

**Neighborhoods**

**Are more than houses**

# Bloomingtondale Neighborhood News

**FALL 2012**

## **FAMILY NEIGHBORHOODS HAVE MORE THAN NICE HOUSES AND GOOD SCHOOLS**

Monday is Garbage Collection Day

Recycling Day is **Week A**

**Oct 1-15-29    Nov 12-26    Dec 10-26?**

+++++

**BLOOMINGDALE ASSOCIATION**

**MEETING IS:**

**Third Saturday @ 10:00 am**

Trinity United Methodist Church

609 Putnam Street

Door is on Short Street

Off the alley by Parking Lot

Come to the Community Room

Handicap Facility

***They have a sense of community  
Neighbors are friends  
Houses feel like homes***

***Why does it take blizzards, floods, or power outages to strengthen  
natural bonds between people? Most people will say they value a  
friendly neighborhood with a supportive community  
over a large house in a community  
where they don't see their neighbors.***

Creating a safer, more peaceful neighborhood is a team effort. You don't have to be a neighborly type person, you can just be a silent part of the team, but be on the team.

Believe it or not, there are others who are as offended by the trash spoiling your community as you are, but like you, they may be frustrated. All they need is to hear someone say "Together we can do it!" All they need is for someone to start the ball rolling.

The houses and people in neighborhoods are constantly changing.

- The houses are being updated or are being rundown.
- People are not staying in houses for generations like they did in past years.
- Many feel no sense of ownership.
- Many feel that cleaning up the streets, alleys, or their property is the city's responsibility, or the landlords, or the neighbors.

Sometimes there are special circumstances why the houses are being neglected. But just because the house next door is vacant or neglected doesn't mean that the whole block needs to quit making positive changes to their property.

As a neighborhood, let's keep our houses nice, but also remember to make our community a supportive, friendly area. Help our neighbors, be friendly, not only to the adults, but to the many youth that are growing into another generation of "good neighborhood citizens".

**REMEMBER - - -**

**NEIGHBORHOODS ARE MORE THAN HOUSES**

This publication is made  
possible with a grant from



Fort Wayne  
Urban Enterprise Association

**Each Home is a billboard  
for the image of the neighborhood**



## Happy House List

As you drive around the area  
you will find a lot of homes  
that have made many  
Improvements.

I was going to have a list of houses that have been improved and renovated, but as I went around the area, I realized I would need a lot of space to list all the people who have been working on an improvement project.

So instead we need to complement everyone who has made the neighborhood houses “Happy” and welcoming to visitors.

Thanks for investing in your neighborhood.

### Checklist for getting ready for fall and winter:

#### Furnace:

- Clean and inspected
- Replace filters (once a month)
- Clean vents, duct openings and registers

#### Gutters & Downspouts:

- Clean out and repair, check for leaks
- Make sure gutter spouts drain away from the foundation.

#### Roof:

- Check in the attic for any leaks
- Replace bad shingles (it is much cheaper to replace at first discovery, then to put off and need to have a whole new roof)

#### Windows & Doors:

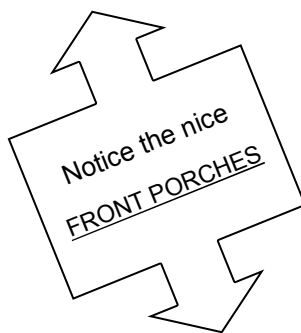
- Check every window and door for drafts
- Weather proof with caulking or stripping

#### Outdoor Plumbing:

- Turn off and drain hoses and faucets.

Tools that you will store for the winter should be well oiled before you put them away.

Putting things right now will make it easier to get started in the spring.







The Historic Wells Business Corridor is part of the Bloomingdale Neighborhood.

The above picture is a building that is being remodeled to bring a new business to Wells Street ----- keep watching the progress and look for someone to bring a new business to the area.



Thanks to people and businesses that stepped up to help make watering the flowers for the Business Corridor a lot easier for Judi Wire.

### **Check out her fancy watering cart!**

This year she does not have to stop traffic on the street. She just takes the little tractor on the sidewalk.

Each year the Bloomingdale Neighborhood gives a donation to purchase flowers for on a pole and for our big flower pot.

**Thanks Judi and volunteers for watering and keeping the plants looking beautiful!**



## **911 EMERGENCY**

The Fort Wayne 911 Center provides service to the entire city and at times receives calls for agencies outside the city limits. Due to the high volume of calls the center receives, it is important that only necessary calls be made on the 911 emergency line so emergency resources can be delivered in an efficient and timely manner.

### **WHEN TO CALL 911:**

Any crime or complaint that is in progress or has just occurred (last 15 minutes). This should be a situation where there is personal injury, property damage or a conflict has or could occur.

