

Prospect Hill Prospectus



Early Fall 2003

Paris Dunning House

The Key Landmark of Prospect Hill

Chris Sturbaum

The Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association uses the Paris Dunning House as its logo. This old structure has been central to the history of our area over the years. Built around 1850, its rolling hills and farmland became much of the neighborhood we call home. In this era, Third Street was a dirt road on which farmers brought their produce into Bloomington from the west. The Civil War Governor of Indiana, Paris Dunning once occupied the house and he and his two wives are buried at the southeast corner of Rose Hill cemetery.

When I was growing up, the disheveled house was home to a sweet old lady and a large number of cats. The brick was covered in breaking down stucco and the yard was overgrown.

Time had nearly caught up with the old place.

Then in the early 80's, at a time not too distant from the near loss of our County Courthouse, a plan was developed to demolish the Dunning House and about 30 other houses on West Third Street. This was to make way for the conversion of Third Street to a high speed four lane highway. You can still see the intent clearly in the design of the

underpass and the four lanes approaching Rogers Street, which aim directly at the Dunning House and our Prospect Hill Neighborhood. People in the area were very worried and Bill Sturbaum and Dan Allen (Prospect Hill's first president) helped organize a fledgling neighborhood group to address the issue. We were helped and given hope and direction by a local preservationist of historic nature herself, Rosemary Miller. She was instrumental in the creation of Bloomington Restorations Inc and for many years was the president of BRI and the driving force of the preservation movement in Bloomington. Rosemary came to one of our early meetings and suggested a strategy of putting the Dunning House (we didn't call it that then) on the National Register in order

continued on page 2



Paris Dunning House

continued from page 1

to save it and thereby block the Third Street widening project. The law that would save Prospect Hill had been born in a struggle to save (get this) the French Quarter in New Orleans from imminent demolition! The year was 1963 when nearly everyone in the Louisiana government, both state and local, thought that a new highway going through the French Quarter's ruins, would be the best thing for Louisiana in the long run. However, some local preservationists (little old ladies in tennis shoes as they were called) disagreed. Since there was no help in the state, they went to the U. S. Congress and the National Trust. These visionary activists found some powerful friends and a law was enacted which required a review of historic properties when the use of federal money is involved and this law saved The French Quarter and years later, our own neighborhood.

Bloomington Restorations Inc. did more than just get the Dunning House on the National Register. It then proceeded to restore and market the prop-

erty, using the tax credits which come with a commercial property on the NR. They got themselves deeply in debt and bravely persevered until a buyer was found. The area around the Dunning House and on Rogers Street became a National Register District through the efforts of the now official neighborhood association. In 1986 our neighborhood became officially one of the first such associations in the city. The name Prospect Hill was resurrected from old maps showing the original creation of our subdivision in the late 1800's. No one had called the area "Prospect Hill" for nearly a century. In 1991 the neighborhood petitioned for and with some effort succeeded in becoming Bloomington's first local historic district, in order to protect and nurture our area which was still threatened by demolitions and commercial incursions. As the district became more stable, people wanted to move in and BRI loaned Bill Sturbaum and others the money to invest in this area in which banks would not loan sufficient money, due to the low appraisals. Golden Hands Construction got a lot of its early experience rebuilding Prospect Hill houses.

Looking at the neighborhood today,

you see no signs of the struggle that went into saving and building up our neighborhood from decaying and even condemned houses. Forty years have passed since I first came to Prospect Hill. The changes have been so wonderful and so positive that I can hardly believe it has happened this way. The lessons of our neighborhood's history are also positive but they tell the tale that good things don't just happen by themselves. Hard work, dedication and perseverance on a local level and legal action on the national scene all came together to save Prospect Hill. What all these actions and preservation law have in common is a love of place, a respect for history and an affirming, positive activism for the common good. The proof, my neighbors, is all around us that many people working together with a shared vision over a period of time can accomplish things little short of miracles! I'm happy and proud to live on the west side in our little neighborhood of Prospect Hill. We are now part of the ongoing story. See you around neighbor!

Rose Hill Cemetery: A Spacious, Gracious History Lesson

Jennifer E. McClung

Rose Hill Cemetery sits squarely on Bloomington's west side. The gravesites here date back over one hundred and sixty years, making it the oldest burial ground in the county.

Bloomington, the seat of Monroe County was founded in 1818 by many of the citizens whose remains lie at Rose Hill. Men such as David Rogers, Robertson Graham, Dr. David Maxwell, and William Lowe, among others. Cemetery records were not kept until the end of the 1800s, so the only sources of information available that pre-date this are newspaper articles, obituaries, and the stones themselves.

