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Because a Very
Important Person
Lives There—YOU

Bloomingtondale Neighborhood News

Summer Addition 2013

LET'S CELEBRATE OUR ASSETS

It is becoming a trend again to have homes built close together, close to the streets, with front porches, and narrow streets. Trendy areas are encouraging people to walk and use bicycles to get physically fit again and to take advantage of local businesses in the area.

Does this sound like our area?

We have a real asset in our neighborhood, let's celebrate and bring back the "good neighborly feeling" to the community. We can work on updating our properties and be considered trendy!

This area is very fortunate to have a wonderful system of streets, alleys, and close connection to many businesses that can help to expand the mobility of everyone.

Whether you choose to walk, bicycle, or drive to get supplies from our area, you can select several routes. Because of the price of gas, this is another real asset. People who live in walk able communities are also quite likely to be much healthier.

Streets are an extension of your home, they make up much of the fabric of the community, and they are vital transportation facilities—not just for motorists, but also for pedestrians, bicyclists, and users of public transportation. Streets are worth the fight to make them safe and accommodating to everyone.

The goal of the successful walking community is to make driving more of a hassle than to walk for the same task even if at the same distance.

Bloomingtondale is the 5th most walk able neighborhood in Fort Wayne with 3,414 residents.

Bloomingtondale is somewhat bike able.

The first thing to understand is that the public peace – the sidewalk and street peace – of cities is not kept primarily by the police, necessary as police are. It is kept primarily by an intricate, almost unconscious, network of voluntary controls and standards among the people themselves, and enforced by the people themselves.

For a street to serve its community well, there must be "eyes on the street", enough people paying attention to what is happening on the street. To achieve this, "the sidewalk must have users on it fairly continuously, or have people in buildings along the street watching."

When no one is paying attention to "quality of life" violations then this is when neglect creates an opening for more serious crime.

Many of the simple pleasures of daily life—walking casually down the street, enjoying the scenery, bumping into friends, getting to know neighbors by seeing them over and over again can be enjoyed in our Bloomingtondale Neighborhood because of our great asset of connecting streets, alleys, concerned community people, and close businesses available to our homes.

Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.

What makes a neighborhood walkable?

- **A center:** Walkable neighborhoods have a center, whether it's a main street or a public space.
- **People:** Enough people for businesses to flourish and for public transit to run frequently.
- **Mixed income, mixed use:** Affordable housing located near businesses.
- **Parks and public space:** Plenty of public places to gather and play.
- **Pedestrian design:** Buildings are close to the street, parking lots are relegated to the back.
- **Schools and workplaces:** Close enough that most residents can walk from their homes.

Neighborhoods are a mixture of people and uses

The delicate balance of traffic between pedestrian and vehicular activity can make a neighborhood thrive or die

When city streets are hostile places, community life suffers

Cities are not supposed to be silent.

Hints on mixing noise in the neighborhood

But because cities can be noisy at times, it is important for residents to enjoy some peace and quiet in their neighborhood. No noise annoys city residents as often as traffic noise. Like any loud sounds, traffic noise brings stress and can disrupt sleep.

All motor vehicles make noise, but a motor vehicle going fast makes far more noise than one going slowly.

SLOW DOWN THE SPEED

TURN DOWN THE VOLUME

**GO TO THE DOOR-----!
BLOWING THE HORN LATE AT NIGHT
IS ANNOYING**

**MOTORCYCLES ARE REALLY EXPENSIVE,
BEAUTIFULLY COLORED, USE LITTLE GAS,
BUT WATCH THE NOISE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD!!!!**

The character of a street plays an important role in giving a neighborhood its strong sense of community. People know their neighbors. They watch out for the children. They notice when something looks wrong in the block. They use their front steps, sidewalks, streets, and porches for outdoor relaxation or recreation.

**LET'S ALL BE RESPECTFUL AND CONSIDERATE AND
TRY TO HAVE A NEIGHBORHOOD FILLED WITH CALM,
QUIET, BLOCKS OF "GOOD NEIGHBORLY STREETS"**

ATTENTION:

NEIGHBORS WATCH OUT FOR EACH OTHER

A recent rash of cars are being broken into.
Windows are expensive!

Please talk to your neighbors and watch out for each other. Try to narrow down a time **frame** **these break-ins are occurring.**

**IMPORTANT: Contact the Police Desk,
make a report.**

Just a reminder to the people that use the playground on Huffman that is on the Trinity Church property ...**please obey common sense rules**

by respecting the equipment and others using the facility.

