



**Blue Ridge Bugle:** Spring 2020  
A publication of the Blue Ridge Neighborhood Association (BRNA)

*Neighborhood Association Board Members:*  
*President Debora (Ralf) Shaw, Vice President Cory Rutz,*  
*Interim Treasurer Matt Fields, Secretary Susan Catt*  
*Directors at large: Kelly Bogan, Dylan Grigar,*  
*Matt Fields, Paul Kern*  
*Newsletter Editor: Bethany Nolan*

### **SIDEWALK REPAIRS**

In April, Clark Landscaping replaced 27 sidewalk squares in Blue Ridge. Andy Clark observed that the old sidewalk depths varied from two to six inches; city code calls for four inches, and the new sidewalks conform. The crews corrected other problems, such as putting gravel under the new sidewalks and filling in voids under adjoining (existing) sidewalk squares. In other words, no wonder the old sidewalks had so many problems! Thanks to the neighbors who participated, making Blue Ridge more readily walkable by sharing the costs: Brett and Heather King, Hidehiko Azumaya, Enid Zimmerman, Chuck and Michelle Cohen, Tim and Mary Hallett, David Coppage, Jim and Ann Birch, Kelly and Ruth Bogan, Harv and Connie Hegarty, Bob Mundt, and Margaret Dalle-Ave.

### **PICNIC ON HOLD, BUT KIDS PARADE IN THE WORKS**

Health conditions raise uncertainties about the wisdom of sharing a neighborhood-ful of dishes and dining tables, so the BRNA Board decided to call off the picnic this year. Fortunately, Whitney Rutz will chair the effort to hold the kids' parade for its second year in a row. Contact her if you have ideas or can help with the parade: she's on NextDoor, email at [whitneyrutz84@gmail.com](mailto:whitneyrutz84@gmail.com) or text/call at 317-501-8228.



### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEEDED**

Our new constitution has us elect a nominating committee at the 2020 annual meeting. The two-member committee will present the slate of officers and conduct the election at the 2021 annual meeting. Contact Ralf Shaw at [shawd@indiana.edu](mailto:shawd@indiana.edu) if you would be willing to serve on the Nominating Committee.

### **ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING ...**

The board is considering Tuesday, Aug. 25, as the date for the annual meeting. We don't know if group gatherings will be allowed or, even if they are, whether Blue Ridgers would want to get together. Contact any board member if you have suggestions on how to "hold" our meeting.

### **BLOOMING NEIGHORS CELEBRATION**

Bloomington's Housing and Neighborhood Development Department (HAND) will celebrate neighborhoods in conjunction with National Good Neighbors Day, Sept. 28. One part of the event will be history of the neighborhoods. Paul and Linda Kern are taking the lead on this, with their plans for "Blue Ridge: The Mini-series." Please get in touch with them at [lindamcphd@comcast.net](mailto:lindamcphd@comcast.net) if you can help or have stories to add. And stay tuned as the mini-series grows.

## NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

Blue Ridge was one of the lucky recipients of the city's Cleanup Awards. Our cleanup will be 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26. The city will provide orange safety vests for all volunteers, signs to direct the activities, and a city staff member will be in attendance during the entire clean-up. They will also provide equipment to collect and remove trash, facilities for disposal of hazardous materials and tires, and a chipper service. Dylan Grigar at [dylan@lorenwoodbuilders.com](mailto:dylan@lorenwoodbuilders.com) is the board member in charge of the cleanup. Please get in touch if you can help.



## LOWER CASCADES ROAD CLOSURE

The Parks and Recreation Department has temporarily closed part of Lower Cascades Road to assess whether a permanent closure would help link Miller-Showers Park to Cascades and ultimately to the dog park and Griffy Lake. Several BR residents discussed their opposition to such a closure at open meetings with our City Council district representative, Sue Sgambelluri. A major concern is the loss of a scenic and convenient way into town; people suggested that a trail along Dunn Street would be a better way to connect Miller-Showers. Parks and Recreation is surveying park users, with the recognition that this is not a "typical" summer to assess park use. Take the survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7VDP2BF>. Sue Sgambelluri holds open meetings on the first Saturday of each month. Contact her at [bloomingtonsue@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingtonsue@gmail.com) if you have thoughts on this or other issues or if you would like to join the meetings, held recently via Zoom.

## NEIGHBORHOOD DIRECTORY

The beautiful 2020-2021 edition of the neighborhood directory has been completed. This one includes an impressive map of the neighborhood, thanks to Cory Rutz and the Indiana Geographical and Water Survey, as well a cover and design by Editor Martha Michelson. If you have paid dues for 2019-2020, but did not receive a copy, please contact Ralf Shaw at [shawd@indiana.edu](mailto:shawd@indiana.edu).

## CITY TREES

Bloomington Urban Forester Erin Hatch is interested in finding places for young trees in BR "tree-lawns," the area between street and sidewalk. Please contact her if you have space to offer. She will check the site, have utility departments assess suitability, and work with homeowners who want to be involved in the choice of species. Erin can be reached at [erin.hatch@bloomington.in.gov](mailto:erin.hatch@bloomington.in.gov) or 812-349-3716.

## YARD SALE POSTPONED

Our neighborhood yard sale, planned for this spring, is postponed for a year. The BR Board decided that it is too soon to encourage people to come into the neighborhood, handle goods and exchange currency.

## E-BUGLE DELIVERY

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically only (not in print), email Ralf Shaw at [shawd@indiana.edu](mailto:shawd@indiana.edu).