According to these stones, the first person to be buried here was Mrs. Kittura Hardesty, the wife of Samuel Hardesty. She died on January 1, 1821, and was buried in "The Grave Yard". The first recorded burial was that of Senator Richard A. Fulk's wife Mary, on October 6, 1897. Over ten thousand people chose Rose Hill as their final resting place. Many

Bloomingtonians, but the gravestones tell us that many nations – the Philippines, Hungary, Bavaria, Greece, and the British Isles – are represented here.

In 1868, the Grave Yard passed from the jurisdiction of the County Board to the town government, and its name was updated to City Cemetery. In 1892, the Ladies' Cemetery Association was formed to assume management of the grounds, taking over this responsibility from the town government. This Association, comprised of eight industrious Bloomington women, took complete charge. Their first effort was to clean up the grounds. Vandalism and recreational activities had reduced the cemetery to a play area with no rules. A caretaker was hired, and a well appointed home for him was built adjacent to the grounds. The dirt driveways were covered with crushed stone for easier maneuvering in inclement weather. Family plots were marked off with stone curbs, called "pens". A smaller number were fenced in wrought iron. A fountain and



An inscription still remains on the WPA

striking entrance gate were built, funded by donations from the citizenry. Henry B. Gentry held one of his famous Gentry Brothers Dog and Pony shows as a benefit, raising \$173.80 for the stone entrance gate off Fourth Street.

Finally, hundreds of flowers, mostly rosebushes, were donated for the cause of beautification. The Ladies' Cemetery

continued on page 3

Rose Hill

continued from page 2

Association discarded the name "City Cemetery", and chose "Rose Hill" in its place.

Roses were found not only on the grounds, but on the gravestones as well. Most common as a symbol of motherhood, the rose was also extensively used in nineteenth-century gravestone carving to represent youth and beauty. A rosebud signified a life not yet in full bloom, and a broken stem indicated a life cut short.

Gravestone art in the nineteenth century incorporated many designs. Hands were probably the most common devise. A hand pointing heavenward indicated the deceased had gone to his or her reward. The hand portrayed was usually that of the opposite sex of the deceased, and with very few exceptions, it was a right hand. Clasped hands, in a gesture of farewell, were also frequently seen. Again, the gender of the deceased dictated the carving: for a male, the illustration would be that of a female hand clasping the male hand, and the reverse if the deceased was female. Crossed hands, as in prayer, are another variation, seen in sculpture form on the memorial of Ivan Adams carved for himself and his wife shortly before his death in 1968. The sculpture is titled "Lady of Peace".

Willow trees appear in endless varieties, beginning in the 1840s. These "weeping" trees are a common symbol of mourning.

Angels, in contrast to other designs, are rarely seen in Rose Hill. The example on the Irene Bunger stone is a commercial design found on several other Monroe County gravestones. Angels were the symbolic messengers sent from Heaven to carry the soul back with them.

Symbols were sometimes combined. The lamb and willow designs on the Semantha Simonton stone indicate both a child and mourning. The hand and crown combination on the Wylie Bates stone indi-

cates the certainty that he would receive his crown in Heaven.

Doves and lambs were symbols of childhood, and are still frequently employed on modern gravestones. At the turn of the century, these figures began appearing as miniature statues on top of the tiny stones.

A serene classical figure stands protectively over the graves of the Beers and Faris families. Judging from the dates on the surrounding stones, she has been in Rose Hill for about one hundred years.

Bronze sculptures of period soldiers remember Monroe County's sacrifices to the Civil War and World War I. The World War I monument was commissioned and erected in 1923. Made of Indiana buff limestone, it was executed by local stone carver B. Correll. The bronze statue and plaque were paid for with donations, mostly from the families of the 34 men who gave their lives in the war.

In sharp contrast to these elaborate



A miniature soul house is the resting place

tributes, the two Bloomington men who served in the Revolutionary War are remembered only modestly. John Campbell died in 1838, at the age of 82. His simple stone, among those of his family, states that he was "A soldier and a Patriot of the American Revolution". Andrew Ferguson was only recently given a tombstone, although he died in 1855. The only black Revolutionary War soldier to have resided in Bloomington, Ferguson was born in Virginia and served as a soldier from 1780-1783. He came to Bloomington around 1830, and died here at the age of 90. Monroe County historian Mr. Oscar Curtis and local DAR members obtained a tombstone for Ferguson, this long-overlooked soldier of the Revolution. It was placed and dedicated on Memorial Day 1984.

Other names at Rose Hill are more familiar to residents of Bloomington. Indiana Seminary was founded in 1821, and became Indiana University in 1838. Among its pioneers were Professor Andrew Wylie, the University's first president; Dr. David Maxwell, Bloomington's first physician; and Governor Paris Dunning.

