

2010  
August

## Bates-Hendricks Newsletter



# Abandoned Housing Blitz

Saturday, August 28, 9am-Noon

In 2008, the Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association began an ambitious effort to inventory and address every vacant and abandoned property within its boundaries. Over 180 properties were identified and a list of the worst – “the dirty thirty” – was created. Since then, ten of those houses have either been rehabilitated or demolished. In addition, many other homes have been pushed through the system and into the tax sale.

Our success has led other neighborhood leaders to join us in organizing an Abandoned Housing Blitz to inventory all 900 blocks of the Southeast Indianapolis area. On Saturday, August 28, we need forty people to survey every street. Participants should gather at the Fountain Square Center at 901 S. Shelby. Thanks to a generous grant, each surveyor will be paid \$12.50 an hour for their work. Those willing to help should contact Jim Mulholland at 503-5852.

Once the inventory is complete, SEND will take this information and create a report on the status of abandoned housing in the Southeast area. This report will allow us to apply the same pressure on City Hall that the sidewalk and street inventory allowed. It will also let people know that we are no longer going to tolerate disintegrating housing.

## Second Southeast Congress a Success

Ninety-five engaged neighbors from across the Southeast Indianapolis area gathered at Immanuel United Church of Christ on Thursday, July 22 to celebrate successes, deal with failures, address emerging concerns, and adopt new actions for the Southeast Quality of Life Plan. Several local politicians, including our Councilman, Dane Mahern, and our State Representative, Mary Ann Sullivan, were also present to observe the proceedings.



The congress approved creating task forces to address:

- Animal welfare and care in the Southeast
- Increasing safety in public parks
- Improving bike trails

In addition, they adopted three new action areas:

- Eliminate abandoned properties in the Southeast
- Improve access to healthy and affordable food
- Support and sustain our public libraries

To see more about what happened at this exciting event, visit the Congress web site at [southeastneighborhood.org](http://southeastneighborhood.org).

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## School #31 Set To Reopen

School #31 (James A. Garfield) will open on August 11, 2010 with a complete remodeling of the interior and a redesigned playground. Included in the remodeling is new air conditioning, lighting, plumbing, and new technology to bring the school into the 21st century educationally.

The school will open its doors at 9:05am as usual. Dismissal time will be 3:50pm. Those returning will get their room/teacher assignments in the front of the building before the doors open. Those needing to register should register the week of August 2. The office will be open from 9:00am until 4:00pm through August 10. Bus routes should be in the mail by the week of August 2. Please avoid the rush and register any new students before the first day of school, which is August 11.



On the first day of school, we are encouraging all Dads to accompany their child(ren). We will have a snack for them.

The playground will open, hopefully, on the first day of school. The playground has been reseeded and needs time to mature.

There will be an Open House/Rededication ceremony on Thursday, August 24 from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Fliers will be sent home with the students containing additional information on this event.

The school's goal is to give your children the best education possible. They can only do this with your support and they welcome any positive suggestions.

The staff and Principal Ginder are looking forward to greeting your child on August 11.

## East Street Transformation Begins

Two exciting and long-awaited changes are coming to East Street this August. Eight neighborhood banners will be installed at each of our gateways, helping people recognize our neighborhood. These purple banners will identify the neighborhood as well as sport the neighborhood flower – an iris.

In addition, at the August Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association Meeting on August 2, SEND will unveil plans for a six-unit rental complex at the corner of East and Sanders Streets. This new set of buildings will drastically alter that corner and begin what we hope is the transformation of East Street. This new complex, managed by SEND, will add an attractive building as well as provide high-quality rental apartments.



## Bates-Hendricks on Foot

We get so busy driving here and there that we miss the beauty around us. Do yourself a favor: take a walk or a bike ride on a summer evening in Bates-Hendricks. Here are five properties that will make it worthwhile. Tell the owners you saw them mentioned in the newsletter. 527 Cottage: this property will never get sited for high grass; there is nothing in the yard but glorious piles of flowers behind a charming picket fence. 968 Pleasant Run Parkway: frosty swales of lavender Russian Sage and huge bushes covered with Hot Pink Roses. 229 Minnesota: cool Hostas and lilies frame a great wrap-around porch. 1605 Leonard: a rock garden on steroids with a great waterfall. 721 Cottage: no flowers, but what a charmingly-groomed yard! But there are so many. Come to the Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood monthly meeting and tell us about houses and yards in Bates-Hendricks you think we should mention.

## Let's Paint the Town – Again!

After a successful endeavor of painting a house on South Alabama Street, we are going to do it again. Work has already started on a house of a resident in the 700 block of Weghorst. However, there are a few dates left for you to help: July 31, August 7, and August 14. The morning shifts are from 8am to 12pm and the afternoon shifts are from 1pm to 5pm. You will be equipped with all the supplies needed. You must come with closed-toe shoes and pants that you can get paint on. Hats and sunglasses are also recommended. You can meet the team at Sister's Place (Madison and Terrace) and walk over. If interested in signing up for a shift, organizing a group volunteer day, or have questions, contact Matt Impink at (317) 443-3535 or [mrimpink@gmail.com](mailto:mrimpink@gmail.com).



## If You Park...

The City is getting ready to modernize its parking system and wants to know what you think. You can go to [www.indy.gov/eGov/Mayor/Pages/Parking.aspx](http://www.indy.gov/eGov/Mayor/Pages/Parking.aspx) or attend one of the two public meetings when the City will share its plans. The meetings are Tuesday, August 3 at 6:00pm at the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan Street, or Tuesday, August 10 at 6:00pm at the Garfield Park Arts Center.

# Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association

The Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association strives 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. We meet monthly on the first Monday of the month at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect at 6:30 p.m. Annual dues are \$3 for individuals, \$5 for families, and \$25 for businesses. Please mail dues to Emily Vanest, 720 Sanders, Indianapolis, IN 46203.

## Monthly Calendar



**Aug 2**      **Bates-Hendricks Meeting, 6:30-7:30pm**  
**Immanuel United Church of Christ.**

**Aug 13**      Friday Night Swing Dance, Lessons: 7:30pm (\$12),  
Dancing 8:30pm (\$10), Fountain Square Theatre. Dance  
the night away with the Twilite Nights Dance Orchestra.

**Aug 14**      Music in the Gardens, 6pm, FREE, Garfield Park. Enjoy live music in the Sunken  
Garden featuring the Indy Jazz Orchestra.

**Aug 14**      Teen Film Series: *The Blind Side*, 2:00pm, Fountain Square Library.

**Aug 14**      INDYPROV Sketch Comedy, 10:00pm & 11:00pm, \$5, White Rabbit Cabaret,  
Fountain Square. Emmy-nominated INDYPROV is Indy's first and only independent  
improvisational comedy troupe. Doors at 7pm. Performances at 10pm & 11pm.  
21+ with ID.

**Aug 15**      Colts vs. San Francisco 49ers, 1:00pm. The Colts preseason opens with a home  
game at Lucas Oil Stadium.

**Aug 28**      Tree ID Hike, 10:30-11:30am, FREE, Garfield Park. Join us for a walk through the  
park and learn how to identify local trees. Learn how trees are beneficial to  
humans and all the animals that inhabit them. This would be a great time to start  
your leaf collection. Ages 5+.

**Aug 28**      Teen Film Series: *My Sister's Keeper*, 2:00pm, Fountain Square Library.

**Sept 13**      **In observance of Labor Day, the September Bates-Hendricks neighborhood  
meeting will be on Monday, September 13 instead of the 6th.**