



Blue Ridge Bugle: Spring 2021
A publication of the Blue Ridge Neighborhood Association (BRNA)

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

HELP REMOVE INVASIVE PLANTS

Good news — Blue Ridge has received a grant from the city to help remove Purple Wintercreeper, Asian Bush Honeysuckle, and other invasive plants. The grant can pay for such things as chipper rental, replacement native plants, and paper bags for material to go to the city compost so seeds don't spread.

You can participate by offering to work on the project or offering to allow invasives to be removed from your property. Notify Jane Parker Smith at 4women2men@msn.com to find out more.

MC-IRIS has a 90-minute video on how to remove Purple Wintercreeper at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/89741887130/permalink/10157368297392131/>. See slides that help identify these plants here (focus on slides 14, 16): http://mc-iris.org/uploads/4/1/1/8/4118817/take_control_-_identifying_and_controlling_invasive_plants.pdf.



YARD SALE IN MAY

Find new homes for things that are ready to move out of closets, basements and garages! The Blue Ridge yard sale will be outdoors, with masks and social distancing. Participation is optional and open to all neighborhood residents. Tentative dates are Saturday, May 1 or May 8. The final date will be chosen based on weather forecast. BRNA will place an ad in *The Herald-Times*, place the big signs at the neighborhood entrances, and coordinate participation indicators, such as a banner or other environmentally acceptable signal. For more information contact Chris Franke at octafrank@gmail.com



ADOPT-A-DRAIN

Is there a drain near you that could use a little special attention? You can sign up to adopt a drain for the city's family-friendly volunteer program, Adopt-a-Drain. Neighbors help maintain storm drains to reduce flood risk and increase water quality by inspecting certain storm drains on a regular basis -- especially before heavy rains -- to keep them from becoming clogged with grass clippings, leaves, trash and other debris.

Find out more about the program here:

<https://bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater/adopt-a-drain>.

BLUE RIDGE WEBSITE

Blue Ridge has a website that serves as a public face for our neighborhood. Among other treasures, it has the all the episodes of the Blue Ridge history mini-series: <https://blueridge.bloomington.in.us/history>.

NOMINATION OF BRNA OFFICERS

Nomination committee members Jeannie Galbreath and Jerry Towle presented the slate of officers for 2021-2023:

- **President:** Cory Rutz
- **Vice President:** Kate Fairley
- **Secretary:** Alison Baum
- **Treasurer:** Matt Fields
- **Directors-At-Large:** Kelly Bogan, Dylan Grigar, Paul Kern and Jane Parker Smith

The summer newsletter will have statements from the nominees. Jeannie and Jerry will conduct the election of officers at the BRNA annual meeting, tentatively scheduled for Aug. 17.

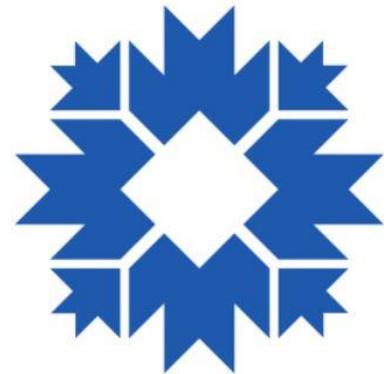
BRNA BOARD MEETING

Your neighborhood association board meets at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month on Zoom. The meetings are open to any Blue Ridge resident. The agenda, which includes the Zoom link, is posted a few days in advance on NextDoor. You can contact any board member for the connection information as well.

CASCADES PARK ROAD CLOSURE

Last spring, the city closed a part of Old State Road 37 through Cascades Park. Seen as a way to increase safety and enjoyment of the park, it also removes a pleasant and easy alternate route to downtown for some north side residents. The trial closure will run through June 30, 2021. The city is collecting thoughts on:

- how you use the park: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7VDP2BF>
- the impact of the road closure: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/lower-cascades-pilot-impact>.



WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD!

Several new neighbors have moved to Blue Ridge since the directory was published a year ago. Please welcome the new members on the enclosed directory update!



PICNIC THIS FALL?

It's possible the neighborhood will feel comfortable to have a picnic in September. Deb and Greg Kloeppe, our excellent picnic planners, have agreed to gauge interest among neighbors and organize the event if we decide to hold the picnic.

If you'd like to help or just voice your opinion, respond to their note on NextDoor or email kloeppe.deb@gmail.com.

E-BUGLE DELIVERY

If you received this newsletter in print and would like to go electronic, email Ralf Shaw at shawd@indiana.edu, and please indicate whether you prefer to receive the newsletter via email or if the PDF posted on NextDoor is sufficient.