Andrew Wylie was born in 1789, in Pennsylvania. He moved his wife and twelve children to Bloomington in 1829 to assume Indiana Seminary's first presidency. He held that office for 22 years, until his death on April 12, 1851. A thirteen-foot tall

continued on page 4



Rose Hill

continued from page 3

obelisk of Indiana limestone marks the graves of Andrew and Margaret Wylie in the oldest section of Rose Hill. Andrew's epitaph is carved in both English and Latin, a fitting tribute to this learned man.

Dr. David Maxwell was Bloomington's first physician, and a pioneer settler of Monroe County. He arrived here with his wife, Mary Dunn Maxwell, in 1819, and established himself as a co-founder of Indiana Seminary, a city councilman, a postmaster, and drafter of the first Indiana Constitution, in addition to his duties as physician. He died on September 17, 1854, and was buried beneath a marble obelisk, in the shadow of the Wylie monument. Maxwell Hall, on the Indiana University campus, and Maxwell Street were both named for him.

The Honorable Paris Dunning made Bloomington his home both before and after an illustrious career in state politics. Here he practiced law and medicine, and married Sarah Alexander, a descendant of the Dunn family who sold their family farm for what was to become the Indiana University campus. Dunning served as Governor of the State of Indiana from 1848-1849. He returned to Bloomington after his term, and built the magnificent house, which still stands at Third and Jackson Streets. Sarah died in 1863, and was buried in the southeastern corner of Rose Hill, barely a block from her home. Dunning collapsed during a courtroom speech in May 1884, and was laid to rest next to Sarah.

Professors Kirkwood, Ballantine, and Woodburn are other educators who had recognizable campus buildings named after them; all are now in Rose Hill. Bloomington's favorite son, Hoagy Carmichael, was born on November 22, 1899, on South Grant Street. He and his parents and sisters moved away a number of times, but always felt most at home in Bloomington. Hoagy returned here on his own in 1919 to earn his diploma from Bloomington High School. He graduated from Indiana University in 1926 with a law degree, and promptly left for Florida. But the music was in him, and he chose to follow it rather than the law. In addition to composing some of the finest songs of the century, Hoagy acted in a number of films, co-starred in a television western, hosted a radio program, and authored two books about his life in Bloomington. His death on



Symbolic meaning and sculptur-



Sarah Dunning, wife of Indiana

December 27, 1981, brought nationwide mourning. His body was returned to Bloomington, and buried next to his parents and sister Joanne.

Many others who were of historical significance to Bloomington and Indiana also chose Rose Hill as their permanent resting place.

Rose Hill is a peaceful spot. At the turn of the century, the fountain in Evergreen Arbor was operational, and the tall shade trees provided a haven for picnickers. Today the fountain is gone after years of vandalism made it inoperable. Fortunately it has been restored, and can be seen today in Third Street Park. The family picnics have been replaced by solitary pursuits – joggers, people walking their dogs, or occasionally someone with a camera or notebook, researching genealogy.

A close walking tour suggests interesting questions, and reveals tantalizing pieces of information. Who can guess what distracted the stone carver enough to record little Carl Newton's date of death as February 30th, 1918? Monroe County death records list the actual date of death as January 30 of the same year.

Ellettsville quarry owner John Crafton was lost at sea in the 1912 Titanic disaster. A cenotaph, a memorial stone erected when the body lies elsewhere, sits in the family plot.

Alfred Patton's 1853 headstone states that he was killed by lightning. This may be the only nineteenth-century stone to detail a cause of death in Monroe County. Modern gravestones are becoming more personal, with photographs laser-etched into granite, and details of the deceased's life – sometimes even their death – includ-

ed on the gravestone.

Brothers John and David Claman are buried beneath a single stone. The hands represented are pointing down, rather than up, differing from the usual style. A hand pointing down is a Puritan symbol for the Hand of God, meant to remind the viewer of his own mortality. In this case, the hands may have a much more functional purpose: to indicate where each brother is buried.

A more ancient custom – the soul house – can be found in modernized versions at Rose Hill. The soul house was a place for the soul to live after death of the mortal. Mausoleums are a large-scale form of this memorial. On a smaller scale, we have the Banks stone, resembling a cozy cottage, and Marietta (Ettie) Stephenson's marker, which appears to be a cross between a doll's house and a Victorian mansion. Miss Stephenson died in 1890 at the age of nineteen, of consumption, what we now call tuberculosis. She may have been too grown-up for doll-houses, but would apparently remain her mother's little girl for eternity. Her parents are buried beside her, as the custom of the days gone by was for families to be buried together. According to his obituary, William Stephenson's 1895 funeral was the largest in Rose Hill history; the procession reached one-half mile in length.

