



In May, migrating warblers will be moving through Lincoln Village as they head north, like this Blackburnian warbler.

Lincoln Log



Spring 2023

Published quarterly for members of the Lincoln Village Community Association

IN THIS ISSUE

New street signs completed, board planning next LVCA enhancements

By John Renie
Lincoln Village board president

Welcome to the Spring issue of the Lincoln Log. We have survived a relatively mild winter even though we had a short period of cold temperatures. It's good to get out walking through the neighborhood and looking forward to the Easter Egg Hunt. We were saddened by tragic losses of neighborhood residents this winter, and the LVCA board has reflected on the importance of being caring neighbors and reaching out to others if called upon.

Meetings - The LVCA board meets on the second Monday of each month at the Northridge Baptist Church at 7 pm. All residents are invited to attend and share concerns or just to be informed of treasury and maintenance updates, as well as planning for future projects and activities.

New street signs – As planned, the design and replacement of the 19 aging (in some cases, rotting) street signs throughout the neighborhood have been completed. The winter weather cooperated with the sign company, and comments from our homeowners have been positive.

Curb cuts - Led by board member Leo Vogt, the board has researched the possibility of having curb cuts installed at 15 locations throughout our addition where our sidewalks that lead to common areas intersect with the street. Curb cuts will make these intersections ADA-compatible, similar to those the city added to sidewalks at street intersections, and safer for bikes, skateboards and wheelchairs. After making a number of phone calls, the City agreed to make these cuts for us over the next three years without the need for matching funding and/or additional grants. *[Cont. on page 2]*



New features: what would you like to see in LV?

Your board would like to hear from you: what new features/amenities would you like us to consider in the future? Shoot us an email with your thoughts.

Pages 4-5



Pufferbelly Trail growing longer

What new trail sections are going in near Lincoln Village this year? We've got the scoop straight from Dawn Ritchie, the City's Greenways Manager.

Page 6

President's update [cont. from p. 1]

Seven of those locations are scheduled this year, and the remaining curbs will be upgraded in the two following years.

Dues - Thanks to the dogged work of our Treasurer, Marcia Johnson, we successfully collected 99.5% of this year's annual dues (only two homeowners have been contacted by our attorney for some additional encouragement). We can't keep up the neighborhood without your financial support!

Snow removal – This winter, LVCA has been spared exceptionally heavy snows. As expected, Lincoln Village's private contractor has efficiently removed snow and salted critical areas in the community within the first 24 hours prior to any city services. To date, we only had to spend about 24% of the budgeted \$5,000 for sand and salt this winter season. (Snow removal accounts for about 10% of our annual budget.) As an association, we appreciate people helping their neighbors with snow removal, especially on the sidewalks used by all. Our Maintenance Chair Don Miller expertly directs our service provider, and I think that our members are well served by our contractor. Historically, the winter of 2020-2021 required 109% of our budgeted snow removal money. Maybe global warming is good!

Community projects – As a homeowner association (HOA) in Fort Wayne, LVCA is associated with the Northwest Area Partnership (NWAP) which meets each month to get updates on activities that affect all city residents. We get reports from the police and fire departments, City Council, TRAA, Neighborhood Code Compliance, Right-of-Way Dept., as well as the Parks Dept., Fort Wayne Community Development and the Allen County Library. At these

monthly meetings and the quarterly Presidents' meeting downtown, we are informed of new and ongoing activities affecting our wellness as a community, including funding sources for use in common area purchases, such as playground equipment, signs, or picnic tables. In thinking ahead, the board welcomes residents' suggestions for items that might be possibilities for grant proposals. See some of the ideas on our list on pages 4-5, and where to submit additional ideas.

Trash and recycling bin storage -

During a time of escalating home prices, Lincoln Village homes have appreciated substantially over the years. In this light, we want to stress that certain architectural guidelines established and enforced over the years have helped everyone retain the value provided by our largest investment.

Driving through the neighborhood, visible trash and recycling bins (except on Tuesday) detract from the curb appeal of our homes, and we would like to stress the **city code that all containers be stored 10 feet behind the house building line**. It might be a good spring-cleaning activity to clear clutter in your garage to make room for your trash and recycling bins. In fact, you'd save steps and stay out of the weather when using these storage containers in your garage. If you see this or other City code violations occurring, you can call the 311 non-emergency number to report the violation.

Other, maybe less obvious items such as storage sheds, boat storage and above-ground pools, even though behind board-approved quality fencing, all detract from the overall look and curb appeal of our homes. We on the board will continue to stress the current architectural guidelines being upheld.

LINCOLN VILLAGE SPRING CALENDAR



Easter egg hunt slated for Saturday, April 8

It's almost time for the Lincoln Village annual Easter Egg hunt, scheduled for Saturday, April 8 at 11 am. Bring your little ones, your camera and head over to the tennis court area with an Easter basket for gathering eggs. Pro tip: Grownups have shown off some amazing Easter headwear, too!



