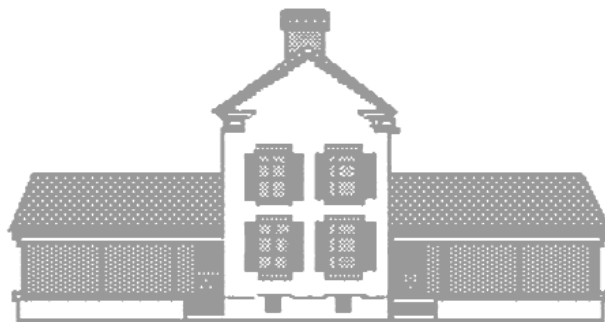


Prospect Hill Prospectus



Winter 2004/2005

Snowbusters

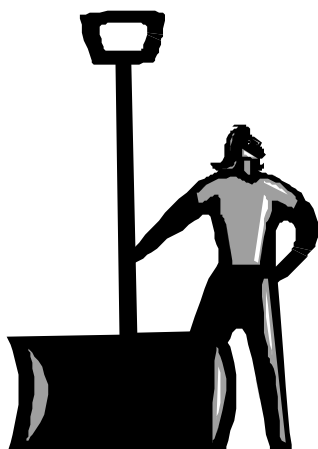
Coming this Winter to A Sidewalk Near You!

Snowbusters is a new City of Bloomington ordinance that requires the removal of snow to a clear width of 36 inches on sidewalks within 24 hours after snow or ice has ceased to fall or accumulate. If snow is not removed, a fine of \$50 may be issued to the property owner for every day that the snow is not cleared.

Don't be caught unprepared this winter.

Make arrangements now for your walk to be cleared during snowy weather.

To locate resources in your neighborhood or to find out more about this ordinance and what it means for you as a homeowner, contact the Council of Neighborhood Associations at infocona@conaonline.org or 331-3979.



Become A Snowbuster

Shovel Your Walk

- Clear that walk within 24 hours after a snowfall to keep our sidewalks safe and passable for everyone. Walkers, kids heading to the bus stop, neighbors, your mailman.....a clear passable walk is appreciated by all!

Shovel Your Neighbor's Walk

- Ernest Tubb once said, "Be a better neighbor and you're gonna have better neighbors." How true. Give a little time to help out your immediate neighbors who may require assistance or volunteer to be a part of the Prospect Hill Neighborhood Snowbusters team and respond to requests for assistance all over the 'hood. Email prospect@bloomington.in.us or call 323-1882 to volunteer your services to the team.

Earn Extra Money

- Snowbusters is the perfect entrepreneurial opportunity for neighbors young and old alike to make some extra cash and help neighbors with this necessary wintertime task.

Love your neighborhood. Live in your neighborhood.

Council Happenings - Three new planning activities will change our future

Chris Sturbaum, District 1 City Council Representative



Three really great things are afoot for our downtown and older neighborhoods!

First is that the Prospect Hill Neighborhood is in the process of doing a neighborhood plan with the city planning department and HAND. The product of these meetings will be a plan for our future right here in the neighborhood. As usual, there has been good participation by the neighbors. A steering committee has been formed. If you are interested in coming to a future meeting, please call HAND at 349-3401 for the schedule. Also, as always, please send your email address to prospect@bloomington.in.us to keep in touch on all these items.

Thing number two is coming to the Plan Commission on the 6th of December at 5:30. This is the Demolition Delay Ordinance that could save buildings on the square, restaurant row and most of our old surrounding neighborhoods from demolitions. Today, these buildings can all be given a demolition permit in only a few days! We have seen two buildings demolished the very day that the city's Historic Commission was meeting to decide on the importance of the buildings. This bill allows for a 90 to 120 day delay for the Commission to process the proposal. Some have questions have arisen regarding the need for 90 to 120 days but this amount of time is truly needed to cope with multiple requests or single requests which might raise the ques-

tion of reviewing a larger district than the single house or building proposed for demolition. Even single nominations can take time to research more fully and get it right and there is the issue of staff time. Our staff person has only a half time assignment to the Historic Commission.