Rose Hill reflects different aspects of society. In the old section, we find headstones bearing names like America, Dovie, Euphrasia, Indiana, and Wygonda. Every flower and precious stone name imaginable is represented, following the Victorian

continued on page 5

Rose Hill

continued from page 4

trend. Common, too, are obscure Biblical names, like Jehiel, Naaman, Nimrod, Sampson, and last, but not least, Zeno.

Individual gravestones have always been the most popular form of memorials to the deceased. In 1917, Bloomingtonians were offered an alternative – the first public mausoleum in southern Indiana was built at Rose Hill. A smaller “lawn crypt” was added in the 1950s. Three private mausoleums, or family crypts dot the grounds, dated 1927, 1932, and 1940.

The old stones bear symbolic carvings laden with meaning for the nineteenth-century survivors of the deceased. The white marble was imported from Georgia,

Tennessee, and sometimes Italy, then fashioned into gravestones here in Bloomington. There were very few monument makers in town, so most of the stones in any given decade have a certain “sameness” to them. By far and away the most prolific carver was Tolbert Sudbury, who worked here from the mid-1860s until his death in 1912. We also find stones signed by David M. Johnston, Edwin Burt, Isaac Walker, and Jonathan Corsaw. All but Burt, whose burial place is unknown, are now at Rose Hill.

The earliest gravestones were made from limestone, easily accessible, and a form of sandstone native to western Ohio. White marble became fashionable with the laying of the railroad. Imagine how striking the pristine white stones must have looked! This material fell out of favor in the 1890s, and was replaced by the always-reliable Indiana limestone. By the 1920s, the old marble stones had eroded, faring worse than the homemade limestone and sandstone markers of earlier days. A new material was found to me both durable and attractive: granite. This stone, quarried mainly in Vermont, has remained the norm in gravestones for over seventy years.

Rose Hill exists peacefully with its surrounding neighborhoods. The roses that gave the cemetery its name have vanished. Peonies, the Indiana state flower, have replaced them to such an extent that a former Rose Hill superintendent once

commented that the name ought to be changed again – to Peony Hill. It is a spacious, gracious history lesson on Bloomington and its inhabitants.



Nearly 100 years old, this lady of stone stands silent watch over the Beers and Faris plots. Flowers can often be



Habitat for Humanity Straw Bale House

The Center for Sustainable Living, Harmony School and Bloomingfoods have raised more than half of the \$47,500 necessary to be able to build the first Straw Bale house in Bloomington house. Construction is scheduled to start on September 27th.

If you would like to help on the build or help us raise the rest of the \$\$\$, please contact our volunteer coordinator Denise Travers at 333-4439 or email: sustainable_future@yahoo.com

You can send donations to: Habitat for Humanity Straw Bale House Project
P.O.Box 1441 Bloomington, IN 47402-1441 Help make this amazing project come to life!



A Garden of Her Own

Laura Ley

My flower garden at the corner of Maple Street and Smith has evolved over the years. I bought the house in 1982 and was drawn to the house because of the large garden plot out back. I had previously lived in the country and grew and canned lots of vegetables.

This plot started out as an all-vegetable garden with a few marigolds thrown in. Gradually it became a flower garden with a couple of tomato plants, now it's all flowers. Change is good.

Over the years I have swapped perennial with my Prospect Hill neighbors, things such as poppies, surprise lilies, monarda, black-eyed susans, asters, lily of the valley, and buttercups to name a few. I then started adding annuals, which can be very beautiful until the first frost.

The flower garden is an ever-changing process and is never "done". My husband, Barry, has added some fishponds, fountains and water plants over the past few years. The fish have grown quite large and the fountains add a soothing sound to work by.

One word. Work. A garden takes constant care throughout the season. Once everything is planted, I make a daily look around to take care of weeds, bugs, check growth, pick and deadhead flowers, and do the watering and hoeing. Several years ago I started a garden journal to help myself remember what works well together and what doesn't. I refer to it often and also record when flowers are peaking in bloom, and weather extremes are too hot, too dry, too wet, etc.

There are lots of beautiful gardens in our neighborhood. I enjoy keeping tabs on how they progress and would welcome anyone to come and take a walk around in mine.



Garden Swap

**Saturday, October 4
9 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

**Community Garden at Euclid
and Howe Streets**

Add to your own yard or garden! It's dividing time and that can only mean more flowers and seeds for everyone to share. Come share the bounty as we dig and divide community garden perennials. Bring something to trade. A free Iris for everyone who attends!

