

# COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS NEWSLETTER

Volume II, Number 3

July 2001

CONA

Neighborhood  
Happenings 1-2

Disaster Resistant  
Neighborhoods 1-3

Lending Library 3

Checklist for  
Neighborhoods 3

Students Return 4

Next CONA meeting:  
August 15  
Kirk White, Indiana Uni-  
versity special guest

- Has your neighborhood association joined CONA this year? Dues are \$20 per year, renewable 12 months from month of membership. Current membership: Arden Place, Bryan Park, Eastside, Elm Heights, Garden Hill, Hoosier Acres, Matlock Heights, McDoel Gardens, Near Westside Old Northeast, Park Ridge East, Prospect Hill, Sixth and Ritter, South Griffy, Tamarron, and Westpointe.

## Disaster Resistant Neighborhoods

Ed Vande Sande, American Red Cross, was the guest speaker at the June CONA meeting. He explained the Disaster Resistant Neighborhoods Program to the attendees. This is a common sense program for our neighborhoods and CONA to look into with our joint mission of providing secure safe environments for our residents. This article will share some of the basic components and followup information will be given at the end of the article.

First of all, **WHAT IS THE DISASTER RESISTANT NEIGHBORHOOD PROGRAM?** It is an educational program charged with educating your neighbors in disaster preparedness and safety which are tailored to your neighborhood.

The three primary elements of the program are:

- Education and Awareness — inform residents of the possible risks and how to reduce effects of disaster.

### What's Happening in our Neighborhoods?

Thank you to Park Ridge East, Arden Place, Matlock Heights, McDoel Gardens, Elm Heights, Near Westside, Prospect Hill, Westpointe and Waterman for providing information about activities in their neighborhoods.

**PARK RIDGE EAST** received one of the "clean-up" grants from HAND this spring. They had that clean-up on June 2. Not only did they have great fun cleaning up the neighborhood but topped it off with a party in the park when it was over.— hot dogs, hamburgers, lemonade, and neighbors pitching in side dishes and desserts. A good time was had by all, I am sure.

Another neat item picked up from the PRENA newsletter: Gretchen Scott, a Park Ridge East resident and F.C. Tucker realtor, donated flags that lined the streets of Park Ridge East over the Fourth of July. The asso-

ciation picked up most of them and plans to use them again next year.

- Direct Activities — these can be such things as securing water heaters, clearing out drain culverts, installing reflective house numbers, etc.
- Advocacy — neighborhood and or neighborhoods work together to support governmental policies that could lessen the suffering and loss caused by disaster.

**IS IT DIFFICULT TO ADMINISTER?** One dedicated volunteer in each neighborhood can easily accomplish the few administrative tasks. The American Red Cross will provide support.

**HOW MUCH TIME DOES IT TAKE?**— Someone will need to make a few phone calls, (con't. on page 3).



**Neighbors helping neighbors to be safe and prepared.**

ciation picked up most of them and plans to use them again next year.

**WESTPOINTE** has been busy with their streetscape project of West Allen Street. This project is possible because of a grant from HAND. Join Hands Day found eleven garage sales in progress in Westpointe. There were many happy shoppers on that day!

**ARDEN PLACE** is a neighborhood of about 50 homes west of the 1800 block of South High Street. As an activity in support of Join Hands Day, Arden Place had a Neighborhood Cleanup Day on June 9. The neighborhood chair was Mark Menefee. Many fallen limbs were turned into chips thanks to the City of Bloomington for a chipper and chip operator. The dumpster also received unwanted articles from neighbors' attics and garages. The cleanup day ended with a noontime pitch-in picnic attended by 16 neighborhood households.



## What's Happening... Continued from page 1

was chaired by Mark Menefee and ended with a noontime picnic attended by 16 neighborhood households.

The 39th annual ARDEN PLACE 4th of July Parade attracted over 100 babies, kids, adults, and pets along the 7-block route. This long-running event this year included the neighborhoods of Greenbriar, Mayfair, Thornton, as well as Arden Place. Mayor John Fernandez and County Commissioner Iris Kiesling both were honored guests and rode in John Canfield's elegant red convertible at the head of the parade. The festivities included: introduction of new neighbors; costume awards for dozens of children and dogs; a raffle of over 20 items donated by local merchants. Then all lingered for an old-fashioned ice cream social. Donna and Paul Konstanski organized the parade; Susan Eastman arranged for the raffle prizes; Dave Ebeling was the emcee; and the ice cream was scooped up by Jenny Vaughan and Nancy Voskuil. Parade judges were Kathy Berry, Joan DeLone and Sarah DeLone.

MATLOCK HEIGHTS Neighborhood Association reports: we look forward to fall and our picnic, "Matlock Eats!" Carole Darling comments "we always have a good attendance, great food and neighborliness."

She continues: We need a fun respite as we have been engulfed in attempting to slow traffic on North Dunn Street. The road, originally a county road through farmland, has been designated a primary collector street which disallows any speed controls. We are petitioning the City of Bloomington Planning to downgrade the street designation as the road doesn't seem to fit the characteristics required of a primary collector, plus the road is a speeder's paradise!