Lincoln Village garage sales run May 4-6

Here's your chance to clean out extra stuff from your basement or garage and make a little cash. Round it all up, put a price tag on it, and you may end up with enough cash to buy something new! The sales run Thursday through Saturday, May 4-6, and you can open whenever you like during that time.

We'll place ads in the Fort Wayne *Journal-Gazette*, and place signs around the addition. Our sale will be held concurrently with Wheatridge addition sales.



Before and after: new street signs for Lincoln Village

Have you noticed the new street signs throughout Lincoln Village?

Faced with the continuing deterioration of the existing signs, the board made the decision last year to invest in new street signs. The signs were 35 years old, and their cedar posts were rotting. (You can see the top of the Rainbow Ridge Place sign in the photo above is doing just that.) Although Don Miller of our Maintenance Committee painted many of the signs multiple times over the years, another coat of paint wasn't going to solve the larger problem.

To select the signs, a small task force from the board was formed, consisting of Don Miller, Renee Wright, Denise Borg, Karen Miller Shoaff and Angela Seiman.

After meeting with the sign company and seeing the enormous range of options, the task force concluded that legibility and longevity, followed by aesthetic appeal, were the priorities.

Members felt that signs with two horizontal panels were more easily readable than the vertical signs we had previously. Another conclusion was that the panels should be staggered in height so that one panel didn't occlude the other.

The new signs, which feature steel inner posts covered with PVC wraps for durability, were installed in February. We think they bring a more contemporary look to our neighborhood, and hope you like them, too!

What new amenities would you like to see in Lincoln Village?

By Renée Wright
Lincoln Log Editor

Tell us about what amenities would make LV an even nicer place to live

Lately, the Lincoln Village board of directors has been thinking about neighborhood amenities. The City of Fort Wayne has offered small grants (up to \$5,000) to neighborhoods, and we'd like to ensure that we have ideas to submit for grants in 2024.

You may remember that we successfully got a grant to pay for three picnic tables in 2021-2. Now we've been discussing what might be possible with future grants—and to a larger extent, what we might consider investing in with our own funds. Several ideas have been put up for consideration. Some are bigger-ticket items; others are less costly.

But we'd like to hear from you. What would Lincoln Village residents like to add to our neighborhood? We'll get your thought process started by sharing some of the ideas we've heard from residents so far.

Feel free to comment on the ideas in this article, and also send additional "wish list" items to Tom Morris at tem4th90@gmail.com.



Wheatridge, the neighborhood just south and west of us on Cook Road, has a pavilion near their playground.

1. Picnic pavilion?

There's currently not much shade available at the playground near the tennis courts. Building a pavilion nearby would provide a cool place for family picnics, parents to rest while they keep an eye on their kids, and remote workers who want to escape their home office for a bit (sorry, no wi-fi, though!).

Plus, we could potentially use it for our annual meetings, which are required to be held in early September, when temperatures are still often in the 80s or 90s. Size and amenities are open to discussion.

2. Benches near pond?

Several residents have expressed that they'd like to see some benches placed near our South Pond area. The benches would serve as a place to briefly rest and contemplate the pond's beauty. Suggested placement was near the dam.





3. Pond fountain/aerator?

These fountains could be placed on either or both of our community’s two ponds. In addition to being decorative, these fountains reportedly provide aeration and improve water quality.

4. Outdoor fitness stations?

Outdoor fitness stations are trending! You may have seen some of this equipment at six pads along the Rivergreenway on the Purdue Fort Wayne campus (see photo at right) or at the Community Center downtown. It's a bit like a jungle gym for grown-ups.

There’s a wide variety of equipment available—from sit-up incline benches to chest press stations. Many are wheelchair accessible. We could place the equipment near our two playgrounds, along the trail in the woods, or almost anywhere.

5. A sledding hill?

We continue to work on the potential project of finding a

contractor to dredge the sludge and construction residue out of our South Pond. Although we’re having trouble finding a suitable (and affordable) contractor, one possibility that came out of those discussions was the idea of using the excavated material as a base for a sledding hill.

What do you think—would your kids or grandkids like having a small hill for sledding right in their neighborhood?

Got ideas for what you’d like in Lincoln Village?

We’d love to hear our residents’ thoughts about amenities that would enhance quality of life in our neighborhood.

We’d like to be in good position for grant season next spring with some ideas in the queue to submit.

Send your thoughts to board member Tom Morris at Tem4th90@gmail.com. We’ll report back in the summer issue.



Trails near LV lengthened this summer—new places to ride!



Been wondering what's new with trails near Lincoln Village? For an update, we spoke with Dawn Ritchie, Greenways Manager for Fort Wayne.

Pufferbelly Trail: Ritchie told us that construction recently started on a new 4.3-mile section, which will stretch from Life Bridge Church (the northern terminus of the trail currently) to Fitch Road, near the Dekalb County line. The County hopes to have the trail completed by the end of this year.

