.5 inches difference between adjoining squares have been notified and, as agreed at the August business meeting, they will receive partial reimbursement if they are BRNA members and choose to participate.

What you should do:

1. Decide if you would like to take part in the group contract. If so, how many sidewalk squares would you plan to replace at an estimated \$300 per square?
2. Inform Kelly Bogan **by Dec. 1, 2019**, at kbhogain@gmail.com of your interest and the number of squares.

STORMWATER CONCERNS

Like many of us, Blue Ridge homes have been around for a while, but recent weather is taking a toll. The wet spring brought flooding and erosion, especially in houses on or overlooking Dunn Street. There is no simple solution. For example, Rob Hasskamp persuaded the city to improve the flow through culverts along Kenwood, only to find that this fall's rains moved so fast that the water created new erosion in the ditch.

The board is working with the city to conduct a stormwater survey that considers the entire neighborhood. If you have specific concerns or pictures of problem areas, please contact Ralf Shaw at shawd@indiana.edu. All neighbors can help reduce water run-off, for example by planting grasses, shrubs, and trees with deep roots and by composting leaves to on your property. We can't let our neighborhood slip away!

COOKIE EXCHANGE

We had such a good time last year that we'll have another cookie exchange: 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12, in the North Central Church of Christ Fellowship Hall. Bring a couple dozen of your favorites, enjoy good times with neighbors and take home someone else's delicious baked goods – win, win, win!

BLUE RIDGE NEXTDOOR LEADS

Nextdoor, our social networking site, relies on local contacts, or "Leads," to keep us on track. Nextdoor describes Leads as "simply neighbors like other members, who have been granted additional capabilities to help their neighborhood run more smoothly." Capabilities include: voting to remove messages that they believe violate Nextdoor Guidelines, verifying applicants for membership, and editing the about section on the neighborhood feed. Our Leads are Amy Henn, Cory Rutz and Ruth Aydt. Ruth is also the BRNA general tech advisor.





RECYCLING REMINDER

The city occasionally updates what can be accepted in its single stream recycling program. The current list is at: <https://bloomington.in.gov/sanitation/recycling>. In spite of the information on bin lids, we should exclude wax or plastic-coated boxes, pizza boxes and Styrofoam. All forms are non-recyclable, but the county recycling center on South Walnut does take it. Sanitation crews will no longer collect recycling from containers that hold non-recyclable materials. If your container holds compromised items, crews will place a sticker on it indicating why it was not collected. Please ensure that you only place materials that are approved items, clean and free of food debris in your recycling container.

BRNA BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Starting in January, the neighborhood association board plans to meet at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month at the Burger Theory restaurant in the Holiday Inn. Visitors from the neighborhood are always welcome.

READY TO GO PAPERLESS?

The paper version of the *Bugle* is mailed to every home in Blue Ridge unless you ask not to receive it. You can have the full-color version delivered electronically via email or you can rely on the Nextdoor posting to keep up with neighborhood news. To stop the mailed delivery of the *Bugle*, email Ralf Shaw at shawd@indiana.edu.

WHAT A GREAT PICNIC!

Deb Kloeppel and her committee arranged excellent weather and the traditional spread of culinary delights from Blue Ridgers for our 48th neighborhood picnic in September. Special thanks to Whitney Rutz for organizing the kids' parade. Some 132 neighbors joined the fun! More photos can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/BRPicnicPics>.



NEW NEIGHBORHOOD DIRECTORY

Want to help with the next printed neighborhood directory? Does your information need to be updated? The next issue should be ready in spring 2020. Contact Ralf Shaw at shawd@indiana.edu or 812-331-1322 if you can help with verifying information or if you'd like to help distribute directories to dues-paid neighbors. The directory will also be posted as a PDF file on Nextdoor.