I have worked on this for our community for many years. However, I will be in the hospital getting ready for a kidney transplant for this important Plan Commission meeting. I need your help to speak up for this important issue and please don't support a shorter delay. The commission has researched other ordinances and knows the time needed for the process to work properly. We quite simply need the full 90-120 days to deal with all contingencies.

Please help if you can. We almost lost a building on Howe this year and there are developers from New York whose business plan is to demolish houses in Core Neighbors and replace them with large prefabs. They have already done one on Cottage Grove and their immediate business plan is reportedly for thirty of these. The recent designation of the three large, hundred year old duplexes across from the Justice Building calls the question of what should we save and what should we allow be lost forever. We must save the best and rebuild the rest. This must be a public decision and this ordinance guarantees that.

The third bit of good planning news regards the Downtown Planner the city hired to produce a downtown plan. Nore Winter, a nationally known urban planner, will return to Bloomington in January with a preliminary draft for our downtown. This is based on the time he and his group spent in Bloomington in October of this year when they met with many diverse groups of citizens including a large public meeting at the Convention Center. This process will

be repeated in January and a final plan will come to our city early in 2005.

Our future is born from our vision. What do we want the Bloomington of the future to be like? It is surprising that much of what we planned for in 1991 has come to pass. On the positive side, renovations and more residential housing in the downtown, historic preservation and neighborhood rebuilding have all been planned for and realized. One "monster" the city created by directing development away from the east side, is the sprawl

Winter & Company
project in Flagstaff, AZ



Downtown Flagstaff, Arizona, before streetscape improvements.



Downtown Flagstaff after streetscape improvements.

above: A project from the company owned by Nore Winter, the consultant just hired to guide the downtown planning process.

development of the west side around Hwy 37. We must be careful what you wish for but this shows the influence of a planning process. What is next? This is largely up to us.

No one builds even a house without a blueprint. We simply must have one for our town! Please plan to participate and work for your vision of this city we all love. The year of 2005 will also see the adoption of the Growth Policies Plan. It might take a year to translate this vision into ordinance and law. Your participation and oversight will help the council get it right.

The Kirkwood Plan: Evolution in Action

The Plan for West Kirkwood has been influencing development along the street since its adoption in 2003. A two story house has been moved onto the street. Several businesses have opened and a new house has also been built on a vacant lot. An interesting new business structure which houses Elite Design Hair Studio has been built as well. It represents the best use of the design guidelines to date and the fact that it blends so well in the area is the result. There have been arguments about design and siding materials, and each project actually becomes a new precedent for this unique planning strategy for Bloomington. The strategy is called "Form Based Zoning". This means that there are design guidelines for the new structures which go along with incentives and tax breaks to encourage the desired new developments.

The new question on the table for the Kirkwood Plan is being discussed at the BZA. There are three lots which have been grant-

ed a special zoning which allows for dividing them into two lots and building a second house on the back half (as can be seen as an old pattern throughout the neighborhood). The issue is what the plan meant by a "small, affordable house". The neighborhood's position is that a two bedroom house will be a benefit to the neighborhood while a larger house will encourage over-occupancy and might discourage long term homeownership through the lack of affordability. This larger occupancy also puts more cars parked on the street. Just on Wednesday, November 18th, the Board of Zoning Appeals agreed with the neighborhood, which was well represented at the meeting. The December BZA meeting will see a further proposal which may set the meaning of the "small house" finally for the Kirkwood Plan.



Elite Hair Studio building on West Kirkwood

It's messy but this is democracy. The parking and curb bump-outs which are intended to encourage more on street parking, slow traffic and help business grow is also under discussion as this newsletter goes to press. The Kirkwood Committee supports the bump-outs and painted cross walks. There is still discussion regarding the size and shape of the curbs. The committee endorsed small curbs one can drive over with a larger curb set back to allow for large vehicles to also make the turns. This allows for both the traditional smaller radius and the larger one desired by the traffic engineers. As in the previous issue, the plan is being interpreted as we go along. This is how it works which is why our strong neighborhood presence at the public meetings really makes a difference not only for our neighborhood but for the areas that use these precedents for their neighborhoods in the future. Please stay tuned and attend the meetings when you can. The first of these street and curb improvements will take place next year. What they will look like is still up to us.