The City of Fort Wayne will bid the 1.8-mile section from Washington Center Road (by the Cookie Cottage) to the intersection of Lima Road and Ice Way (by Glenbrook Commons) late this year, with construction starting in 2024, she said. This section will include a connection to Glenbrook Square. "Once we complete the trail from Washington Center to Lima/Ice Way, we will have finished the Pufferbelly Trail in Fort

Wayne, because it already stretches from Ice Way to downtown," Ritchie noted.

Beckett's Run Trail: This 1.8-mile trail will connect the Rivergreenway at St. Joe Center Rd with the Pufferbelly Trail at Salomon Farm. The first phase from St. Joe Center Road to North Clinton was constructed two years ago along the west side of the river (behind Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary) and over to Clinton Street. Ritchie said, "We have a trailhead parking lot off Martin Luther Drive at the south end of the Seminary. This trail is very close to Lincoln Village." Future phases of the trail will be built in the next 5-9 years.

Fishing Line Trail: This regional trail lies on a former railroad corridor west of Lima Road. "We built the section between Washington Center and Ludwig Road in 2019 and constructed the section from Ludwig to Cook last

year," said Ritchie. "We have a trailhead parking lot on the south side of Ludwig." This trail will eventually connect with the Fishing Line Trail in Noble County and stretch up to LaGrange County.

Dupont Road Trail: "This trail between Coldwater Road and Woodland Plaza Parkway (McDonald's) was built in 2021," Ritchie noted. "We now have a nearly 5-mile-long trail on Dupont Road from Lima Road to Tonkel Road."

"We will be building a trail along West Ludwig Road (south side) this year from the Fishing Line Trail to the Lima Road Trail. Last year, we built a section of the Ludwig Road Trail from Coldwater Road to Ludwig Circle as part of a road improvement project last year. We will build trail on Ludwig from Lima to Ludwig Circle in the future to fill the gap that will remain. This trail will also connect to the Pufferbelly Trail."

Lincoln Village Community Association

Board of Directors

Dist.	Term expiration	Lots	Name	Address	Phone (260 area code)	Email/Additional responsibility
#1	2023	1-8; 68-87	Denise Borg	8030 Spruce Creek Place	402-9500	denise@getrealwithborg.com Social
#2	2023	29-54	Angela Seiman	1209 Old Bridge Place	385-0978	angelaseiman@yahoo.com
#3	2022	202-225	Don Miller	7826 Hidden Hills Place	489-2584	donald.miller2@frontier.com Maintenance
#4	2023	9-14; 55-67; 88-93	Leo Vogt	8505 Hawk Spring Hill	446-2499	leovogt@yahoo.com
#5	2024	15-28; 94-97; 147-153	Kim Autrey	8521 Hawk Spring Hill	497-0234	cowboyta@hotmail.com Secretary
#6	2023	98-109; 134-146	John Renie	8419 Medicine Bow Run	489-0448	johnprenie@yahoo.com President
#7	2024	110-133; 226-227	Ron Patton	8027 Spruce Creek Place	489-5664	rpattonin@aol.com Architectural
#8	2023	154-177	Renée Wright	8116 Rainbow Ridge Place	489-2064	reneewrites@comcast.net Newsletter/Communications
#9	2023	178-201	Marcia Johnson	8033 Rainbow Ridge Place	438-9519	mkj8033@yahoo.com Treasurer
#10	2024	228-233; 363-371; 375-384	Jay Frymier	8225 Stand Ridge Place	451-0305	jayfrymier@live.com
#11	2022	340-362; 372-374	Norm Moravec	8114 Moss Grove Place	278-7880	bludemn@aol.com
#12	2022	314-339	Frank Koehl	8317 Hawk Spring Hill	490-6401	jkoehl603@frontier.com Vice President
#13	2024	234-259	Kent Redman	8030 Cha Ca Peta Pass	403-7858	redman@pfw.edu
#14	2023	288-313	Tom Morris	8610 Medicine Bow Run	438-8777	Tem4th90@gmail.com
#15	2022	260-287	Karen Miller-Shoaff	1232 South Fork Pass	489-1845	Karen410@frontier.com



You're welcome to attend.

The Lincoln Village Community Association board meets every second week of the month at the Northridge Baptist Church, 1300 East

Cook Road. Lincoln Village residents are always welcome.

Lincoln Village info: You can find our covenants, bylaws, architectural guidelines, back issues of our newsletter and more at our website: www.neighborhoodlink.com/Lincoln_Village

We also have a page on Facebook. In addition, you may want to check out Nextdoor.com's Lincoln Village pages. Many LV residents are active on the site, and it features timely posts about lost pets, neighborhood crime reports, etc.



Eastern bluebirds are starting their nesting season now, to the delight of many Lincoln Village homeowners who have put out nest boxes for them. It's not at all unusual for bluebirds to raise two broods in a typical spring.