

RIVER PARK NEWS

Official Newsletter of
the River Park Neighborhood Association

Your Digital Newsletter

If you are picking this up and one of our local distribution points, digital opt-in is an easy and convenient way to receive your neighborhood association newsletter straight to your inbox. By signing up for this service, you can stay up-to-date on community events, important news, and developments that directly affect your neighborhood.

With just a few clicks, you can join the growing number of residents who are already taking advantage of this digital option. Sign up today and stay connected with your community!

<https://www.riverparksouthbend.com/>



Scan this QR Code to
opt-in for the digital
newsletters

To make sure you stay up-to-date with
what's happening in River Park:

- * Subscribe to our email list
- * Check our community calendar
- * look for quarterly newsletters in
November, January, April, and July
around
the first of each month

Look for updates and news at
[https://www.riverparksouthbend.com!](https://www.riverparksouthbend.com/)

Want to advertise your business
in the River Park Newsletter?

Email

freymillerj@gmail.com

for more information!

THIS ISSUE:

Digital Newsletter Opt-in
Page 1

Neighborhood Board
Boo To You
Page 2

Conservatory Fund Raiser
Page 3

Library Updates
Page 4

Township Trustee
Page 5

Your Vote
Page 6

Led Challenge
Page 7

River Park Branch
Planning
Page 8



Join the Neighborhood Association Board

We are the River Park Neighborhood Association and we are looking for community members who would like to be on the board. Elections are in October and nominations are open for all positions:

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
Plus committee members.

Meetings are just once a month on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm at the River Park Branch Library

Help plan activities and events for your River Park neighbors!

Boo To You

IUSB South Bend's Boo to You event is taking place on October 27th from 4-8 pm.

Our 4th annual Halloween Festival where our entire IUSB community and surrounding neighborhoods are invited to campus. We have a kids festival with games, candy, storytelling, and more. We also have a haunted house designed for an older crowd (minium age 13). Come bring your entire family to this wonderful event. Participants under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.



Like our page on Facebook to stay connected and share your stories!

<https://www.facebook.com/riverparksouthbend>



Thank you River Park for donating your used ink jet printer cartridges in our box in the River Park Library. Not only does this help us financially but also helps our environment by keeping them out of land fills and by saving and reusing the electric components that are now in short supply worldwide.

You can also order online remanufactured ink jet cartridges in most models via Planet Green Recycle, and help River Park by just mentioning River Park Neighborhood Association. They give a donation to the RPNA at about \$1.50 per purchased cartridge. And their cartridges are guaranteed and cost about half of new ones.

We have raised nearly \$400 in the past four years.

**HELP US FUNDRAISE
BY RECYCLING E-WASTE**



LEARN HOW

Have questions about buying or selling your home?

Contact your River Park neighbor & REALTOR!



Jen Schmitt

Jen@RedBowRealty.com
574-444-3139 (call/text)



Hi, I'm Arielle!

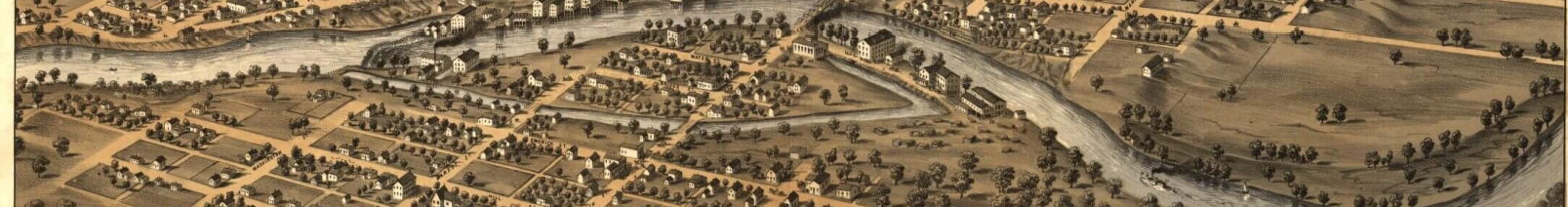
Senior Loan Officer



Get Pre-Approved to purchase a home at ArielleSchmitt.com



NMLS: 2053913



**Fund Raiser:
Nuner Knights Reunite Reunion #9**

Friday, October 27th, 2023, 7-11 pm
Potawatomi Conservatories
2015 Mishawaka Ave

Raising Funds for the Conservatory

Please join us for a night of fun, laughs, sharing old memories and making new ones.

