

# THE LITTLE PROSPECTOR

*"Online and on your porch"*

september 2020

**Sign up for email updates: [prospecthillneighborhood.org](http://prospecthillneighborhood.org)**

## Neighborhood residents and groups adapt to pandemic

Since March, COVID-19 has disrupted many aspects of daily life, but that hasn't stopped many local individuals and groups from meeting safely and conducting business.

Having suspended its normal schedule since April, PHNA recently took advantage of the warm weather and conducted its July meeting outdoors with physical distancing at Building Trades Park, instead of the usual location at the I. Fell building at 4<sup>th</sup> and Rogers.

Meanwhile, business proprietors such as neighborhood resident Tracy Gates of The Inkwell cafe, have applied to turn street parking into additional outdoor seating for patrons.

In addition, three city council members (Rosenbarger, Dist. 1; Piedmont-Smith, Dist. 5; Flaherty, At-Large) have moved their monthly constituent meetings to Zoom—the same online system used by the city and county governments for their public meetings.

Zoom has also been used by the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA) to discuss topics like the hospital site redevelopment project, and by the Monroe County Community School Corporation (MCCSC) to plan for the complicated fall semester.



*Cindy and Grey Larsen perform traditional Irish music outside at Howe and Euclid Streets in lieu of *The Runcible Spoon*, their normal venue.*

## City guides hospital site redevelopment process

To engage with the public on the redevelopment of the Bloomington Hospital site, the city has launched a series of meetings and a website to track the process over the summer. The city has also contracted with six private firms to aid the overall process, performing roles such as project management, public engagement, architectural design, economic analysis, landscape design, and civil engineering.

In a kickoff 'town hall' in June, Hospital Reuse Committee chair Vi Simpson noted the importance of learning from the successes and mistakes of other cities' redevelopment projects. "It's a rare opportunity to plan and develop a new center for the community," she said. "It's also an opportunity for citizens to be involved in the planning process."

A second forum took place on August 6<sup>th</sup>, in which some initial design concepts were presented, emphasizing public space and a mix of uses for the 24-acre site. Two more forums are planned for the coming months.

Learn more: [bloomingtonhospitalsite.com](http://bloomingtonhospitalsite.com)

## Neighborhood historic districts

Did you know that Prospect Hill contains two historic districts? These exist to protect properties from rapid demolition or other changes that harm historic character.

### *Prospect Hill Historic District*

This small area was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1991. That same year, residents were also successful in establishing it as Bloomington's first locally-designated historic district.



*Dan 'Sully' Sullivan and his daughter Olive at last year's neighborhood yard sale.*

### *Greater Prospect Hill Historic District*

This larger area began as a conservation district in 2008, and surrounds the neighborhood's original 1991 historic district. Its goal is to retain overall neighborhood character while also maintaining a balance of flexibility and affordability for certain changes.

To find out if your property is inside a historic district and which rules might apply, consult with the city's Historic Preservation Commission, which maintains a map and list of locally-designated properties.

Learn more: [bloomington.in.gov/historic-bloomington](http://bloomington.in.gov/historic-bloomington)

## Solarize Bloomington

Thinking about solar energy for your home? Learn about community solar programs at a free information session. [bloomington.in.gov/sustainability/solarize](http://bloomington.in.gov/sustainability/solarize)

## Adopt-A-Drain

When it rains, it pours; do your part to improve water quality and reduce local flood risks. [bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater/adopt-a-drain](http://bloomington.in.gov/utilities/stormwater/adopt-a-drain)

## Bloomington Transit

Don't miss your bus! Service patterns have been impacted by COVID-19. [bloomingtontransit.com](http://bloomingtontransit.com)

## Hopewell Group advocates for hospital site redevelopment to reflect community values

Last year, several Prospect Hill residents were concerned about having an inclusive process for the hospital redevelopment area. So, they organized.

"Hopewell Group formed in summer 2019 to encourage positive community conversation around redevelopment of the hospital site," said the group in a statement. "After months of collaboration and thoughtful process, we agreed to advocate for accessible green space; systems that empower citizens to live sustainably; transportation planning favoring pedestrians, bikes and public transit over cars; a balance of diverse, affordable housing options; and businesses that are compatible with surrounding neighborhoods."