The crusade for a safe road has been a two year journey with no results apparent at the present time. Our newspaper pleas for more civil driving habits have gone unheeded, sad, but true. We feel that all of us, every neighborhood association, must make concerted efforts to educate drivers in safety and civility practices. Our neighbors in Matlock Heights have promised to drive the speed limits on all neighborhood streets and we hope others do so.

Matlock Heights is also beginning to talk about how the 45/46 Bypass expansion will impact the neighborhood. Representatives attend the COB Planning Department meetings and are exploring a possible sidewalk or pathway addition to North Dunn. CONA membership has provided information and support in this and all of our endeavors. "How can a neighborhood not belong to CONA?" (Quote: Carole Darling).

MCDOEL GARDENS has a new web site ([www.mcdoelgardens.org](http://www.mcdoelgardens.org)) which features among its topics McDoel Gardens Today, McDoel Homes For Sale, and McDoel Area

History. Congratulations to Nancy Hiller whose garden was featured on the Garden Walk this year. (Eds. Note: I saw several other gardens in McDoel that could have been featured also!) Congratulations on receiving the Neighborhood Enhancement Award on BloomingNeighborhoods Day.

In the month of June McDoel Gardens has also sponsored a neighborhood cleanup which always includes a portion of Clear Creek and dedicated a monument proclaiming the 80 years of the neighborhood's existence. Elizabeth Cox-Ash has specific directions for removal of graffiti if any neighborhood is in need of such info. Limited space does not allow the sharing of it here but you can contact her at [liz-paul@bluemarble.net](mailto:liz-paul@bluemarble.net).

NEAR WESTSIDE had a successful project for Join Hands Day. The residents worked on cleaning out and replanting the Traffic Circle at 6th and Rogers. A plant exchange was enjoyed later in the day as was an ice cream social. More than 20 people participated in the work of the day.

WATERMAN, a newly organized association, has several projects going at the same time. The Adams Street overpass, in cooperation with Indiana Railroad, is going to be painted with a mural of Hoagy Carmichael's "Stardust" A Neighborhood Cleanup is scheduled for September 8; Trish Wright is in charge of that event. A neighborhood picnic is in the works.

Waterman is also communicating with its landlords that safety and beauty is a priority and they are asking that the landlords screen their applicants and do police checks to better ensure respectful law-abiding new neighbors. They have also been actively establishing a Neighborhood Watch Program to help curtail some neighborhood problems. On a daily basis, neighbors are trading ideas on gardening, sharing zucchini, helping each other with front and back yard projects. They have just finished helping with two Habitat for Humanity homes for two more Waterman neighborhood families.

ELM HEIGHTS had a pledged long distance bike ride and a garage sale for Join Hands Day. The chair of the sales event was Bet Savich. The proceeds of the projects, \$622, went to Bloomington North's Chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

PROSPECT HILL collaborated with West Side Penecostal Church to create a butterfly and wildlife garden in a previously vacant lot. Forty people planted a variety of donated annuals and perennials; then a framing stone wall was built with salvaged stone from the lot itself. The project continues with the building of an arbor to provide a welcoming entry into the garden. Prospect Hill is also the neighborhood of Chris Sturbaum who received the Neighbor of the Year Award. Congratulations, Chris, on a well-deserved award.

## DRN, continued from page 1

write a few letters, coordinate a neighborhood meeting with possibly follow-up sessions or reports to the neighbors.

### WHAT HAS TO BE DONE BEFORE HAND?

Your neighborhood will need to do some planning and analysis. What risks are faced by your neighborhood? What are the demographics of the neighborhood? Information regarding this aspect is available from the Red Cross and the Emergency management Office. Both agencies are committed to disaster safety and preparedness.

It is important that the DRN concept be presented to the neighborhood and everyone "buys-in" to the program. A representative of

the American Red Cross will facilitate that meeting for you. The DRN program is meant to use the expertise of the community and Bloomington and Monroe County is blessed with much expertise at our fingertips! But the success of this program (as most programs) is visibility and participation. If your association has a newsletter, publicize DNR; distribute disaster preparedness information along with the newsletter. (The American Red Cross has brochures on many disaster safety topics). The Red Cross also has special plastic bags that can be used for door-to-door distribution. After the program is initiated and on-going, make it a small part of every association meeting. Call Vande Sande at 332-7292 or email [www.bloomington.in.us/redcross/home.html](mailto:www.bloomington.in.us/redcross/home.html).

Information also found at [www.conaonline.org](http://www.conaonline.org).

## Lending Library

CONA is beginning a collection of resource materials concerning neighborhoods and the concepts encompassed therein. When CONA has an official office, the resource materials will be kept there. Until then, the following method of distribution is being used: The books are all listed on the website ([conaonline.org](http://conaonline.org)). One may request materials through the website and CONA will contact you regarding delivery. Each CONA meeting, a number of books will be highlighted and the book may be borrowed at that time. They will also be listed in this newsletter and you may call 333-6377 or email [cona@bloomington.in.us](mailto:cona@bloomington.in.us) to request any items. The materials, thus far, have been provided through the generosity of Jan Bulla-Baker. Any future contributions of related books would be appreciated by CONA.