WHAT TO EXPECT: (Remember this is a Fund Raiser)

- Raffle prizes
- Wine Walk
- Cake Walk 50/50
- P.T. and the Cruisers (featuring Nuner Knight's Dave Lee) will provide the music.
- Nuner Meal: \$6.00
- Franky's Taco truck will be on location

Admission \$15.00 per person or \$25.00 per couple

Soda and Water \$1.00 Beer \$3.00 Wine \$5.00

RSVP via Facebook, e-mail response (jrhodes293@gmail.com or call the conservatory @ 574-235-9442

BRING YOUR SMILES, MEMORIES AND MONEY



**River Park
Business
Association**



*Jeannie's
House* 

1444 Mishawaka Ave. 3159 S. Eleventh St.
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Store Hours:
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Saturday 8:00-4:00
Sunday CLOSED
1319 Mishawaka Ave • South Bend, IN 46615



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**PIZZA
SUBS
PASTA
WINGS**

<p>SOUTH BEND/IUSB 902 S. Twickenham Dr. South Bend, IN</p> <p>Sun - Thu: 11:00 am - 11:00 pm Fri - Sat: 11:00 am - 12:00 am</p> <p>574-355-3534</p>	<p>MISHAWAKA/Capital Ave 2000 Lincolnway East Mishawaka, IN</p> <p>Sun - Thu: 11:00 am - 10:00 pm Fri - Sat: 11:00 am - 11:00 pm</p> <p>574-227-6899</p>
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Welcome to Hall's Kitchen, formerly known as Bourbon St. Pizza! We're a family-owned and operated business with over 30 years in the industry. Quality matters when it comes to your tastebuds, and our pizzeria prides itself on making affordable food for everyone.

<p>\$9.99 Large 2-Topping Pizza</p> <p>Coupon Code: BX999 Offer expires 6/1/2023</p>	<p>\$13.99 Large 2-Topping Pizza & Breadsticks</p> <p>Coupon Code: BX1399 Offer expires 6/1/2023</p>	<p>\$12.99 Any Large Specialty Pizza or Build Your Own up to 5 Toppings</p> <p>Coupon Code: BX1299 Offer expires 6/1/2023</p>
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Not Valid with any other offer. Delivery extra. Plus Tax.

**HOST YOUR SPECIAL
EVENT WITH US!**

EVENT SPACE • EVENT RENTAL DECOR




RIVER PARK



River Park Branch Library Updates

Storytime

Every Thursday 10:30-11:30

Enjoy books, rhymes, and songs which build on practices that prepare children to learn to read. Recommended for ages 3 - 5. Families are welcome.

The Big Event with Fire Station #9

Saturday, October 7, 1-3

Our heroes at Fire Station #9 will join us for a fun day of learning. You can tour the station, and participate in games and activities at the library, while connecting with your neighbors. Fun for all ages!

STEAM Lab

Tuesday, October 10, 4-5

Tinker, build and create in our library STEAM lab. Enjoy a new art, science or engineering activity each week. Recommended for ages 6-11.

Playtime

Wednesday October 18, 10:30-11:30

Help your child develop skills to learn to read through free and guided play using our collection of toys and early literacy materials. Recommended for ages 0-5.

Medicare 101

Thursday, October 19, 5:30-6:30

Important changes are coming to Medicare in 2024. Do you know what they are? Come to a FREE Educational presentation at the Library to find out!

Adventures in Bad Cinema

Wednesday, October 25, 6:30-8

We again gather to mock, cringe and enjoy terrible filmmaking. We'll bring snacks to ease the pain.

Halloween Chemistry with the ND Chem Demo Team

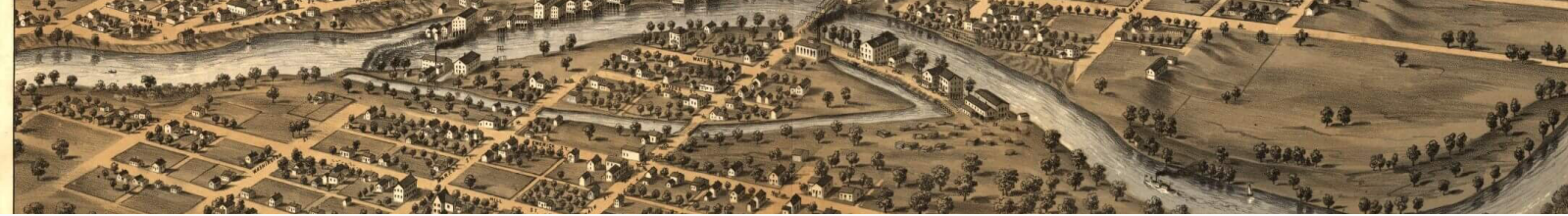
Saturday, October 28, 11-12

Experiments will include making slime and Halloween-themed chemistry! Ages 6 - 12 are welcome.