New and existing building development on West Kirkwood

Convention Center Expansion on the Horizon

Patrick Murray

The Bloomington/Monroe County Convention Center is exploring the feasibility of expanding convention and hotel space.

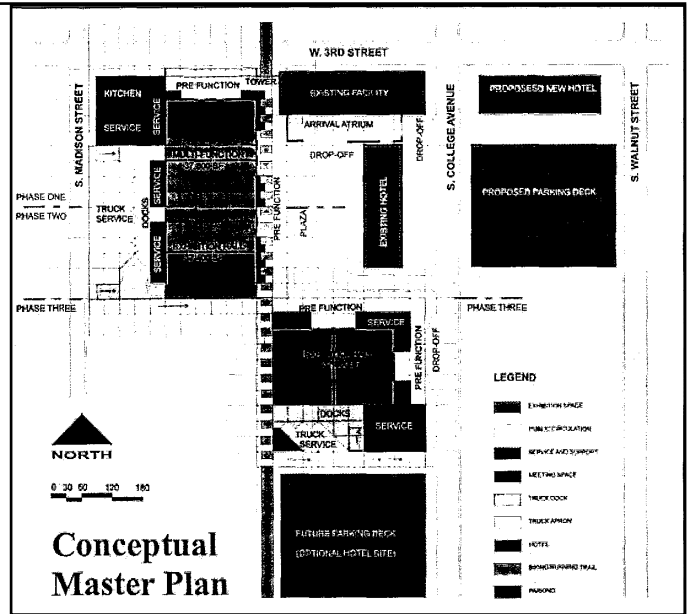
At a November 16th Tuesday evening meeting, Convention Center officials announced plans to explore the feasibility of an expansion of their facilities.

Rob Hunden of C.H. Johnson Consulting said that the Convention Center needs more room to draw larger meetings and conventions. Although the Convention Center's 32,400 square feet meet the current demand for local meetings, he said that Bloomington's facilities are the smallest for cities of comparable size. As Bloomington's downtown grows, the Convention Center will need to grow, and the number of hotel rooms must also expand, to meet the demand for larger groups and conventions, and to draw groups from out of town.

Growth plans call for a three-phase expansion that would create a Convention Center of 120,000 square feet of meeting rooms, exhibition rooms and support space. This plan is expected to take many years to accomplish.

Although no source of funding has been identified, the Convention Center officials are taking their plans to the community to develop support and to explore funding options.

Since the Convention Center lies at the eastern edge of Prospect Hill, the expansion plans will likely have an impact on that area of the neighborhood. The County already owns the parking lot that lies to the west of the Convention Center. This could be the site of the first phase of development. Nothing is definite at this time, the



plans are very fluid and will likely change as new ideas emerge and land options become available. It is important, however, for the neighborhood to stay involved and engaged in this process. As the Prospect Hill Neighborhood Plan progresses, we hope to have additional opportunities to discuss our plans and their plans for the future.

Stay tuned.



Landscaping of the newly installed traffic calming islands on West 3rd Street near Rose Hill Cemetery this past summer.

Study shows kids who live near speed bumps are safer

Dr. June Tester, a pediatric resident at Children's Hospital in Oakland, led a five-year study involving 100 children, ages 14 and younger, who were struck by vehicles within a quarter-mile of their homes and brought to the hospital's emergency room. She compared them with 200 children who were treated at the hospital for other conditions. In the study, the researchers found that children living within a block of a speed bump have about a 50 percent lower risk

of being injured or killed by a moving vehicle in their neighborhood than do their peers.

The children who had been struck by cars were less likely to live within one block of a speed bump than those of the same age and sex treated on the same day. The most likely group to be struck was boys ages 5 to 7. "A lot of people talk about the importance of educating children to look both ways before they cross and to not run out in traffic," Tester

said. "It's even smarter to think of modifications to the environment that will benefit many generations."