CSX/McDoel Switch Yard & Rail Corridor Open House

Thursday, September 11, 2003

11AM - 1PM & 5PM - 7PM

City Council Chambers of City Hall

The City of Bloomington has been planning the conversion of the McDoel Switchyard and Rail Corridor into an urban greenway for the past several months. This project will provide opportunities for businesses, neighborhoods, and residents along the trail, as well as add to the quality of life Bloomington is recognized for nationally.

The City has contracted with Ratio Architects, in association with RQAW Corporation, Christopher Burke Corporation, and J.F.New and Associates for the professional planning and design services of creating the CSX/McDoel Switchyard and Rail Corridor Master Plan. Staff from the City of Bloomington and the professional design team has been making progress internally and feel it is necessary to get input from property owners adjacent to the trail.

An Open House will be held on September 11, 2003 from 11 am - 1 pm and from 5 pm to 7 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall. If you are interested in learning more about this project or expressing your ideas about the future uses of the trail, please join us.

If you have any questions about the Open House, please call my office at 349-3406 or the Parks and Recreation Department at 349-3700.

Projects for Fall

Flavored Sugar

Flavored sugar is easy to make with herbs or flowers from your garden or the Farmer's Market! All you need is a pint-sized jar with a tight-fitting lid, 2 cups of sugar, and edible herbs and/or flowers (good choices include mint, roses, scented geranium leaves, lavender, and honeysuckle-make sure they have been grown without pesticides!).

Make Your Own Flavored Sugar

Steps:

1. Choose small flowers and herb leaves. Wash all the flowers and leaves and make sure that they are absolutely dry before you add them to the sugar.
2. Fill the jar about ... full with the sugar and add a layer of flowers/herbs.
3. Add more layers of sugar and leaves until jar is full. Put the lid on and secure it.
4. Shake the jar and store in a cool dark place.
5. Let the sugar absorb

A Little Bit of History

Games in the 1920s

Many of the houses in the Prospect Hill area were built by the end of the 1920s. In the late 1920s, a man named Pedro Flores started making a brand new toy that became all the rage. It was the yo-yo! Although yo-yos had been around in ancient China, Greece, and Egypt, they became really popular in the thirties when Donald Duncan started selling them to kids and adults. Duncan's first yo-yos were made of maple wood, but in the 1930s, red and black metal whistling yo-yos were also popular. "Duncan Yo-yo Professionals" traveled to towns all over the U.S.A to demonstrate yo-yo tricks to admiring crowds.

Wanted

Kid and teen writers & reporters ages 8-17!

For the next issue - December 2003 - you could tell about your favorite holiday book, your favorite memory of this neighborhood, report on something that you and your friends are doing, or share a game, craft, or story!

For more details, email Lucy Schaiach at prospect@bloomington.in.us or Brenda McNeilen at bmcneilen@yahoo.com.

The first volunteer who completes a piece for the newsletter will receive a yo-yo and a book of yo-yo tricks!

Morrison's TV & Appliance Looks Toward the Future

Rick Gudal

When I walked into Morrison's TV and Appliance on a Saturday morning a few weeks ago, one of the questions I had planned to ask was answered right away. No sooner had I walked in the door when I discovered that "Jacques" and

"Costeau," really do exist. They're the two German Shepherds featured in local cable TV commercials for Morrison's. The dogs, whose master is store owner Edie Morrison, usually spend their days at the store and return home with Edie at night. "Jacques" and "Cousteau" help make Morrison's a unique business establishment.

Morrison's, located at 900 W. Kirkwood, is a throwback to an era when store owners and their employees either knew or got to know their customers on a first name basis. The business was started in the early 1950s by a young World War Two veteran named Jack Morrison. In addition to operating the store, Jack was very active in civic

affairs. He was born and raised in the Prospect Hill area.

Jack perhaps is best known for his service on the city council where he was a tireless advocate for Bloomington's west side. During his tenure on the council, Jack actively lobbied to have several hundred thousand dollars' worth of federal Community Development Block (CDBG) grants - better known as "re-development funds" - allocated to the city's west side neighborhoods.

"Jack loved the West Side," his widow, Edie, said. When Jack died in 1997, Edie decided to keep the store operating. "I felt this was the best way I could honor Jack's memory," she added. Morrison said she's not had any second thoughts or doubts about her decision to keep the store open. She said she looks forward to serving the residents of the Prospect Hill and Near West side neighborhoods for many years to come.

Morrison said the arrival of the mass merchandising appliance stores, better known as "big box" stores, in Bloomington has not hurt Morrison's. In fact, she believes they have helped boost sales at her store. "An article in Kiplinger magazine suggests that some consumers are tiring of the 'big box' stores and are wanting to return to traditional stores where they can get personalized service."

