

June 2009



Bates Hendricks Indy's Next Great Neighborhood!

Bates-Hendricks Newsletter

The Sanders House: Oldest Residence in the City

By Robert Carey

If a man on the street would be asked if he knew (or cared) where the location of the oldest residence in the city was located, most wouldn't know. Few would guess Bates Hendricks. And yet the Sanders House, located at 1020 Palmer, and built in c. 1820 (one year before Indianapolis was founded) is probably the oldest home in the city of Indianapolis.



This large brick house is skewed at an angle different than all the other houses in the neighborhood. Positioned across from old IPS School #18 (Horizon Center), the house was once perched on a hill overlooking Pleasant Run Creek, facing south. The floor beams show the hand tooled marks of an ax. The wooden peg connections of some of these beams likewise point to an early construction. Six fireplaces represent an early form of central heating. Much of the plaster on the walls contains horsehair. The style of architecture is that of the southern "I" fashion with a central hallway with a narrow staircase to the second floor.

Legend has it that the Delaware Native Americans once populated the banks of the Pleasant Run Creek. They may have interacted with the builders of the Sanders house. Those interactions may not have always been friendly. According to some stories, William Sanders had to quit building the house when it was half finished after a disagreement with the Regardless, it is amazing indeed to think that most of us walk by almost 190 years of history every time we walk down Palmer Street.

Calling all pickup trucks (and their owners)!

Saturday, June 6th, will be a cleanup in Quad 3. If everyone would

meet at the dumpster, located on the empty lot next to 1247 Wright

Street, at 9 a.m. we should be able to get a lot done. This is a

cleanup for public spaces, (alleys, sidewalks, storm

sewers, etc.).

Trash bags and gloves will be available. SEND will not be able

to help us this time so we are in need of pickup trucks to help bring

the trash and filled bags to the dumpster. The boundaries for Quad 3

are Prospect to the north, Terrace on the south, East Street on the

west and I-65 on the east. If you have questions call Lydia Brasher,

636-0831 or email lydia.brasher@gmail.com.

Letter from The President:

It's the little things that make a difference.

When I was walking a couple of weeks ago, I saw an elderly woman picking up the trash in the street in front of her house. I thanked her and wondered what would happen if there were twenty people in our neighborhood doing that one little thing. How often do you see trash in the street in front of your house and walk by it?

I've been watching the New Jersey esplanade spring into life. Greg Allen and several other neighbors have been mulching, mowing, and maintaining the work of last summer. I'm proud of them and wonder what would happen if every street had a few people willing to maintain the public space. How do you make our neighborhood a more beautiful place?

I saw a man yesterday sweeping up the grass from his sidewalk after mowing. Grass clippings are such a small thing, hardly worth noticing. I told him it looked really good and wondered how our sidewalks would look if everyone swept and edged them? Do you see the sidewalk in front of your house as your responsibility?

I saw another man cleaning out a storm sewer last week. The street was full of backed up water and he was digging the mud out with his bare hands. When the sewer suddenly opened and the water rushed through, I could tell he was proud. I wonder what would happen if everyone in our neighborhood was proud of doing the little things. Are you willing to do a little thing?

There are over 3,000 of us living in Bates Hendricks. If every one of us did one little thing each week to beautify and maintain our neighborhood, this would become a beautiful place indeed.

Jim Mulholland



Rhubarb crisp

a dessert with a rolled oats and butter and cinnamon topping. Cook Time: 55 minutes

Ingredients:

- 1 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup quick cooking rolled oats
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 4 cups sliced rhubarb
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup water

Preparation:

In mixing bowl, combine brown sugar, flour, oats, butter and cinnamon; mix together until crumbly. Press half of the brown sugar and oats mixture into a buttered 8-inch square baking dish. Top with the sliced rhubarb.

In a saucepan combine 1 cup granulated sugar, cornstarch, and the 1 cup of water and vanilla. Cook together until clear, then pour over rhubarb.

Top rhubarb with remaining crumb mixture and bake at 350° for 45 to 55 minutes.

KABOOM Park at School 31 Complete!

On Wednesday, May 20th, 250 volunteers gathered at the crack of dawn at School 31 to install a state of the art playground for the use of the school and neighborhood children. In a few short hours, they erected a beautiful set of swings, slides, and other equipment. Many of these volunteers were employees of the Lilly Corporation, but there was also a good sprinkling of



neighborhood residents and parents.

KaBoom is a national program that wants to install a playground within walking distance of every child in America. The playground at School 31 was one of two built in Indianapolis this week. The playground was designed by children at School 31 and funded by generous donations from Lilly. BHNA donated \$1000 toward the installation. We're especially appreciative of the hard work of George Ginder in countless hours of preparation and fundraising.

Even if you're too old to play, take a few minutes this month to visit this impressive addition to our neighborhood.



June Meeting Surveys Street and Sidewalks

On Monday, June 1st, at 6:30 p.m. the Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association will host its June meeting at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect. Charlie McDowell will report on the neighborhood survey completed of every street and sidewalk in Bates Hendricks.

This survey, using the same standards as the Department of Public Works, rated every street and sidewalk. It will be used to make recommendations to the City County Council on what streets are highest priority for repaving and what sidewalks are most in need of replacement. Come here how your street and sidewalk rate.

In addition, we'll have the usual reports from the police, mayor's office, and on the abandoned housing initiative.

Bates Hendricks Indy's Next Great Neighborhood!

The Bates Hendricks Neighborhood Association will work to improve the quality of life of those living in the neighborhood through efforts to assure safety, to maintain or improve the living environment and to enhance the spirit of cooperation and neighborliness among all residents.

Meetings are on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Immanuel United Church of Christ, 402 Prospect St. Annual dues are \$3 for individuals, \$5 for families, and \$25 for business. Please mail dues to Emily Vanest, 720 Sanders, Indpls. 46203.

For more information or with neighborhood concerns, contact Jim Mulholland at 636-5096

This newsletter is brought to you through the support of the following neighborhood businesses:

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Make certain to thank them for their support!

June Calendar

June 5-7 Indianapolis Air Show Mt. Comfort Airport for info. Call 335-7252

June 11 Strawberry Festival Monument Circle for info call 636-4577

June 12-13 Italian Street Festival Holy Rosary Church for info. Call 767-7686

June 13 Independent Music and Art Festival Harrison Center for info call 396-3886

June 13-14 Talbot Street Art Fair 1600 –2000 N. Talbot St. for info call 745-6479

June 26 Symphony on the Prairie Conner Prairie Farm for info. Call 776-6000

June 27 Brew-Ha-Ha 700 North Park Ave. for info. Call 635-2381

June 27-29 Indian Market and Festival Eiteljorg Museum for info. Call 275-1360

June 27-October 25 Tutankhamun :The Golden King and the Great Pharaohs

The Children's Museum for info call 334-3322

**Prepare early! Plan to enter the
Fourth of July Parade in Fountain Square**