The study appeared in the American Journal of Public Health April 2004, Vol 94, No. 4. (Requests for reprints should be sent to June M. Tester, MD, MPH, who is now at Children's Hospital Oakland, 747 52nd St, Oakland, CA 94609 (e-mail: junetester@post.harvard.edu)

Neighbors & Around the Hood

The Man at the Microphone

Special to the Prospectus

A Prospect Hill resident has combined his love of jazz and history into a new program for WFIU, Bloomington's NPR member station.

David Brent Johnson is the host of Night Lights, which currently airs every Saturday evening at 11:05. Johnson, who also worked as a volunteer programmer at Bloomington community radio station WFHB, has been filling in periodically for WFIU's weekday jazz DJ Joe Bourne since the summer of 2002. He's written and produced two historical jazz radio documentaries, *Bix Beiderbecke: Never the Same Way Twice* and *Jump for Joy: Duke Ellington's Civil-Rights Musical*, for WFIU as well.

Night Lights, which debuted in July of 2004, is devoted almost exclusively to jazz from the 1945-1975 era. Programs such as "The

Connection" and "The Wild One" explore jazz's relationship to the theater and films of that era, while other shows focus on lesser-known players and composers such as pianist Herbie Nichols. Johnson also occasionally uses monologues and poems by Frank O'Hara, Lenny Bruce, Ken Nordine, and other spoken-word artists. All of the programs can be listened to anytime in the archives section of the Night Lights website at <http://www.indiana.edu/~wfiu/nightlights.htm>. Future episodes will range from U.S. State Department-sponsored jazz tours of the 1950s to the TV program Peter Gunn.

"I want the show to be jazz with a twist of 'This American Life'-stories and cultural narratives about jazz that are also fun to listen to," says Johnson. He promotes the show on Internet jazz discussion boards and

says that listeners from as far away as Manitoba and Jerusalem are tuning in. "It's really a dream come true for me to be doing the show." Another fantasy of his that came true is living in Prospect Hill. "Hoagy Carmichael is buried right here in this neighborhood," he says. "I get that 'Stardust' feeling when I walk these streets a lot."



Winter WonderLab Events

Wonder Workshop: Make a Holiday Gift

Tuesday - Thursday, December 21-23
Time: 1:00 - 4:00 pm
Fee: \$3 per kit, plus museum admission
Pre-registration and payment are NOT required.
Ages: 3 through adult.

Winter WonderFeast

Friday, December 31
Sponsor: Wild Birds Unlimited
Special Activities Time: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Hands-on activities best suited for ages 4-10.

National Ham Radio Kids' Day

Sunday, January 2
Time: 1:00 - 5:00 pm
Suitable for talkative people of all ages.

Discovery Time

Every Wednesday
Time: 10:00 - 10:30 pm
Free with museum admission.
No registration necessary.

Registration Programs

Pre-registration with payment is required to guarantee a space. Register at the admissions desk or by calling (812) 337-1337 ext. 11.

Checkin' Out Chocolate: An Eat-It Workshop

Saturday, December 11
Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Members: \$8 per kit
Non-Members: \$11 per kit (includes

museum admission for participants)
Ages: 9 through adult.
Participants under age 12 must have adult partner.

Build Your Own Radio!

Sunday, January 2
Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm
Members: \$10 per kit
Non-Members: \$13 per kit (includes museum admission for participants)
Ages: 8 through adult.

*WonderLab Museum of Science, Health & Technology
308 West Fourth St.*

*Public Hours:
Tuesday-Saturday, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm*

*General Admission:
Free for members and children under 1 year
\$5.50 Child / \$6.50 Adult / \$6.00 Senior
For More Information:
812-337-1337 or www.wonderlab.org*

A Tale of Two Kidneys

Chris Sturbaum

When my wife Barb first told me about the discovery of her degenerative kidney condition, I thought this would be something we might have to worry about in our older years. But after only three years, the blood tests reported that her kidney function had declined and was going down fast. When kidneys fail, the first thing one learns about is dialysis. Did you know that the new building at Adams and Second Street where the county garage used to be is a dialysis center?