Morrison said her prices are competitive with those charged by the big appliance stores. Her store is affiliated with

Associated Volume Buyers (AVB), a purchasing cooperative which allows small TV and appliance stores like Morrison's to offer prices which are competitive with the "big box" stores.

Morrison's TV and Appliance prides itself on outstanding customer service. "Although people tend to look upon us as a small, neighborhood store, we actually have a staff of ten employees," the owner said.

Morrison's sells some the best known brands in the TV and appliance business including Jenn-Air, Amana, Maytag, Frigidaire, and Crosby. In addition to the brands sold at Morrison's, the store services over 20 other brands.

While Morrison's provides 1950s style personalized service, the store has joined the Internet age with establishment of its own website:

www.morrisonappliances.com. Owner Edie Morrison may be e-mailed at: edie@morrisonappliances.com. She may also be reached by phone at the store at 332-7694

Edie, always a believer in personal communications, hopes neighborhood residents will stop by the store and chat -- even if they're not in the market for a new TV or appliance. While you're there, be sure to say hello to "Jacques" and "Costeau."

WZOU-TV



Editor's Note: This is the first in an occasional series of stories focusing on small businesses located in or near the Prospect Hill neighborhood. Many of these establishments are individually or family-owned and operated. We encourage neighborhood residents to patronize these establishments.

Show Your Prospect Hill Pride

Ever feel like you're entering a different world when you drive across College into the Prospect Hill neighborhood? Show people you've been there with a deluxe Prospect Hill car window-cling sticker. You can get a sticker for free just by paying your Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association membership dues for this year (\$5.00 for an individual or \$10.00 for a household). The stickers are being produced now and will be available for pickup at the

Fall Homecoming Party on October 4 (see back page). You can also get a sticker by mailing your membership dues to Tom Roznowski, Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association Treasurer, 706 W. Third St., 47404 (A membership form is included on the back page of this newsletter). Anyone living in the Prospect Hill neighborhood is encouraged to join.

Your membership dues keep our neighborhood strong by helping with the funding of events such as the annual Spring and Fall neighborhood celebrations and through information sharing through the email update, newsletter and web site. Welcome to the neighborhood neighbor!



PH

Storm Drain Project

During September, Prospect Hill will become the first neighborhood to voluntarily participate in the City of Bloomington Utilities' (CBU) Storm Drain Marking Program. The primary goal of this activity is to change the way Bloomingtonians use and view storm drains. Within the next month, the Prospect Hill team, led by a CBU representative, will spend a weekend afternoon placing markers which read "No Dumping, Drains to Stream" on all storm drains in the neighborhood. The small, colorful marker is easy to permanently affix to the storm drains and sends an important message in a rather aesthetically-pleasing way.

Storm drains are commonly misused for the disposal of waste such as paint, motor oil, antifreeze, pesticides and other pollutants. This improper disposal can seriously damage our community's water quality and environment. In addition, each time it rains, stormwater runoff carries street litter and other pollutants into storm drains. This "non-point source pollution" is a significant source of contamination of Indiana's water resources and costs the state thousands of dollars. Did you know that our storm drains do not purify and remove pollutants? In many



communities, storm water runoff is discharged directly into nearby streams, rivers, lakes, or even sinkholes and caves, which are conduits to groundwater. Partners in this project include the City of Bloomington, Monroe County Solid Waste Management District, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Indiana University.

If you are interested in learning about this issue and joining the Prospect Hill volunteer team, contact Matt Weber at 330-0250 or matthew_d_weber@yahoo.com. More information can also be found at www.city.bloomington.in.us/utilities/stormdrain or by contacting Kriste Lindberg at 339-7210 or lindberg@kiva.net.

CONA Working on New Zoning Ordinance

The Council of Neighborhood Associations, CONA, through its planning committee has compiled a list of ordinances that it believes need to be included or revised when the new zoning ordinance is adopted. One of CONA's concerns is the ordinance governing a Planned Unit Development. A Planned Unit Development permits the owner of a plot of ground to present to the Plan Commission a development that exceeds present zoning requirements. CONA believes that a PUD must be regulated so that it conforms to an existing neighborhood plan.

The list of concerns will be discussed at upcoming CONA meetings. The list is published under NEIGHBORHOODS on the CONA website. The address is www.conaonline.org.

Report from Save the Von Lee Campaign

The Von Lee has finally been sold as we had feared: with a covenant attached to its deed which prohibits any future film use. The new owner is considering turning the historic theater into a bar. IU has passed up opportunities to buy the theater for two years now. Our subcommittee, Save the Von Lee, is contemplating legal action. We have created a website for information on the issue. We are hoping to bring to light this practice of the Kerasotes Corporation which is intended to kill off small historic Main Street theaters throughout their five state area. Over fourteen hundred people have signed our petition to save the Von Lee and we have promoted a concessions boycott at Kerasotes Theaters for a year and half.

