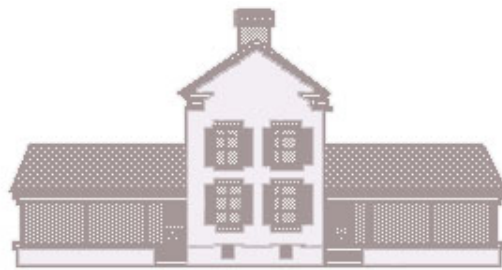


# Prospect Hill Prospectus



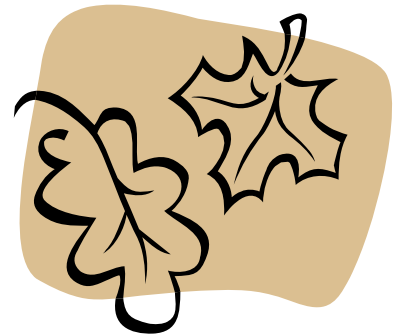
Autumn 2001

edited by Chris Sturbaum

## Fall Neighborhood Party

*Don't forget to bring  
a favorite dish, flatware  
and a lawnchair!*

**Jackson Street  
(between 3rd & Prospect)  
Saturday, October 13  
4:00 pm  
(Raindate: October 14)**

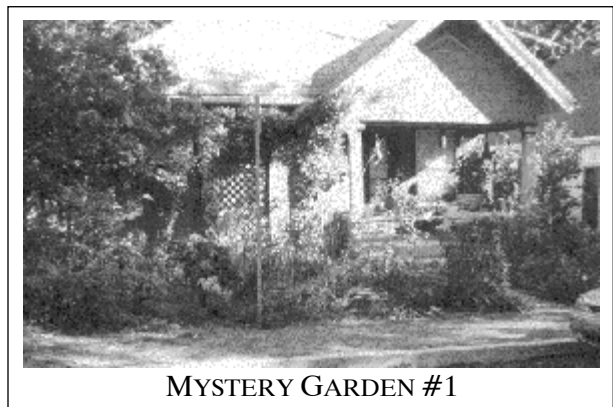


### Fall Pitch-in

The date of Saturday, October 13th has been set for the fall neighborhood party. The party will be held on the closed off section of Jackson Street between West Third Street and Smith. The party will begin at 4:00pm. There will be a brief neighborhood meeting and then continue until dark with a potluck and party on the street. New-comers are especially welcome! We hope to see you in the street!

### Mystery Gardens

In this issue of The Prospectus you will be treated to photos of garden spots, which are nestled somewhere in Prospect Hill Neighborhood. Perhaps you have passed by them and enjoyed their soul-soothing effects. Can you identify their locations? Do you know the gardeners who tend to them? If you would like to know, come to the neighborhood party and find out!



## Community Garden Work Day

by Lucy Schaich

October 20. Join the neighborhood crew at Howe and Euclid for an autumn workday and clean up in the new community garden. 9am-11am. Bring your gloves, a plant or shrub to share, and any other tools you are hankering to use. Kids welcome. Questions? 323-1882.

## Summer's End

by Lucy Schaich

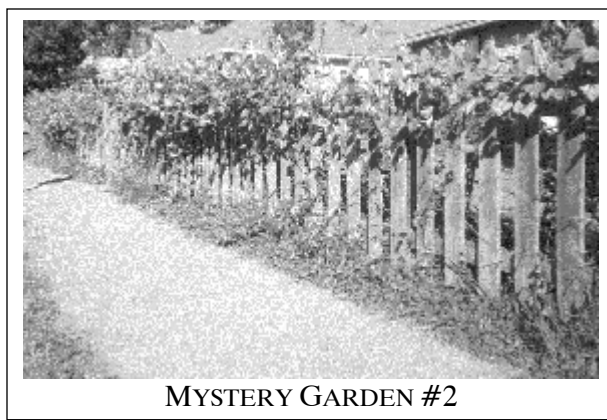
When asked my favorite time in the garden it is not an easy answer to muster. Who isn't swept up in the excitement of spring or the multi-colored blooms of summer? But it is the quiet shades and cool evenings of autumn that win my allegiance.