In our tour of this facility we found a large room of what looked like reclining chairs with equipment next to them. One woman was knitting and others were reading or otherwise passing the nearly four hours it took for their blood to pass into the machine and back while the machine did the filtering their kidneys could no longer perform. We learned that three times a week would keep one healthy enough to go on with one's life. This is called hemo-dialysis. The other option is a nightly connection to a contraption which must be done every night at home while you sleep.

The third option, which Barb and I both liked, was a kidney transplant. Most people get on a waiting list which could take years of waiting. In the meantime, one must go through dialysis until the matched kidney becomes available. I heard a story from a mother who had waited for over two years until one day her ten year old answered the phone and told her that someone was saying that they had a kidney for her. At this point, it was time to drop everything and head for surgery as soon as humanly possible.

Of course I wanted to be tested on the outside chance that my kidney might be compatible with Barb's typing. We learned that Methodist Hospital is one of the top centers in the country for transplants like this. We sat in a room of persons with various conditions and various levels of health and age. Some of these patients were going to get kidneys. Others for personal health problems, age, obesity, smoking or even health insurance reasons, may never go be allowed to go through the procedure. We felt lucky and relatively healthy sitting next to some folks who looked far more ill than Barb, whose only symptom has so far been fatigue.

After several trips up to Methodist for testing and many more tests here in Bloomington, we found a fantastic thing. My tissue and blood type, against the odds, was a compatible match for Barb. Since then we have both seen our respective surgeons and scheduled our surgeries for December 14th. If all goes well, Barb will be up and about in a month or so and I should be back on the street in January. We do not need both of our kidneys and I have talked to donors who have confirmed that they don't miss the donated one. Medications to prevent rejections will be a daily reality for Barb from now on. Our counselor in charge of transplants revealed recently that she is a seven year transplant patient herself, by some of the same doctors she now works with.

We have been very fortunate up to now. We are both looking forward to our lives getting back to normal. So wish us luck to get through this final step!

Who is this ski-masked man?

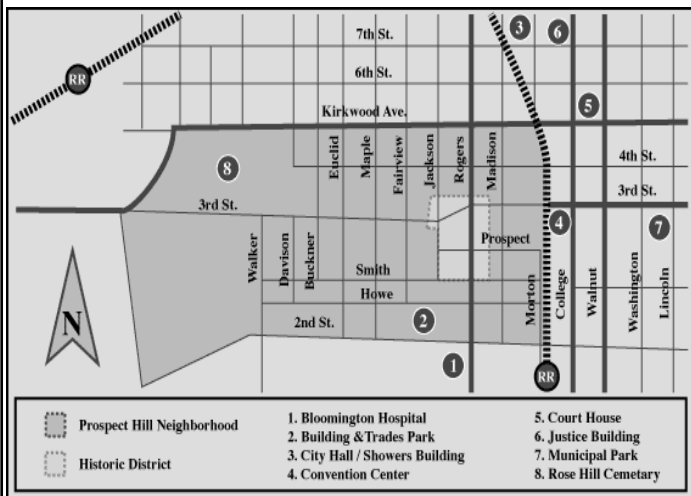
Got an interesting photo or report from the neighborhood to share? See your submission in print! Tell us about yourself and your experiences in the neighborhood.

Send it on to prospect@bloomington.in.us.



Neighborhood Plan Steering Committee Announced

Patrick Murray



Steering Committee members met Thursday evening, November 4th at City Hall to hold an organizational meeting for the Prospect Hill Neighborhood Plan. City Planning staff Scott Robinson and Nate Nickel, along with HAND staff person Vickie Provine described the next phase of the planning process and explained the role of the Steering Committee in that process. Staffers led those gathered through a process to prioritize the SWOT findings that were gathered during an earlier exercise in August. During the SWOT (Strength, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) exercise, members from the neighborhood and city staff walked through the Prospect Hill area looking for features that could be identified as representing one of the four SWOT categories. Photographs and notes of these features were