Remember... No Popcorn Please!

Sadly, the legal action seems to be the only thing left to do. Kerasotes has just recently closed the only downtown movie theater in Carbondale IL where a community group is trying to figure out what to do about it. The

same thing happened last year in Rantoul, IL. Rantoul's economic Development Director, Ray Boudreaux said of Kerasotes closing of the Wings Theater, "We are all going to miss it. That place was packed with boys and girls on the weekend." We are going to need to raise legal funds to proceed. Our website is www.geocities.com/savethevonlee/index.html. This action is the only way to get Kerasotes attention, as they have ignored the community's response in this and other communities since their auto driven mall multiplex strategy apparently includes the destruction of the traditional downtown theaters. If we don't save the Von Lee for the immediate future but win our case, at least other communities across the Midwest might be spared the loss of their historic theaters. The Von Lee might also have movies in its future. It was a deli for years between being the Ritz and the Von Lee and most bars and Italian restaurants come and go in this town. We are actively fundraising for our upcoming legal action. Our immediate goal is \$2,000. Call 336-9171 to learn more.

He s A Voter, She s A Voter.....Wouldn t You Like To Be A Voter Too?

Make Sure You are Registered to Vote

If you are not yet registered, you can register in person at the Monroe County Voter Registration Office in the Justice Building, 301 North College Ave. (Corner of 7th and College). You may also register by mail. Contact the Monroe County Voter Registration Office for a mail-in form. If you do not receive confirmation of your registration within two weeks or have any questions about your registration, call the Monroe County Voter Registration Office at 349-2690. Above all, if there is a question, do not assume your registration is still valid. Voter registration will end thirty days before the election (10/4/03).

Absentee Voting

There are several ways to cast your ballot in addition to voting at your polling site on Election Day. Anyone over age 65 is eligible to vote by Absentee Ballot. In addition, you may vote absentee if you are disabled, work over 12 hours on Election Day, are in military service, work in an official capacity on Election Day; take care of someone who is disabled, or will be out of town on Election Day. In order to vote absentee, your must submit an application to the Voter Registration Office. Once your application is completed, there are three ways to vote absentee:

Vote by Mail: After receiving your application, the County Clerk's office will deliver your ballot through the mail with instructions.

Vote Early at the County Clerk's Office: A bipartisan board is established in the County Clerk's office at 301 North College (Corner of 7th and College) from 10/6/03 to 11/3/03.

Vote by Travel Board: If you are confined to your home, apartment, or any convalescent facility, a bipartisan travel board can come visit you and help you complete your ballot in person.

For more information about voting by Absentee Ballot call 349-2690.

Know Your Polling Place

If you have any question about your polling place or precinct, contact the Monroe County Voter Registration office at 349-2690. Please be aware that some polling places may change before Election Day.

City Council District 1 Candidate Q & A

Dax Norton (R)



Biographical Information:

- Born – 10/20/1971
- Part Time Resident of Bloomington since 1977
- Full Time resident of Bloomington since 1997
- BS in History from Ball State University 1995
- 1997-present Partner/General Manager of small, family owned businesses in Monroe County
- 2003 Managing Partner of Short Stop Partnership, Managing operator Eastside Investments LLC

Why I am Seeking Public Office:

I made the decision to seek this public office because I love the city of Bloomington and feel the citizens of this city would be better served if there were a change of tone in city government. I have spoken with many people who feel that they are disrespected and not adequately represented by the current city council. People feel that government has failed to provide for the needs of the neighborhoods and business community and has shifted its focus to what is best for those elitists in city hall. A change is needed. I want to help insure that the long-term vision for Bloomington brings quality jobs, reduces crime, improves traffic flow, and reduces the size of our current government bureaucracy. The people of Bloomington deserve Reasonable, Responsible, and Respectful government.

My Qualifications:

Being the operator of a small business, organizer of a neighborhood association, homeowner and a soon to be husband and step father, I have developed the three skills I believe to

Chris Sturbaum (D)



Biographical Information:

- Small Business Owner—Golden Hands Construction since 1979
- Forty years of Westside living and neighborhood activism
- Past President of Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association
- Past Chair of the Bloomington Historic Commission and current member
- Bloomington Restorations Incorporated Affordable Housing Committee Co-Chair
- Helped build WFHB studio as a volunteer and committee member.

- City of Bloomington Neighbor of the Year 2001
- Bloomington High School '71 and Wabash College '75
- State honors BHS in wrestling and football. MVP football at Wabash
- Has a plot in Rose Hill - Is here to stay!