Autumn is the time of harvest, with tomatoes and beans hanging heavy on their vines. It is a time of abundance, when sunflowers bow to show passers-by their treasure. And it is a time of reflection and transition as evidenced by the Sedum's chameleon-like transformation from bright green and white into upright colonies of bronze and deepest burgundy.

As I walk the alleys of Prospect Hill I am greeted with the sites and smells of the coming season. Electric blue morning glories chasing along a fence line. Giant tufts of pampas grass, their feathered spikes illuminated by the evening sun. The

intoxicating scents of Autumn Clematis, Honeysuckle and Moonflower that will stop you in your tracks.

Mother Nature is treating us to a spectacular grand finale before the frost and Prospect Hill Neighborhood gardens are a fitting theater for this show. Look closely. Walk slowly. Soak it in.



## Doing the Wave

by Lucy Schaich

It's sweeping the nation. Neighbors in a Virginia neighborhood began noticing an interesting phenomenon. A couple (or more) residents, sitting in patio chairs, would offer friendly waves to neighbors, and apparently anyone else driving down the street. The reaction by the drivers was to slow down to see who was waving, to wave back, and then to drive home smiling.

Interesting! A simple act – waving – produces all sorts of good things. It slows traffic down! Waving seems to be a “traffic calming” technique that is both cheap and easy. It shows we are a neighborhood that is friendly. Friendly places are good places to live. It makes the drivers smile, and it is hard to have road rage when grinning.

Perhaps these folks and others began waving as a random act of kindness. If we made the act of waving systematic – that is, if we did "The Wave" when in our front yards – Prospect Hill might just be a safer, happier, place.



MYSTERY GARDEN #3

### Join the List

by Lucy Schaich

Sign up to be "in the know" about what's happening in the Prospect Hill neighborhood. The Neighborhood Association sends out electronic updates from our monthly meetings, keeping you informed about what is happening in your neighborhood.

To join the list, simply email your address and the message "sign me up!" to [phna\\_neighborhood\\_news@yahoo.com](mailto:phna_neighborhood_news@yahoo.com) and you will be added to our email information network.

### Conservation District Meeting

by C. R. Bretheim & Chris Sturbaum

After our August PHNA meeting, I attended a Historic Preservation Commission meeting. I had been concerned about loss of green space, quick demolition and loss of single-family properties in parts of our neighborhood.

At the Historic Preservation Commission meeting, we talked about a conservation district designation for our near west side neighborhood. The primary requirement for residents of a conservation district is a Certificate of Appropriateness,

which is like an extra building permit, for new construction with a permanent foundation and for demolition of existing structures. A conservation district designation would protect the character of our neighborhood. A conservation district designation is not as stringent as local historic district designation, like the Prospect Hill District at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Rogers.

While I was at the meeting, a resident of the Prospect Hill Historic District presented his plan for a patio and roof extension for his garage on South Rogers. He showed pictures of the garage as it is and showed pictures of another house that had the changes he desired. The Commission listened, made a couple of suggestions and approved his request. In a conservation district, this person would not have needed permission for this project.



Medical encroachment behind West Howe residence

The meeting peaked my interest in historic preservation and in the conservation district designation, which would help maintain the character that I love about my house on the near west side and the surrounding neighborhood. The designation protects the style and culture of our area against aggressive large-scale commercial development along Second Street and small scale scalping of our mostly sensibly priced single-family homes. It does not interfere

with the sale of our houses or with many modifications.



Discussion at the commission included a suggestion that there be a meeting at a church in the neighborhood with commissioners and neighbors to answer questions about the pros and cons of Hill meeting it was suggested that the area which would benefit most immediately from this action would be the area of Second Street and Howe from the west side of the park to Walker Street. Design review would stop the oversized garage construction we have been seeing. The proposed medical zoning along Second Street has the potential of harming our single family house owners along Second and the people whose homes border the medical zoning on Second Street.