CALLING ALL CITIZENS!
If you are not a Neighborhood Crime Watch Captain, now is your chance!

You are invited to River Park's Neighborhood Crime Watch Network and Safety Committee

RSVP Phil 287-2270 .



Trustee Jason Critchlow's Focus on Working Families

As your Township Trustee, I firmly believe our community's future depends on creating financially stable families. That is why my office remains laser-focused on meeting the needs of the working families of our community.

We all know costs are rising and no one should have to choose between keeping the heat on and feeding their children. At Portage Township, our Mission is to help working families build a bridge to stronger futures by helping individuals and families facing moments of financial crisis in our community.

Our office can provide those experiencing an emergency or financial crisis with assistance paying rent and utilities along with some other household expenses Requirements include the completion of an application process, an interview with a caseworker, and meeting various eligibility standards.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, please encourage them to stop at our office at 133 N. William street in downtown South Bend or call 574-233-2126. Even if we can't help, we can connect you with someone who might.

I am proud to say that our office is committed to stepping up to meet the needs of the families in our community, while working to build a stronger future for everyone.



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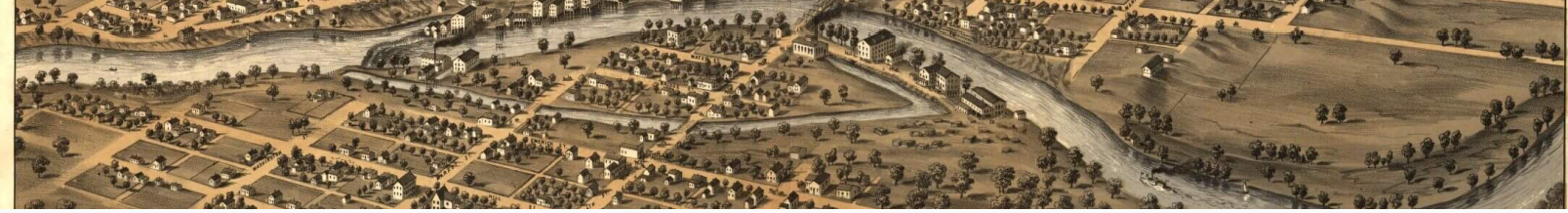


View Menu



Ask Uber, Lyft, or Siri to take you to
Fiddler's Hearth. 127 N Main, SB • (574) 232-2853





Your VOTE is Your Voice – USE IT

By Pam Claeys

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 is Election Day. There you'll also find lists of your elected officials, who's on your ballot, list of Vote Centers, and more. Please ensure your friends/family are registered - and plan to vote.

If there is ANY chance you might not be able to vote on Election Day, VOTE EARLY
Anything can happen at the last minute; don't take that chance, VOTE EARLY
All registered Indiana voters are eligible to vote early in-person

Important Deadlines

Tuesday, October 10: Deadline to register to vote

Wednesday, October 11: Early Voting BEGINS. Bring your valid photo ID

* County-City Building Lobby, 227 W. Jefferson Blvd, South Bend OR

* County Services Annex, 219 Lincolnway West, Mishawaka

Usually 8am - 4:30pm Monday – Friday

Usually 8am to 4pm, 2 Saturdays before Election Day

Usually 12noon to 4pm, 2 Sundays before Election Day

Thursday, October 26 11:59 pm: Deadline for Clerk to receive Absentee-by-Mail Application

County Clerk's Office, Basement of County-City Building, 574-235-9635

Monday, November 6: 12 Noon: Early Voting ENDS and deadline for Clerk to receive completed Absentee-by-Mail Ballot

Tuesday, November 7: Election Day, 6am to 6pm: Vote at any Vote Center. Bring valid photo ID

Register to Vote OR Check Your Voter Registration

Check your voter registration to ensure you have not been purged from the voter rolls:

- In person: Voter Registration (VR), County-City Building; Call with questions 574-235-9521.
- Online 24/7: indianavoters.com

Vote Absentee: If you meet one of the approved excuses, go to indianavoters.com. Print an Absentee-by-Mail Application, or call VR to have one mailed to you. Complete and return in the envelope provided, or take to Clerk's Office by the deadline listed above. Your actual ballot will be mailed to you. Check the ballot to ensure you have the correct ballot AND that 2 sets of initials are on the back. Complete, sign, and return your ballot so it is received by the deadline listed above.