If you see any destructive behavior, either report it to the police or the church office.

Thank You

*The expense for printing a Newsletter is helped by the Ads that you see in the pages.
We also are very thankful for a grant that was given to us (see below)*

This publication is made possible with a grant from



Fort Wayne
Urban Enterprise Association

Take advantage of all the activities that are being held at the city parks this summer.
If you want to know about any activity or if you have any questions
call 427-6000 FW Parks Department or www.fortwayneparks.org.

When was the last time you walked or biked the Greenway? Try it this summer.



PETS – Why can't I let my pet run loose?

Many people are extremely fond of their pets and expect all others to share their feelings. These pet owners simply cannot understand why seemingly nice neighbors get so upset when dogs or cats run loose or bark.



Yet, pets are all too often a source of neighborhood annoyance. If you are a pet owner, you appreciate the companionship and pleasure your cat or dog adds to your life. But, many pet owners do not realize or won't accept that, with the right to own a pet goes a corresponding responsibility for the actions of that pet.

Residents not carrying a pooper-scooper, dogs barking excessively and/or dogs (cats) running loose are the continually problem calls received by the association, the city, and animal control department.

LET'S SHOW OUR NEIGHBORS THAT WE ARE A CONCERNED NEIGHBORHOOD AND TAKE CARE OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF OWNING PETS.

Neighborhood Concern

Remember to keep your dogs on a leash or in a fenced in yard. Children running and playing around loose dogs do not go together very well.

Plus, the mail people have been experiencing a lot of dogs running loose. This is really dangerous for them.

People are also concerned that there have been a lot of pit bulls around the area.


Some have been getting out and running loose.

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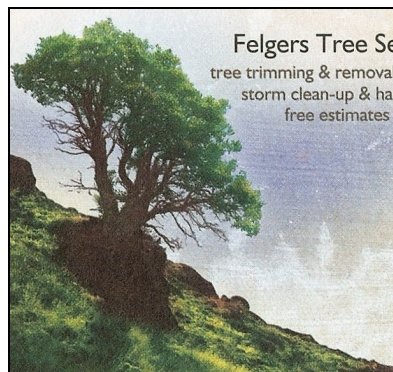


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Thrift Shop: Tue and Thu 10:00 to 3:30pm.

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

Decorating your home from the outside:

Appearances make an all-important first impression. In fact, there is a proven relationship between a home's perceived value and the appearance of its front door.

According to a door study conducted by an independent research organization, changing a home's front entry door has been found to yield up to a 10% increase in the home's value.

That means the way you choose to decorate your home from the outside speaks to what lies beyond the front door.

Here are some tips to help make your home as inviting on the outside as it is on the inside:

- Make a statement at the door. It sets the tone for your home's exterior and gives others their first impression of your home.
- Create an intimate outdoor ambience with lighting.
- Add color with flowers and greenery.

Remember – be creative and do it on a low budget, but do it with style!

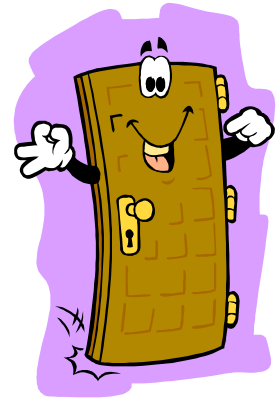
Exterior Decorating on a Budget

Many times we are so busy decorating the interior of our home, we forget about the view most people see first... the outside!

Perhaps we all believe improvements to the exterior of the home must be expensive. Not true! What a better place to showcase your clever creativity than where every passerby can see!

Ask your neighbors if they are going to paint? Maybe you can exchange something for any extra paint that they may have left over.

Also, share, barter, exchange with your neighbors other things. Such as: flowers, mulch, stone, or garden vegetables.