Why I am Seeking Public Office:

I love our town and my experience with local government is that it actually works. There is real democracy on this local level and people can make a difference. I think it is important who sits on our city council and having grown up here and participated in politics at the neighborhood level and then as a commission member, I have become well versed in the way our city government operates. I believe that I can use my experience to help our community by always voting based on what is best for Bloomington.

My Qualifications:

I have many years of experience at leadership. I have run a successful and well respected business since 1979. I have made payroll every week and have been continuously responsible for projects involving people's primary investment, their homes. I have exercised a leadership role in my neighborhood association and more recently, have lead the Historic Commission as chair during the past few

City Council District 1 Candidate Q & A (continued)



be most important to be an exceptional councilperson. First, one must have the ability to listen to both sides of an argument and find common ground in an effort to create sound policy. This process happens at home when we have to decide if the 4 year old will be able to watch cartoons, if the Kelly will watch Oprah, or if I will watch the Cubs

lose the pennant all at the same time with one television in our house. Second, one must have the ability to spend what money they have wisely. Doing a budget for a small business and for home has given me an education on how to spend money wisely in good and bad times. Third, one must have vision. I have found it necessary to have goals and visions for the business, the family and the stepdaughter.

List Three Key Issues in Our Community:

1. Policy that insures the introduction of high wage jobs to our community
2. Public Safety (Police and Fire Protection for our Mothers, Children and Students)
3. Traffic (Infrastructure plan)

How I Plan to Address These Issues:

1. City officials need to create policy that attracts high wage employers to our community and shy away from introducing regulations and fees that repel them. Design review and sewage policies only create barriers to the introduction of business in our community because employers will find it rather difficult to settle in a city where they may need to spend four hours in one evening discussing the vinyl siding they want to use for their business project. We also need to open up the gates and develop the fringe. Organizations such as the BEDC, BUEA, Small Business Development center, the STAR Center, and the Chamber need adequate financial and legislative support.
2. Promises made to city police and fire departments must be kept. The number one priority of the city council should be the budget and efficient operation of all public safety departments.
3. Bloomington needs a long term infrastructure and traffic flow plan. Fitness trails, safe and efficient east/west corridors, proper placement of interchanges, and planning new developments around infrastructure that is already in place must be the focus of this plan. Bloomington is going to grow and with growth will come automobile and pedestrian traffic. If we solve our infrastructure problems now it will improve our quality of life, which will attract new employers and increase our tax base.



years. My style is to see a problem and find a way to resolve it. In my professional career I simply can't just form a committee and put off the solution. The problem must always be resolved satisfactorily. This pattern is reflected in everything I do. Bloomington will always have issues to resolve. I believe I can help solve them.

List Three Key Issues in Our Community:

1. Affordable Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization
2. Quality Jobs
3. Quality of Life

How I Plan to Address These Issues:

1. Affordable housing must be a constant effort. We must continue to nurture and expand our support of non-governmental agencies as well as make our in-house programs more efficient. We need a multiple approach to the various levels of this issue. The American dream of home ownership must not become out of the reach of hard working people. Neighborhood revitalization is good for everyone. Substandard and unsafe housing affects everyone in the neighborhood. We must continue our programs which make our neighborhoods safer and more attractive. Quality affordable housing can have this positive effect of making the neighborhood better while serving another social need. Crestmont is overdue for a major revitalization which could change the image from "project" to neighborhood.
2. Quality Jobs: The factory jobs have gone to Mexico and they are not coming back. We are in a new economy now and the brightest minds in the field call it "The New Geography". No longer does job growth depend on railways or highways, because the new technology and biomedical industries can just about locate anywhere they like ("like" being the key word here). The towns and cities that attract the business people of the future and encourage the brightest to stay home will do so based on quality of life issues. The cities that attract the new entrepreneurs are places people really want to live. Bloomington has many of the characteristics of these new "Meccas".
3. Quality of Life: Enhancing our positives, taking care of our green-space issues, protecting our historic character, nurturing our artistic and musical community, building new buildings in context to enhance our cities viability and appearance, creating affordable housing while enhancing our neighborhoods, addressing our parking issues and creating a viable mass transportation system all lead to an improved quality of life. This is good for us but is unmatched as the economic development tool of the future. How we enact our Growth Policies Plan will set the course. We have more jobs now than we have people in Monroe county, although too many of them are low wage jobs. This holistic approach is more likely than traditional economic development to bring the good job growth that we all desire.

The inclusion of these candidate profiles in the Prospectus does not imply Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association endorsement or support of either candidate, their activities or personal or political viewpoints. This information is intended for informational purposes only. Answers were submitted by the candidates themselves.

Make Your Choice Count - Vote Nov. 4!