****If you wish to return your ballot in person, take it to the County Clerk's Office****

****Remember to allow several days for mail to be received and/or sent****

Request a visit from the Travel Board: If you are a voter who is confined or you care for a confined person. Complete an application for Absentee Ballot by Traveling Board, indianavoters.com, OR call 574-235-9101 or 574-235-9105 to request the Travel Board come to your home.

Vote in person Tuesday, November 7: 6am to 6pm, Bring your valid photo ID. Vote at any Vote Center. Vote Center locations will be publicized when finalized and indianavoters.com.



South Bend's Lead Challenge: History, Homes, and Health **Joel Bell, LeadRx, Notre Dame Innovation Team**

South Bend, Indiana, with its storied past and urban landscape, has a complex history that mirrors many American cities. Like its counterparts, homes here were constructed during an era when lead-based paints were commonplace. Until the U.S. ban in 1978, lead paints were a household standard. These older homes, while significant markers of the city's history, carry an unseen risk. When lead-based paints deteriorate or are disrupted, they pose serious health dangers, especially to vulnerable groups such as children and pregnant women.

Proactive Steps for Home Safety

The first step for South Bend residents is recognizing the potential presence of lead in their homes. If your dwelling dates back to before the 1978 ban, it's probable that lead-based paint was used in its construction.

The Notre Dame Lead Innovation Team, in response to this concern, offers free lead screening kits to the public. These are available at multiple public library locations throughout South Bend. If the screening raises alarms, homeowners are provided with resources and guidance on cost-effective methods to reduce lead exposure risks.

While the very thought of lead in homes can be unsettling, there are practical and affordable ways to mitigate its risks. A simple action, like adding a fresh coat of paint over old walls, can seal potential lead paints beneath, acting as a protective barrier. If you're pondering larger renovations, it's crucial to stay informed and cautious, given the risk of releasing lead particles. Additionally, for areas of concern outside the home, especially gardens or play spaces, adding mulch can be an effective method to shield against lead-contaminated soil.

Nutrition's Role in Combating Lead Effects

Proper nutrition can be a strong ally against the harmful effects of lead poisoning. Foods rich in calcium, like dairy products and green leafy vegetables, can counteract lead by reducing its absorption in the gut. Iron, found in foods such as red meats and beans, works in tandem with calcium by decreasing the absorption of lead. This effect is particularly pronounced when iron is consumed alongside vitamin C sources, like citrus fruits. Furthermore, vitamin C on its own might assist in lowering lead levels in the blood, making it imperative to include fruits like oranges, strawberries, and bell peppers in one's diet. When combined with regular handwashing and cleanliness, especially after outdoor activities or gardening, a well-balanced diet can substantially reduce the risks associated with lead.

Coming Together for a Brighter Future

Community commitment is pivotal in addressing pressing issues, and the challenge of lead contamination is no exception. The Notre Dame Lead Innovation Team stands as a testament to the power of collective effort. Their digital platform provides an extensive array of resources and knowledge for those seeking more information. Their dedicated endeavors are a shining example of South Bend's resilience and commitment to its community.

With continued awareness, action, and the right resources, South Bend's journey can be one of positive transformation — acknowledging its rich history while ensuring a healthier future for its residents.



Our Next Chapter at SJCPL and Your Input is Needed

Planning for the Future of our Branches

Over the next six months, the St. Joe County Public Library will create a strategic and sustainable vision for the future of our nine community branches in collaboration with MKM architecture + design. With over half a million visits every year, our Library branches serve so many members of our community and are a backbone support for many neighborhood residents. This project will result in a branch plan that responds to shifts in community demographics, technology development, emerging library services, aging facilities, and other future needs. It will also explore new ways to meet current and future community needs in these neighborhood spaces.

Gathering Public Feedback

Throughout the design process, we will gather public input and work with local leaders to ensure that we have the best branches for our community. You can participate by attending a public meeting or completing a survey.

We are hosting three public meetings to gather insight from the community about their neighborhood branches. We need to hear all voices so that we can design better branches for our neighborhoods.

Tuesday, October 10 (West side)
5:30 – 7:00 p.m., Charles Martin Youth Center
802 Lincoln Way W, South Bend, IN 46616

Tuesday, October 10 (South side)
6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Southeast Neighborhood Center
405 E Dubail Ave, South Bend, IN 46613

Wednesday, October 11 (East side)
6:00 – 7:30 p.m., The Well
2410 E Mishawaka Ave, South Bend, IN 46615



Scan this QR Code
for the survey

Take the Survey

Take our quick five-minute survey to provide input on what you would like to see at your neighborhood branch. Find The survey at <https://sjcpl.org/nextchapter>.