Learn more: [hopewellgroup.org](http://hopewellgroup.org)

**Many thanks to our individual and household members, as well as our organization and business members listed below**

Bloomington Symphony Orchestra  
115 N. College Ave, Suite 255 • [bloomingtonsymphony.com](http://bloomingtonsymphony.com)

Jaclyn the Clutter Wrangler  
[clutterwrangler.com](http://clutterwrangler.com)

I. Fell Bloomington  
415 W. 4<sup>th</sup> St. • [ifellbloomington.wordpress.com](http://ifellbloomington.wordpress.com)

Orange Flower Healing LLC  
205 N. College Ave #611 • [orangeflowerhealing.com](http://orangeflowerhealing.com)

Spaah  
506 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. • [spaah.net](http://spaah.net)

## PHNA MEETING SCHEDULE

*Sept. 14 • Oct. 5 • Nov. 2 • Dec. 7*  
*6:30pm-7:30pm*

Dates and times are subject to change. Due to COVID-19, meetings may take place outdoors or online; **face masks are required** during in-person meetings. Find the latest meeting schedule, agenda and minutes online:

[prospecthillneighborhood.org](http://prospecthillneighborhood.org)

Submit an agenda item:

[prospect.hill.neighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:prospect.hill.neighborhood@gmail.com)

## Voluntary annual dues are accepted year-round

Your valuable support helps sustain a range of neighborhood projects and activities! Send payment to:

Glenda Murray (PHNA Treasurer)  
525 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
Bloomington, IN 47404

**Individual: \$5**  
**Household: \$10**  
**Non-Profit: \$20**  
**Business: \$40**

### Meet your PHNA leaders

President — Jessika Griffin  
jessika@jessikagriffin.com

Vice President — Sandy Bonsib  
sjbonsib@gmail.com

Treasurer — Glenda Murray  
glmurray@indiana.edu

Secretary — Patrick Murray  
pmurray@indiana.edu

TLP Editor — Eoban Binder  
eoban@eoban.com

## Bloomington Housing and Neighborhood Development

Bloomington HAND provides a variety of resources and services to both property owners and renters—everything from repair grants to housing inspections.

[bloomington.in.gov/hand](http://bloomington.in.gov/hand)

## Bloomington uReport

Have you observed something in need of cleanup or other attention? Notify city staff instantly using uReport:

[bloomington.in.gov/ureport](http://bloomington.in.gov/ureport)

## What does the Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association do?

PHNA convenes monthly to discuss local matters, but much more goes on outside regular meetings. For more frequent updates, all are encouraged to subscribe to the neighborhood email list. PHNA also runs several committees focused on specific issues:

### *Executive Committee*

The Executive Committee is the leadership of PHNA. Its members account for neighborhood funds, administer meetings, develop the website, publish *The Little Prospector*, and represent Prospect Hill in the Bloomington Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA).

### *Building Trades Park Committee*

This committee is dedicated to improving Building Trades Park. It plans events, develops physical improvement projects, and communicates with park-related city departments and organizations.

### *Rose Hill Cemetery Committee*

This committee organizes volunteer headstone restoration work days and other cemetery beautification programs.

### *Greater Prospect Hill Historic District Design Review Committee*

This committee reviews building projects to ensure they meet the design standards of the Greater Prospect Hill Historic District.

### *Hospital Site Reutilization Committee*

This committee ensures neighborhood involvement in the process of redeveloping the site of Bloomington Hospital after it vacates the area in 2021.

### *Neighborhood Block Captains*

Prospect Hill's block captains welcome new neighbors, drop off welcome kits, host yard signs to advertise PHNA meetings, and help distribute *The Little Prospector* to households.

Note: committees have their own email lists and meeting schedules.

Are you interested in following or joining a committee? Contact PHNA:

[prospect.hill.neighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:prospect.hill.neighborhood@gmail.com)

Want to instantly sign up to receive occasional neighborhood email updates?

Just open your smartphone's camera app, and aim at the QR code to the right. >



# PHNA seeks neighborhood block captains

*Engage with your neighbors and stay connected to your street!*

Zone 1: Claire A.

Zone 2: Glenda and Patrick M.

Zone 3: *maybe you!*

Zone 4: *maybe you!*

Zone 5 (Madison Park Condos): *maybe you!*

Zone 6: Sarah M.

Zone 7: Sandy B. and John B.

Zone 8: Jessika G.

Volunteer block captain responsibilities:

- Welcome and drop off welcome kits to new neighbors
- Ensure meeting yard signs are placed
- Deliver (or delegate delivery of) newsletters

Three vacancies currently exist for zones 3, 4 and 5; to view the zone map and apply to be a captain of your zone, visit the PHNA website:

[prospecthillneighborhood.org/blockcaptain](http://prospecthillneighborhood.org/blockcaptain)

**Regular neighborhood association meetings:** *First Monday of each month at 6:30pm*  
*check [prospecthillneighborhood.org](http://prospecthillneighborhood.org) for locations*

PO Box 252  
Bloomington, IN 47402-0252

Prospect Hill Neighborhood Association  
c/o Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA)