

The River Park News

A publication of the River Park Neighborhood Association

"Living Lead Safe in River Park Neighborhood"

Jocelyn "Jo" Keranen
Notre Dame Lead Innovation Team

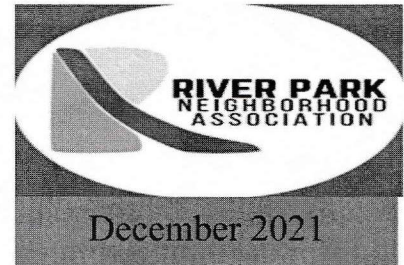
River Park is a historic neighborhood with many houses and landmarks, like the Potawatomi Zoo, built during the first half of the 20th Century. Today, the median age of homes in River Park is 75 years old. Chances are, if you live in River Park, you live in an older home.

While older houses and buildings add to the unique history and charm of River Park, they also pose a certain risk to their inhabitants. Houses built before 1978 are likely to contain lead-based paint, which is extremely toxic in humans. Left to wear and tear from 40 or more years of occupancy, this paint gets into the house's dust and soil. From there it can be accidentally ingested or inhaled by children and adults. Children are especially vulnerable to lead poisoning, which leaves irreversible brain damage that impairs them for the rest of their life.

The good news is you can take steps to live lead safe in your home. One way to do so is by learning more about your home environment. The University of Notre Dame offers free Lead Screening Kits to anyone interested living in Saint Joseph County. **Lead Screening Kits are available for pick up at the River Park Branch Library.**

In addition to screening your home, it's important to have your child tested for lead through your healthcare provider or by contacting the St. Joseph County Health Department.

If you want to learn more about your home environment and how to live lead safe, contact Jocelyn Keranen at jkcranen@nd.edu



River Park Neighborhood Association

President Cheryl Walsh: cwlshc@gmail.com
Vice President: Michael Maciulski
Treasurer: Taylor Wiley
Secretary: Janet Maciulski
Board Members: Howard Berberick, Linda Deaton, Sharon Jojo, Darcy Kinelar, Carrie Marks, Phil Niswonger, & Joseph Sipocz

The River Park Neighborhood Association meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at the River Park Branch Library at 7PM. The meetings are open to all.

Builders Store Inc. 574-288-5025
 Website: www.buildersstoreinc.com
 Email: buildersstore@aol.net

1319 Mishawaka Ave • South Bend, IN 46615

Store Hours:
 Monday-Friday 8:00-5:30
 Saturday 8:00-3:00
 Sunday 11:00-1:00

Hours: Monday-Friday 8-5:30, Saturday 8-4, Sunday CLOSED

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 Burger Basket Thursday
 Fish Friday
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Check out our
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The Barber Shop
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Dennis Lamborn
 574-258-5225
 3618 Mishawaka Ave.
 South Bend
 (Next to Luigi's)

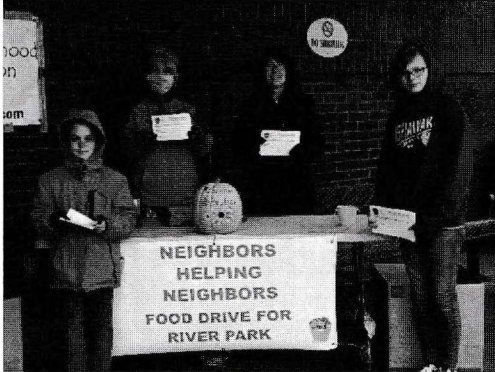
Jeannie's House

1444 Mishawaka Ave.
 South Bend, IN
 574-855-4423

3159 S. Eleventh St.
 Niles, MI
 269-683-2800

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Food & Hygiene Drive



Thank you to each and every one of you, who donated items, your time and money to help make the Neighbors

Helping Neighbors Food & Hygiene Drive a success.

The food drive started last year to help families during Covid and even though many were able to return to work, others were still facing their own challenges.

River Park Neighborhood Association Sponsored Contests

The Association sponsors different events and contests during the year, to give back and to help build that sense of Community, Caring and Camaraderie.

The T-Shirt contest entries have been narrowed down to the final 5, and a new design or two will be unveiled and available to purchase in 2022. Entries were from all ages (8 to 70+ years old) In no particular order: O'Shay Smith, Sharon Jojo, Shannon Frick, Tiffany Huwe and Riley Thompson.

The Halloween House Decorating contest was a close one this year. The first and second place winners were separated by only 6 votes.

Congratulations to:

- 1st place 750 27th Street
- 2nd place 829 34th Street
- 3rd place 810 29th Street

Your kindness ensured that no one went hungry this holiday season.

A special thank you to:

Martin's Supermarket (IUSB/Ironwood) for allowing the River Park Neighborhood Association to host a food drive on 11/13.