A situation that starts out minor (such as a property damage accident) but then escalates and turns potentially dangerous (participants of accident start arguing, or you find out there are injuries).

Anytime you feel that life or property is in danger, due to a police, fire or medical emergency.

### **DO NOT CALL 911:**

For phone numbers, directions, or other general information. These types of calls may be directed to the:

**Police desk, 427-1222.**  
**This is a 24- hour service.**

If you discover that your vehicle or property has been damaged in the past and you don't know who did it. This report can be taken over the phone through:  
**Tele-service at — 427-1340.**

## **CONCERNS**

If a person, vehicle, or animal is hit, because of obstructed view, caused by the overgrown bushes, trees, or weeds, this could become a liability issue for the owner of the property.

Also, if your vegetation is hanging over, and it scratches someone's vehicle, you might be liable and need to cover the expenses of a new paint job. Think ahead! **Trim your bushes!**

Many neighbors have been trimming their trees and shrubbery. This has been making the area look so nice.

When it comes time to dispose of the waste trimmings, just cut them to **3 feet in length, bundle them together**. If you put them into a container – not to exceed 60 lbs. Or you can just use string or anything to tie them in bundles and stack them together.

Then put them out with your garbage collection. It is so easy to get rid of them.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE THEM  
STORED IN A PILE THAT COLLECTS  
RODENTS, INSECTS, OR CHILDREN.**



**Remember to rake your leaves  
on the right of way strip**

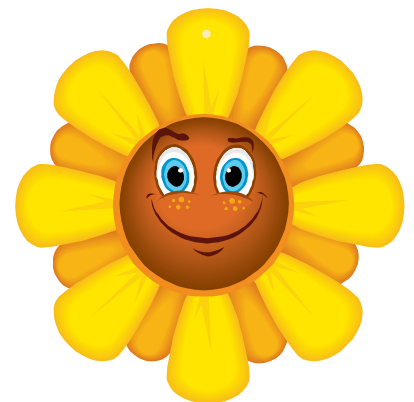
**Also, remember to keep the  
drains at the corners free of  
debris and leaves**

## **Let's light up the neighborhood**

During Holiday Season  
it has  
become a tradition to put up  
lights for Halloween,  
Thanksgiving,  
and the Christmas season.

This is a wonderful idea  
it is a welcoming sight  
it is helping to light  
up the area.

By turning lights on in the  
morning  
it helps the children to  
start  
the day with a bright smile.



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one of the neighborhood businesses?

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the next time you need something,  
look at the businesses that have  
advertised in this newsletter.

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A Baby's Closet: Sat 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.



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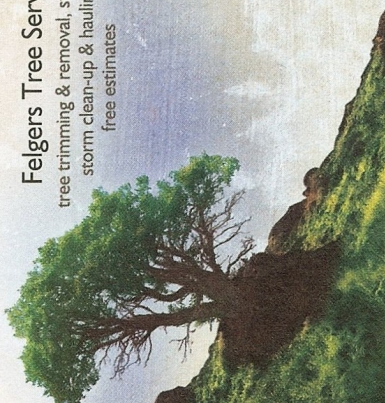
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The below Press Release was also put on our Web Site.

On the face book page people reported having their vehicle broken into. This is not just a Bloomingdale Neighborhood problem. It is all over the city, county, state and the country.

***As good (not noisy) neighbors, we need to be alert and watch the area.***

***This means not only in the late hours, but also during the day.***

***Public awareness and involvement is a criminal's worst enemy!***

## **Vehicle Break-Ins / Minimizing the Risk of Becoming a Victim**

For Release: August 30, 2012

Contact: 260 427-1343

City of Fort Wayne Police Department

### **Vehicle Break-Ins on the Rise**

#### **Minimizing the Risk of Becoming a Victim**

*Fort Wayne, Ind* – The City of Fort Wayne Police Department is presently investigating numerous incidents of vehicle break-ins; thirty-six incidents were reported this past week alone, and peaked at sixty-seven reports in a one-week period as recent as July 2012. While some might consider vehicle break-ins to be a “petty crime”, detectives with the Fort Wayne Police Department disagree and say that the loss to victims can be significant, and the crime itself feeds other criminal activity making prevention all the more important.

#### **Significant Loss to Victims**

Victims' losses include purses, wallets, check books, credit cards, cash, cell phones, jewelry, GPS units, laptops, CDs, clothing, other valuable electronic or digital equipment, stereos, and even loose change, medication, and garage door openers.