Demolition review and design review would give the neighborhood some control on parking lots and traffic and large scale commercial construction which would have a negative impact on the residential nature of the area. There is plenty of undeveloped land at Second and Rogers and from that intersection east to Krogers. Sacrificing a healthy residential area when there is plenty of undeveloped medical land both here and on the south west side of the hospital doesn't make sense. This small area of our neighborhood could explore the conservation district idea while the rest of the neighborhood watches and learns if this is a good solution for protecting the rest of Prospect Hill.

## Neighborhood Musings

by Joy Bridy

The strong scent of mint brushes by me as I sit on my front porch sipping hot tea. How I love waking up out here, looking at my neighbor's beautiful rose bush, saying hello to a neighbor walking her dogs, nodding as another neighbor rides by on his bike. Neighbor. This early autumn wind blows my hair about, and I think about being a good neighbor. I've felt welcomed and included in my neighborhood, from the Prospect Hill Neighborhood Parties to walking back alleys and chatting with people I do not know. Yet what does it mean to be a good neighbor? As I quiet my mind, I come upon the concept of willingness...

.....a willingness to be who we are, to be friendly and open, as well as private,

.....a willingness to listen and understand each other's differences, to communicate through conflicts,

.....a willingness to bend a little, to meet a fellow neighbor in the middle,

.....a willingness to celebrate each other as individuals, as a community both large and small.

What does this mean? My feelings today say to begin with face to face interactions. Talk to each other. When I first moved to the neighborhood, I mentioned I needed a lawn mower to tame my crazy yard, and a neighbor provided one, not before a citation from HAND. When my home was robbed, neighbors supported me with emails and visits of consolation and ideas for safety. Now, as I, and others, struggle with light pollution from my church neighbor, coupled with their unwillingness to be flexible, I struggle with how to be a good neighbor myself.

### **A Recipe That's Easy To Make & Good To Eat. What A Deal!**

by Galen Van Horn

- One package any kind of spiral noodles or shell noodles
- One large can of Mushroom soup
- 1/2 pound of chicken, cut up into pieces

Boil noodles until not quite done. Sauté/fry the chicken until not quite done. Add noodles and chicken (with 1/2 cup of sauté liquid) and can of soup (without liquid) to microwavable bowl and mix. Add 1/2 cup of milk. Add 1/2 teaspoon each of pepper and oregano. Mix well. Heat in Microwave for 3 minutes. Stir. Heat 3 more minutes. Stir, serve and enjoy!

### **Neighborhood Notice**

by Jan Van Horn

I'm looking for kids in the neighborhood to be in the Children's Rainbow Chorus on Thursdays at 5pm.

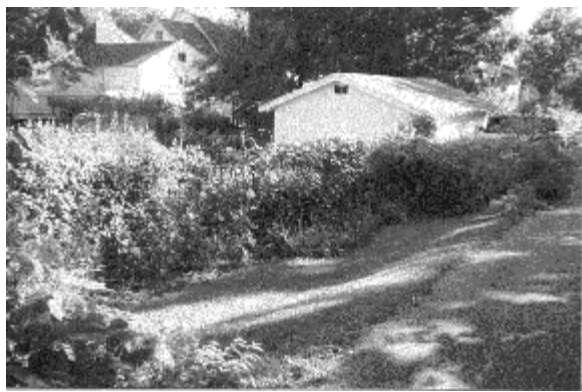
Anyone interested? Call Jan Van Horn at 333-7464.

### **Riddle**

by Kate Van Horn

You're the bus driver. At your first stop 26 people get on and 10 of them get off. At your next stop 19 people get on and 16 people off. At your next stop 13 people get on and 6 get off. At your last stop 100 people get on and 92 get off. What is the bus drivers name? (*Come to the block party and find the answer.*)





MYSTERY GARDEN #6

### **The City Bakery To Open In Prospect Hill**

by Doug Wissing

Veteran bakers Rob Himmell and Joe Schanel announced that their new City Bakery will be opening this fall in Prospect Hill. Located at 511 W. 4th St. in the vintage yellow-brick garage, the bakery and coffee shop will be serving European-style breads, French and Danish pastries, along with Kosher specialties.