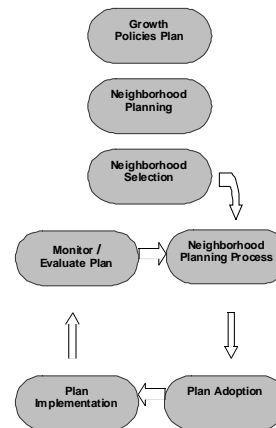
taken so that a record could be created for future use in the planning process. During the initial Steering Committee meeting, the new members were asked to discuss what they considered key SWOT items. Future meetings (November 23, January 6 and February 3) of the Steering Committee will continue to work with the results of the SWOT process to lay the foundation for the Neighborhood Plan. One of the next steps will be to establish a list of goals that the plan should address. During the coming months, the committee will develop a vision statement of what we think the neighborhood should be. This must be a collective consensus, a coming together of the collected opinions of the neighborhood. Each resident of the neighborhood can have a role in determining this vision by sharing their thoughts and ideas with the committee, either by sending an email to the neighborhood email address:

prospect@bloomington.in.us or by mail to Patrick Murray at 525 W. Third Street. A list of the Steering

Committee is attached. If you know one of the members, feel free to ask them to bring your thoughts to the committee. The neighborhood plan can only succeed if everyone participates.

Steering Committee Members are: Deb Backhus, Cynthia Brethem, Cynthia Brown, Doug Bruce, Laurel Cornell, Mark Crain, Joan Ellis, Chip Fredrick, Sonja Johnson, Merridee LaMantia, Patrick Murray, Tom Roznowski, Lucy Schaich, Bill Sturbaum, Chris Sturbaum and Ladi Terry. Patrick Murray has volunteered to be chair of the steering committee, and Lucy Schaich volunteered to be vice-chair. Feel free to discuss any neighborhood planning issue with the committee members.

Neighborhood Planning



Next Public Meeting:
Tuesday, February 15, 7pm
Location TBA

Neighborhood SWOT

Strength: A neighborhood attribute which contributes positively to the quality of life

Weakness: An attribute which detracts from the quality of life.

Oppportunity: A condition that has the potential to become a strength

Threat: A condition that has the potential to threaten the future of the neighborhood



Eat, Drink & Raise Funds for Prospect Hill Neighborhood Tortilla Flat - Thursday, Dec. 16

Take a night off of cooking at home and come eat south of the border on Thursday, December 16 and a portion of your bill will be a donated to the Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association.

It's simple....Just mention to your server that you're there to support Prospect Hill. You don't even have to live in the hood....so bring your friends!

How are these funds used? Neighborhood celebrations, mailings, posters, membership in the city wide Council of Neighborhood Associations, funding matches for grants and individual sidewalk restoration projects. We have great plans for the neighborhood. Please help us, by making your meal a donation. Every bit helps.

You have a seat at the table! Although you can eat at any time of the day, we invite you to eat at our neighborhood table starting at 6:30pm...the more the merrier.

Come see your neighbors, eat some great food, support a local business, and raise funds for your neighborhood!

Day: Thursday, December 16

Time: All Day - But join us at a Prospect Hill Table starting at 6:30pm

Location: Tortilla Flat Restaurant, 501 N. Walnut

All friends and neighbors are welcome!



Calendar

Neighborhood Association Meeting Schedule:

Monthly Neighborhood Association Meetings are held **the first Monday of the Month at 7:30pm** at the Tim Terry Jewelry (515 West Kirkwood Ave.). All neighbors are invited to attend.

Upcoming meetings (2005):

January 10 (late due to New Year's holiday)

February 7

March 7

Join the Email Update

Receive monthly updates of neighborhood meetings, events and issues. Send your email address to prospect@bloomington.in.us to get connected today.

Got Something to Report?

Send your Prospectus submissions to the *Prospectus* at: prospect@bloomington.in.us.

Winter Edition Prospectus Newsletter Contributors & Collaborators: *Lucy Schaich, Chris Sturbaum, Patrick Murray, David Brent Johnson.*

Support Your Neighborhood

Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association Voluntary Annual Membership Dues
Household: \$10.00
Individual: \$5.00

Name

Address

Email

Date

Please mail to: **Tom Roznowski (Treasurer), 706 W. 3rd Street, Bloomington, IN 47404**