



Blue Ridge Bugle

Fall 2018

A publication of the Blue Ridge Neighborhood Association (BRNA)
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Neighborhood Association Board Members:

President Debora (Ralf) Shaw, Vice President Mike Trotzke, Treasurer Shirley Watkins, Secretary Susan Catt
Directors at large: Carole Canfield, John Grigutis, Jillian Kinzie, Jeremy Nation

BUGLE ADDS ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Your friendly *Blue Ridge Bugle* will continue to be printed, courtesy of the Bloomington Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development, and mailed to residents. Each issue will also be posted on Nextdoor.

With this issue, we also offer email delivery for any resident who prefers that medium. If you want to continue receiving the paper edition, you don't need to do anything. If you want to stop delivery of your paper copy, please email Ralf Shaw at shawd@indiana.edu to be taken off the newsletter distribution list. Let her know if you want email delivery, or if the posting on Nextdoor is sufficient.

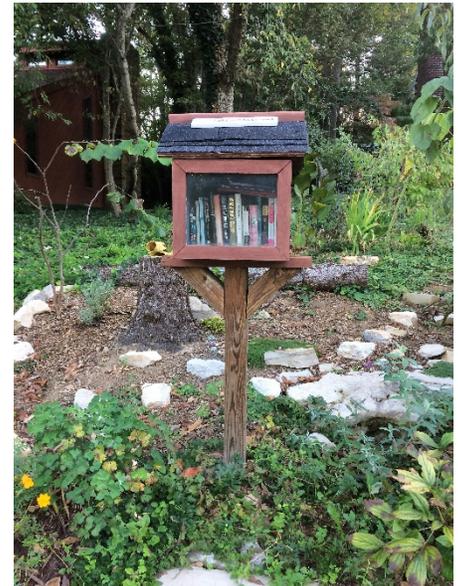
LITTLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY by Roberta S. Mank

Five years ago, we became stewards of our very own Little Free Library. It was our intent to share our love of books and reading while building a sense of community on our street and in the Blue Ridge neighborhood.

To that end, it has been a great success. It began with the purchase and installation of the Library and filling it with books. By placing our LFL close to the road, readers have comfortable access without stepping too far into the yard space. It requires some minimal maintenance. Occasionally cobwebs need to be cleaned. The concept of "take a book, leave a book" works well, but book volume still must be monitored.

We have enjoyed seeing all types of readers including families stop and see what is inside. We would love to have you come by and see for yourself at 2834 Blue Slopes Drive. Feel free to contact me at 812-360-3640 or rsmank@hotmail.com if you would like more information.

For many more ideas, check out the LFL website <https://littlefreelibrary.org/>.



2018 PICNIC A SUCCESS

One hundred Blue Ridgers attended the picnic on Oliver Drive this year. Thanks to Deb Kloepfel and her picnic committee for the excellent arrangements, especially the lovely weather on the rain date. Rex Tayloe organized the kids play area and Donna and Alex Cartwright brought flowers for the tables. Carson's Barbecue and Catering supplied their usual delicious main course; this year we also had a vegetarian alternative – veggie wraps from Crazy Horse, courtesy of Ron Stanhouse. The tabletop map of Blue Ridge shows that Oliver Drive had the highest participation in the picnic, at 33 percent. Blue Slopes – where people had to do more than just walk out their front doors – was second, with 31 percent.

'UPROOTING' BLUE RIDGE

After two presentations from the Monroe County - Identify and Reduce Invasive Species coalition at BR annual meetings, residents are stepping up to reduce the invasive plants in our neighborhood. Margaret Dalle-Ave hosted a training session with Ellen Jacquart of MC-IRIS on Oct. 13.

Neighbors have encountered delays in borrowing weed wrenches (to go after Asian bush honeysuckle) from city and county agencies. John Grigutis led a Blue Ridge solution, submitting a successful request for funding from the city to purchase two "Uprooters," or next generation weed wrenches, for removing large weeds, saplings and small trees. The Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development awarded funding through its Small and Simple Grants program. John will house the uprooters and provide instructions on their use. Contact him to borrow them.

BIGGEST TREES IN BLUE RIDGE

Our inventory of trees and tree species in Blue Ridge is growing. This list is current as of October. Can you add to the list or top one of these in size, measured in diameter at breast height? [Check out this link](#) for directions to measure your tree’s diameter at breast height.

Tree	Circumference (inches)	DBH (inches)	Reported by	Location
American elm	126	40.1	Charles Davis	2905 N. Bankers Drive
Cottonwood	68	21.6	Ralf Shaw	302 E. Clover Lane
Pin oak	144	45.8	Andy Knust	2975 N. Bankers Drive
Silver maple	211	67.2	Andy Knust	2975 N. Bankers Drive
Tulip	108	34.4	Janice Peterson	421 E. Blue Ridge Drive
Willow oak	87	27.7	Janice Peterson	421 E. Blue Ridge Drive
Yellowwood	5	1.6	Anne Veldman	2911 N. Bankers Drive



SIDEWALKS

The city code says that the “vertical discontinuity,” or difference in height, between two sections of a sidewalk should not be more than 1/4 inch and that the homeowner is responsible for correcting the problem.

Your Blue Ridge Board is considering how the neighborhood association could contribute funds to help with repair costs.

If you are willing to serve on the committee to oversee this project, please contact Ralf Shaw at shawd@indiana.edu or 812-331-1322.

FRONT GATE UPDATE

The neighborhood’s front gate on Walnut Street is looking especially great. A reminder that your dues paid for the repainting, and special thanks to:

- David Sparks for the excellent gardening, including a “Fat Albert” spruce to replace the one lost to disease.
- Gene Laughman, who oversaw the renewal and replacement of electrical wiring and floodlights.
- Carole Canfield, who coordinated purchase of a sturdy new flag.
- Dan Toth, who continues to remove trash that accumulates in the area.



BUSINESS MEETING AND COOKIE SWAP

Blue Ridge will have a business meeting, supplemented by a cookie swap, to discuss and approve expenditure for the 2019 spring clean-up. Details coming soon.

Please save the date: Tuesday, Dec. 11, 7 to 8 p.m. at North Central Church of Christ, located at Dunn and the Bypass.