Boal, John T., BE A GLOBAL FORCE OF ONE! IN YOUR HOMETOWN

Hirsch, Kathleen, A HOME IIN THE HEART OF A CITY: A WOMAN'S SEARCH FOR COMMUNITY

Hiss, Tony, THE EXPERIENCE OF PLACE

Kelling, George L. and Coles, Catherine M., FIXING BROKEN WINDOWS

Kunstler, James Howard, HOME FROM NOWHERE:REMAKING OUR EVERYDAY WORLD FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Leadership Bloomington. "GOOD NEIGHBOR OLD-FASHIONED WORD OR WAVE OF THE FUTURE?"

Loeb, Paul Rogat, SOUL OF A CITIZEN:LIVING WITH CONVICTION IN A CYNICAL TIME

Oakley, Ed and Krug, Doug, ENLIGHTENED LEADERSHIP: GETTING TO THE HEART OF CHANGE

Pearlman, Mickey, ed. A PLACE CALLED HOME: TWENTY WRITING WOMEN REMEMBER

Peck, M. Scott. THE DIFFERENT DRUM: COMMUNITY MAKING AND PEACE

Peck, M. Scott. A WORLD WAITING TO BE BORN: CIVILITY REDISCOVERED

Pindell, Terry. A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE

Shactman, Tom. AROUND THE BLOCK: THE BUSINESS OF A NEIGHBORHOOD

Shuman, Michael H. GOING LOCAL: CREATING SELF-RELIANT COMMUNITIES IN A GLOBAL AGE

## CHECKLIST FOR NEIGHBORHOODS

**ROADS:** Are roads properly maintained? — Are roads kept clear of obstructions, such as parked cars and overhanging tree limbs that would hinder emergency vehicle access? — Are broken or burned-out street lights repaired promptly? — Are street signs properly installed and maintained? — Are street signs easy to read? — Is vegetation trimmed away from street signs?

**FIRE PROTECTION:** Are fire hydrants clearly marked and kept clear of vegetation? — Are fire hydrants inspected regularly and properly maintained? — Are fire extinguishers in common areas properly located and inspected regularly?

**DRAINAGE SYSTEM:** Are ditches, culverts, and drainage systems kept clear of debris? — Are ponds and lakes properly maintained? — Is your neighborhood located in a special flood zone?

**COMMON AREAS:** Are common areas properly maintained? — Is there a public telephone in common areas to call for help in an emergency?



Email  
[cona@bloomington.in.us](mailto:cona@bloomington.in.us)  
or call 333-6377  
to reserve a book

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATIONS



Non-Profit Org.  
Presorted Std.  
U.S. Postage Pd.  
Permit No. 484  
Bloomington, IN

 CONA

P.O. Box 252  
Bloomington, IN 47402-0252

Internet address: <http://www.conaonline.org>

Phone and FAX: (812) 333-6377  
email: [cona@bloomington.in.us](mailto:cona@bloomington.in.us)

6th and Ritter  
David & Carole Walter  
208 N. Ritter  
Bloomington, IN 47404

**CONA meeting August 15**

## Students Return Soon to the Campus and Our Neighborhoods

Although it does not seem possible, IU students will soon be returning to Bloomington. Many reside in our neighborhoods, a reality that the Off-Campus Issues Committee has been addressing. This committee is made up of representatives from Indiana University, CONA, and the City of Bloomington. The committee has been concerned with two issues: the IU Code of Conduct and its acknowledgement of off-campus activities as part of the Code (CONA is a strong supporter of this point) and a joint implementation of an educational program for our off-campus students so they might become more aware of neighborhood responsibilities. What do you want your new neighbors to know about expectations of your neighborhood? You need to know so students can be informed. Several of the neighborhoods last year passed out a letter giving information that referred to the present Code of Conduct. Consider doing that again. Other possibilities: have a neighborhood picnic or ice

cream social — invite your new neighbors and get to know them before possible conflicts arise. Many of these individuals have never had responsibilities of a "home", as we want our neighborhoods to be for them.

CONA is updating an INFORMATION and SERVICE NUMBERS publication. This can be made available for your new residents (students and non-students) if you will let CONA know how many you will need for your neighborhood. These then need to be distributed to the individuals needing them. Consider contacting a troop of Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts for this task if neighbor-power is limited.

The Noise Ordinance is an important ordinance for all to be aware of. Consider distributing brochures to your new residents also. Remember: it applies to more than students. Contact CONA for a supply of these brochures. Make your neighborhood an open, friendly place for stu-

dents but inform them of what it means to be a good neighbor. Dean McKaig will be at the Off-Campus Issues Meeting on July 24 to offer the plan he has put together; Kirk White will speak at the August 15 CONA meeting. If you live in a neighborhood where student life is a concern, you should attend the CONA meeting on August 15.