#### **Vehicle Break-Ins Feed Other Criminal Activity**

Many of these items are taken with the intent to be sold or pawned, and in some instances stolen credit or debit cards were used to make large purchases shortly after the break-in was believed to have occurred. Also, if the criminal obtains the victim's personal documents then the victim is at risk of identity theft. Additionally, statistics have shown that if a garage door opener is stolen from a vehicle that the criminal will attempt to burglarize the home at a later date.

#### **Police Efforts to Reduce Vehicle Break-Ins**

Typically vehicle break-ins occur where there is greater opportunity for reward; that is, where the criminal element can have access to many vehicles as opposed to only a few. Prime locations or targeted areas for this crime are parking lots (nightclubs, exercise facilities, apartment complexes, hotels, shopping plazas, churches), and residential neighborhoods. These areas are most commonly targeted in the overnight hours, but vehicles have been targeted during daylight hours as well. Patrol officers periodically patrol these areas. In addition to marked patrol units, the Fort Wayne Police Department employs the use of unmarked surveillance vehicles. You can help too by reporting any suspicious person(s) or activity, and by minimizing your risk of becoming a victim.

#### **Prevention - Minimize Your Risk of Becoming a Victim**

Park your vehicle in well-lit areas;

**Always** secure your vehicle's doors and windows;

**Never** leave valuable items in your vehicle; if necessary to leave valuables in your vehicle, then hide them prior to arriving at your destination.

Always document serial numbers of valuable items.

Install an alarm on your vehicle;

Check your vehicle prior to exiting; ensure that you didn't leave valuables in plain view.

The Fort Wayne Police Department would like to remind you to be vigilant in the protection of your vehicle and the items that you keep inside them. Criminals look for the easy target. Is your vehicle an easy target?

Raquel Foster

Public Information Officer

City of Fort Wayne Police Department

**Are you tired of reading and seeing all the bad news about break-ins, items being stolen, and public and private property being destroyed?**

Remember that only a small majority of the population are the ones that are not law abiding citizens. The rest of the people need to step up and say that **“enough is enough”**, we work hard to get ahead and we need to make sure that those who take away our belongings are made to feel **ashamed** that they can take from others and go around bragging and showing off their items as if they **earned them**.

**Remember—law enforcement officers can’t be everywhere at once—but as neighbors we can.**

**Ask a person who has been a victim of a theft from their home or vehicle.**

**It is a real stressful experience!**

Put that neighborhood “know how” to work. It’s simple—Use your eyes and ears and then your telephone.

If you spot something suspicious, call law enforcement immediately.

**As a neighborhood,  
we need to start  
letting people know  
that we are serious  
about protecting our property,  
whether it is our homes,  
our cars, bicycles,  
landscape,  
or our neighbors property.  
We need to take action against  
the criminal element.**

**JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS  
IN FIGHTING CRIME  
REPORT IT**

## Notice-Warning-Beware

**You might think that it is your  
next door neighbor who is  
calling the police or  
neighborhood code or  
another city department,  
but you could be  
VERY WRONG!**

**It might be  
all your surrounding  
neighbors  
together!!!**

### ATTENTION:

To the right  
is a picture  
of a nice  
Sofa.



It is the kind that should be  
**in the house.**

They should not be in **yards,  
on porches or places** where  
rain, snow, and other elements  
can damage them. They will  
become home to mold, mice,  
spiders, and many other  
unhealthy creatures!



This is to be used to cut the  
grass that is growing on the  
lawn. It is called a **LAWN  
MOWER**. It should be used a  
lot in the summer months and  
should only be stored in garage  
between the times of mowing or  
during the winter months.



Please keep your dog  
chained up or behind a  
fence. It is very dangerous  
for the mail people.

It is also very important to  
make sure that the steps  
leading up to the mail box or  
front door are in a good and  
safe condition.



People have noticed that  
the garbage containers  
have been left out near the  
curb or edge of the alley  
many days after the pickup  
date. They do not walk  
back to their place for  
storing between pickups!  
Please put them back in a  
timely fashion.