The bakers are looking for suggestions on ethnic baked goods that are currently unavailable in Bloomington. They can be reached at 323-9904.

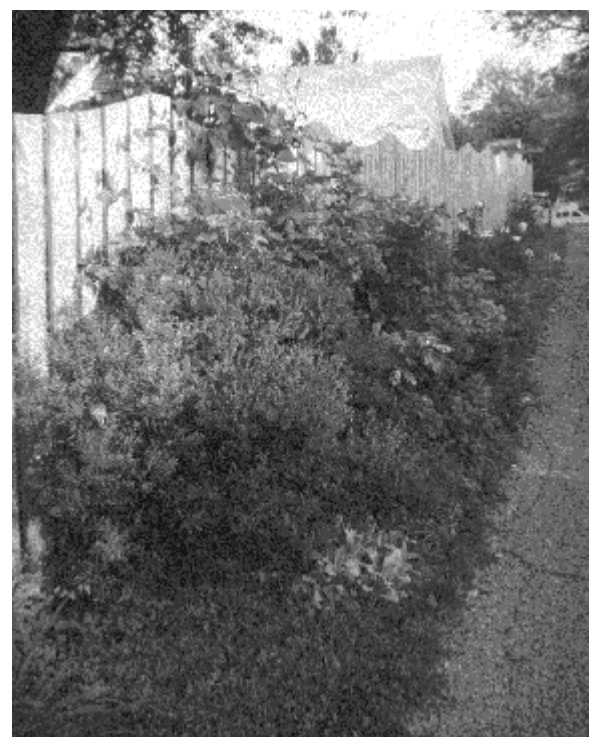
### **New Chimney Sweep**

by Susan Morse

Neighborhood resident Brett Morse recently passed the Chimney Safety Institute of America's rigorous exam to become a CSIA Certified Chimney Sweep (Registration Mark). The exam is based upon up-to-date technical information about cleaning, maintenance, and repair of chimneys, and the National Fire Protection Association's Code 211 (the standard for chimney inspections). The CSIA credential signifies

knowledge of how to properly inspect, diagnose, clean, repair chimney and venting systems (including gas appliances and clothes dryer vents) in order to better protect people against fire and carbon monoxide poisonings.

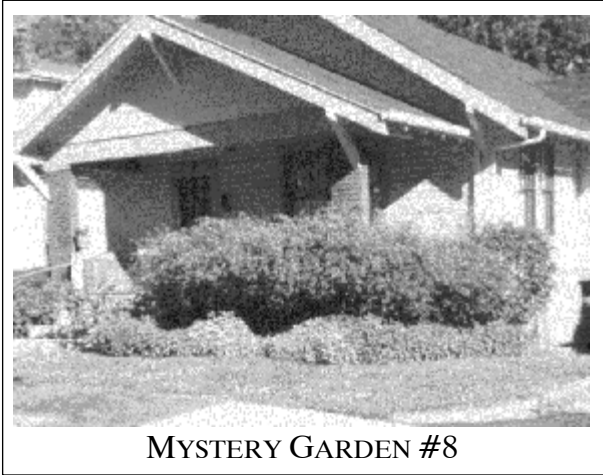
Brett and his wife, Susan, are relatively new residents to Prospect Hill,



MYSTERY GARDEN #7

having purchased their home at 521 West Howe just over a year ago. They are expecting their first child next March and are very grateful for their wonderful neighbors and the Building Trades Park ...so are their 3 dogs - Langston, Elmer, and Flash!

Quarry Rock Chimney Care, provides free estimates on all repair work and is offering a discount on services to Prospect Hill residents. Brett can be reached at 339-1899 or 325-7478 (mobile)...or you are welcome to stop by the house!



MYSTERY GARDEN #8

## Caring For Your Historic Sidewalk

by Chris Sturbaum

Prospect Hill has a lot of WPA limestone walks and many of the earlier brick walks. Many of our neighbors have participated in the sidewalk repair program. These walks, restored or otherwise, need some help from their owner to keep them from being earth covered and overgrown with grass. The following are a list of suggestions for care of your interesting old walks.