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 January 2013 - December 2013

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() Donation included _____

Name: _____

2013

(First name/Names)

(Last Name)

Address: _____

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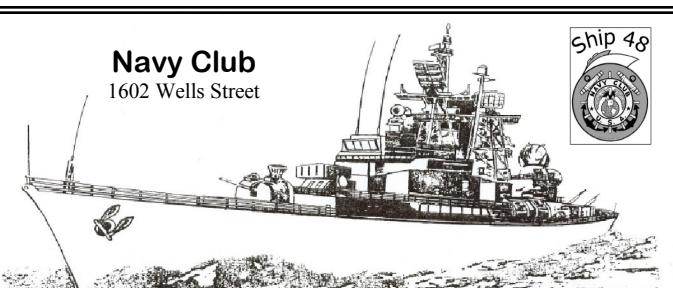
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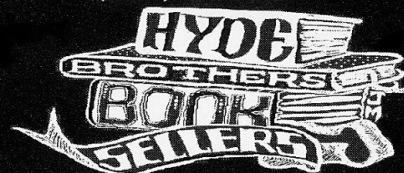
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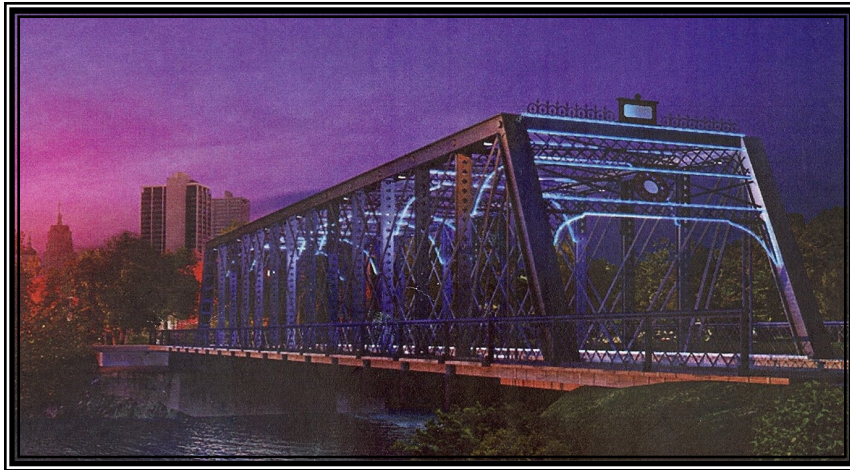
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Drawing of the
Historic Wells Street
Bridge,
A dream idea
started many
years ago!

On July 10th, 2013, a group of people from the city, neighborhood, Wells Business Corridor, the Parks Department, and the lighting company had a chance to see examples of the types of lighting that could be used to “Light Up The Bridge”.

It was exciting and hopefully the time is getting closer to when this project will be finished.

It was in 2005 when one of the first meetings was held to start the idea of
“Lighting the Historic Wells Street Bridge”.

A Committee has been formed to look into another Project.....that will impact many area neighborhoods. It is the vacant old Franklin School Building property.



1972 Franklin School from John Hilt collection



These
pictures were
recently taken
of the two
Front
entrances.

A building located in the middle of many neighborhoods in the northwest part of the City of Fort Wayne has become vacant.

The property is located at 1910 St. Marys Avenue.

It is presently owned by the Federal Government.

People from the City and the surround neighborhoods would like to see the property become a vital part of the community again!

Officers:

President: Gretchen Johnson
Vice President:
Secretary: Jane Neer
Treasurer/Editor: Jean Mendenhall
Trustee: Bud Mendenhall

Bloomington Website

[http://
www.bloomingtonneighborhood.org/](http://www.bloomingtonneighborhood.org/)

Facebook

[http://www.facebook.com/
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[http://www.facebook.com/
groups/135951226328/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/135951226328/)
(above is The Historic Wells Corridor)

No July Meeting

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

**Monday
Garbage Collection Day
and
Recycling Day
Week A**

Reasons why the **raves and rants** in the newspapers are so fun to read, but why the rants are not really accurate and logical.

So many times the people that complain about the situations that they don't like are the people who only sit back and write or speak about situations. They are not willing to help to find an answer to the problem or sometimes they are not aware of the way that the problem needs to be solved. I hope that the people of our area are willing to not only complain, but are willing to help find an answer to help with the situations in our neighborhood.

I hope that our neighbors are the kind of people that appear in the "raves" section. It is so uplifting to hear about the "good things" that people do for others.

A special note to all the people who have been working hard to keep their property looking nice this summer.

The grass has been growing so fast with all the rain that it needs to be mowed more often.....thank you. To the people who have been working on keeping the flowers nice.....thank you. The baskets on Wells St. are looking wonderful....thanks Judi and Paul & others. Nice work neighbors!

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