**They might not have legs,  
but they do have wheels!**



**This is not a  
Curbside Rain Gauge**



# Official Trick-or-Treat Hours Established for the City of Fort Wayne



**Wednesday, October 31, 2012**

**6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**



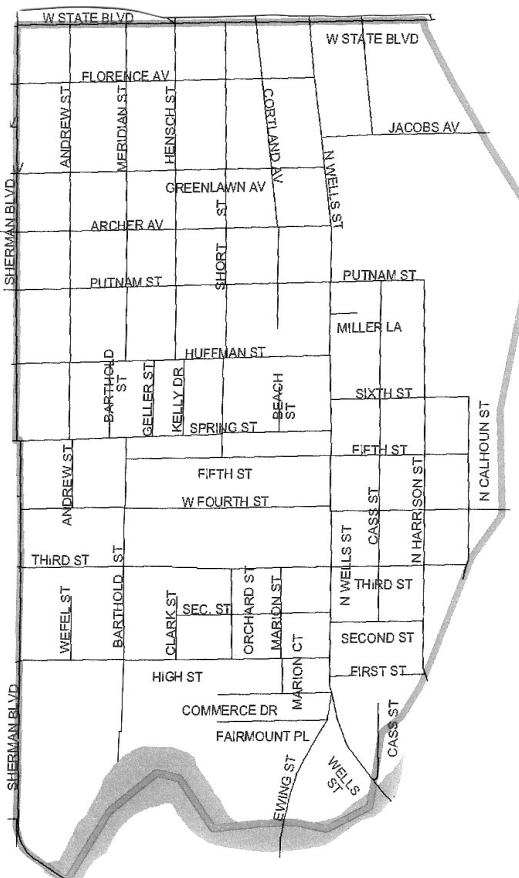
The official hours for 'Trick-or-Treat' for 2012 have been established for the City of Fort Wayne. Trick-or-Treat will be observed in the City of Fort Wayne from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31, 2012. Trick-or-treaters should only visit those homes with an illuminated exterior front light (or porch light) indicating that trick-or-treaters are welcomed. Trick-or-treaters should remember the following safety rules:

- **Do not wear costumes that obscure your vision;**
- **Wear reflective clothing, or light colored clothing to make you more visible to motorists;**
- **Travel in groups composed of at least one adult;**
- **Have a pre-planned route;**
- **Only cross streets at the crosswalks;**
- **Visit familiar homes, and do not enter a stranger's home;**
- **Be prepared for adverse weather;**
- **Refrain from consuming any treats until inspected by an adult.**

Raquel R. Foster, FW Police Dept.

## Bloomingtondale Neighborhood

### Boundaries



## **The City of Fort Wayne wants to expand State Boulevard into a primary east-west arterial corridor like Coliseum Boulevard**

Plans are currently prepared to widen State Blvd. from two lanes between Wells and Spy Run to FIVE lanes, straightening the carefully designed traffic-speed-calming curves over Spy Run Creek and through the National Register of Historic Places BROOKVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD. The city plans to elevate the roadway 7' - 9'; turning this appealing residential district into yet another wide, fast urban highway.

The Brookview Neighborhood is adjacent to our area.

The concerns of many neighborhoods that will be effected are about property values; quality of life; city attractiveness; safety and transportation accessibility for uses that include local vehicles, biking, walking and public transit.

This project should be halted and plans to modify State Blvd. should begin anew with more of a public transparent planning process that will benefit both the city and neighborhoods.

People do not realize how much more traffic this will bring to a residual neighborhood. Downtown is trying to limit the lanes of traffic and amount of traffic...do you think that this part of the city will become a primary artery from Hwy 69 up Goshen Road down W. State to E. State to Coliseum Blvd??

**Think about the traffic congestion now....what will it become like if these plans are completed as proposed?????**

**Neighborhood Dues are the fuel that  
keeps your neighborhood running!**

**If you have received this issue of the Fall  
2012 Bloomingdale Newsletter, it means  
that you have paid your 2012 dues.  
We thank you.**

**November 6th is Election Day!**

Visit [www.IndianaVoters.com](http://www.IndianaVoters.com)  
to check your **voter registration**  
and **polling place location**.

**October 9th Voter Registration Deadline**

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*It's Your Neighborhood*

*What is a Neighborhood Anyway?*

Every community is different.  
But all neighborhoods  
Have things in common.

**People  
Problems  
Solutions**



**Officers:**

President: Gretchen Johnson  
[BloomingdaleNAPrez@gmail.com](mailto:BloomingdaleNAPrez@gmail.com)

Vice President: Robert Martin

Secretary: Jane Neer  
[BloomingdaleNASec@gmail.com](mailto:BloomingdaleNASec@gmail.com)

Treasurer/Editor: Jean Mendenhall  
[BloomingdaleNATrea@gmail.com](mailto:BloomingdaleNATrea@gmail.com)

Trustee: Bud Mendenhall

**Bloomingdale Website**

<http://www.bloomingdaleneighborhood.org/>

**Facebook**

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/30561183379/>

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/135951226328/>

(above is The Historic Wells Corridor)

**Your City Council**

3rd District

**Tom Didier (260) 489-4559**  
[tdidiers5@frontier.com](mailto:tdidiers5@frontier.com)

5th and the south part of the  
3rd Districts

**Geoff Paddock (260) 432-5700**  
[geoffreypaddock@aol.com](mailto:geoffreypaddock@aol.com)

**Maxine on "Lawn Care"** "The key to a nice-looking lawn is a good  
mower..... I recommend one who is muscular and shirtless."