The River Park United Methodist Church Food Pantry for sharing with us

Businesses who were drop off locations or held special food collection events:

Halt Healthier Alternatives

Avenue Auto

Rio Park Events

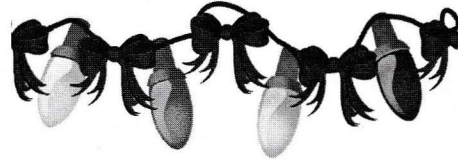
Family Pet Health Center

Franky's Tacos

Make South Bend

Michiana Christian Community Church: storing, sorting and packing the food boxes with me, especially the 3 young ladies – Elizabeth, Moriah and Brynnleigh

Please continue to step off your "front porch" and care for your neighbors. Thank you and have a wonderful 2022! Cheryl Walsh RPNA President

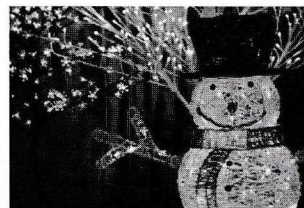


The Merry & Bright Holiday Contest is in full swing. Take a walk or drive through River Park and nominate your favorite house. Send a picture or two, to Cheryl at cwlshc@gmail.com. Please include the house address.

Also, please mark the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7pm on your calendar for the monthly River Park Neighborhood Association monthly meeting, held in person at the River Park Library and currently also via Zoom. Help us plan future events.



And don't forget to Like and Follow the River Park Neighborhood Association, on Facebook.



All Residents Can Be Neighborhood Crime Watch Captains

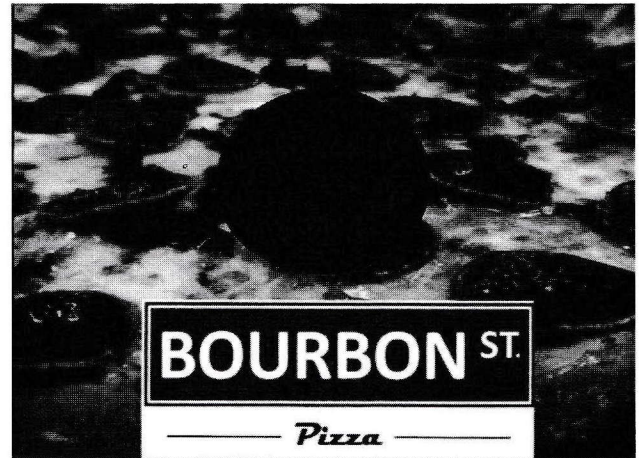
The River Park Neighborhood Association Safety Committee has served River Park since 2008. We negotiated with the South Bend Police Department for a year and a half in order to start the Neighborhood Crime Watch Captain Network, the only such network in South Bend. We recruited over 100 River Park residents to be captains. When we started, most the captains were senior citizens. Many have now died or moved away. We completed our biennial census recently and confirmed 47 captains serving in River Park.

We would like more to volunteer to serve. All you need is a phone and a willingness to relay information on crimes sent by the South Bend Police Department. Due in part to the Neighborhood Crime Watch Captain Network, River Park has a much lower crime rate than the rest of South Bend.

Call RPNA Safety Committee Chair: Phil Niswonger @ 287-2270.

Planet Green Fundraising Promotion

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 it also helps our environment by keeping them out of landfills and by saving and reusing the electric components that are now in short supply worldwide. You can also order remanufactured ink jet cartridges online 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 the new ones. We have raised nearly \$400 in the past four months.



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Neighborhood!

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Public Library

ST. JOE COUNTY

Here's what is coming up at the River Park Branch Library:

Anime / Manga Club: Starting December 2nd, Thursdays at 4 Love anime and manga? Then join us for the Teen Anime/Manga Meetup! We'll get together and discuss all things anime and manga, watch anime, and more! For ages 12-18.

Lego Night: Starting December 7th and first Tuesdays at 4 Drop in and unleash your creativity as you build your own LEGO creations. For kids 14 and under.

Teen Gaming: Starting December 11th, every other Saturday at 3 Challenge your friends to a fun afternoon of video games. For ages 12-18.



River Park Business Association

RiverParkBusinessAssociation@gmail.com

Hungarian History with Gary Gabrich: Tuesday, December 14th at 2:30. Between 1880 and 1920, Hungarians immigrated to America looking for jobs and prosperity. A sizable number established a home in South Bend. Gary Gabrich will share their stories.

South Bend Symphony String Quartet: Friday, December 17th at 4 Revel in the beautiful sounds of the South Bend Symphony's Strings Quintet for an afternoon filled with music.

Storytimes: Mondays at 10:30 starting January 3rd Enjoy books, rhymes, and songs, which build on practices that prepare children to learn to read. Recommended for ages 3 - 5. Families are welcome.

Roz Puppets: George & the Dragon: Tuesday, January 18th at 4 The Roz Puppets and Dave Rozmarynowski are stopping by to perform a retelling of the classic story: George and the Dragon.

Adventures in Bad Cinema: Last Thursday of the month, starting January 27th at 6:30 Join us for an evening of truly, laughably bad cinema. Snacks provided.

February 5th 2022 – Science Alive will return! Begin reading our 2022 One Book, One Michiana selection, Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption by Bryan Stevenson.

DOORDASH
DineIn

Franky's Tacos!

574-931-2151
2720 Mishawaka Ave.
South Bend, IN 46615

| EVENT CATERING AVAILABLE | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Breakfast | Tacos |
| Burritos | Menudo |
| Carnitas | Pozole |
| Carne | Tamales |
| Asada | Horchata |
| Flan | |

Follow us

Monday to Sunday 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