- 1) **Edge your walk:** With a shovel, simply dig back the dirt and grass that creeps onto the walk from your lawn or tree-lawn. This creates a nice straight edge and makes the walk more attractive.
- 2) **Get rid of grass in the cracks:**  
Grass starts growing in the little recesses and cracks in both the brick and the limestone walk. The roots can damage the walk and it looks unsightly. Left alone, the whole walk can be covered in grass and dirt. There are at least three ways to take care of this:
  - A) Just dig the grass out with a knife or sharp tool like a screwdriver.

- B) The grass could be killed naturally by using a mixture of water, dish-soap and salt. Experiment with how much salt and soap to use, but start with a half cup of salt and a few squirts of soap. Some people simply use boiling water. After the grass and weeds are dead, they still need to be dug out of the walk, but with the salt added, they are less likely to grow fight back.

- C) The third way is to use a commercial herbicide like "Round-Up". This product breaks down into natural materials without moving into the soil or untreated plants. This is absorbed by the foliage and taken to the roots where a complete kill results in one of two weeks.

- 3) **Dig out and re-set trip hazards:** If a stone or brick is sticking up and causing a trip hazard, it is a simple matter to dig up the offender and dig out the earth underneath it. Sometimes a root has lifted the stone or brick and this must be chopped out. Neither the brick nor the limestone pieces have anything under them but sand or cinders. You can use sand or fine gravel to reset your walk pieces and if you care to. Level and tap down and the repair should last a long time.
- 4) **Use mortar for limestone pieces:**  
You can even mortar the limestone back in place. Once the stone is level and set in the sand base, fill the gaps around it with redi-mix mortar, which can be purchased at any

hardware store of lumber yard. It will be easiest if the mix is not too wet. The mortar could be pushed into the gaps with a pointing tool or even your fingers. Just level it off with the top of the stone and wait for it to dry. Try to keep it off the face of the limestone.

- 5) **Apply for our sidewalk program:** Some walks need a lot of repair and Prospect Hill is using a program from the City of Bloomington HAND Department, to restore these historic sidewalks in our neighborhood. For info, contact Dan Allen (see Contact List below).

**Membership**  
by Lucy Schaich

Ok, so there's no sneaker phone or swimsuit issue...but membership in the Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association does have its benefits! Your membership helps fund neighborhood projects like the historic sidewalk renovation project, the spring and fall neighborhood celebrations, and the production of this very newsletter. Contact your block captain or call Bill Sturbaum at 332-5780 for more information about membership.

**A Flash From Firefly, The Magic Clown**

by Lois Zimmerman

You would not believe Lois' and my front porch. We certainly must have one of the most unusual ones in our Prospect Hill Neighborhood at 304 South Rogers. It reminds me of a favorite childhood story: *The Quick Running Squash*. "What is it?", you ask. Well it seems that a friendly Virginia Creeper decided to creep up onto our porch. At first it was a bit tentative. It was probably afraid that it wouldn't be welcome. When it found that we were both freindly, it took off growing like a weed under an Adirondack chair. The other chair must have been envious. I now see another creeper starting up under it. All of its was probably afraid that it wouldn't be welcome. When it found that we are friendly it took off growing like a weed friends and relations seem to be joining it. I just went out and counted 8 separate vines creeping across our floor. The other plants on the porch are enjoying it too, for they are growing and blooming in wild abandon. Even my firefly relatives come around each evening to wonder along with Lois and me. Come take a look any time.

**Contact List**

**Newsletter:** Chris Sturbaum --- 336-9171 --- barbchri@bloomington.in.us  
**Sidewalk Grant:** Dan Allen --- 332-6417 --- danallen@indiana.edu  
**Issues:** Bill Sturbaum --- 332-5270 --- sturbaum@bluemarble.net

Household \$5.00	<b>Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association Voluntary Annual Membership Dues</b>	Individual \$2.50
Name _____		
Address _____		
Email _____		Date _____
Please mail to: Teresa Miller (Treasurer), 511 W. 3rd St., Bloomington, IN 47404		