



The Cottage Home newsletter

News from the
Cottage Home Neighborhood

BY SHANNON SAMSON

WHAT GOES BEST with basketball? In Indiana, the answer might be agriculture. Arsenal Technical High School is the home of the Class 4A boys high school state champions -- and now a bona fide farm, too.

For its inaugural season at the Chase Near Eastside Legacy Center last year, the non-profit organization Growing Places Indy built a greenhouse and several raised garden beds alongside the gymnasium, selling the harvest at a farm stand. For its sophomore year, Growing Places is adding a u-pick farm to the site.

The organization just can't help itself; it's growing and hopes in the process maybe its customers will, too.

□ For details on the u-pick and farm stand, plus more about the Growing Places summer activities, see the report on page 49.

"Growing Places is urban agriculture and yoga and personal growth and getting connected to the food system here locally. It's all of these things together," explained Kate Franzman, the farmer in

charge of the site. The 29-year-old Cottage Home resident left a well-paying career in advertising last year so she could be "more aligned to her purpose," as she described it. The Dekalb County native has always been in



◀◀ Kate Franzman tends to the expanded farm on the Arsenal Technical High School campus. It's now a u-pick.

love with nature, if her very active beekeeping hobby is any indication. She credits growing up with a mother and grandmother who gardened.

"Probably the most formative experience I had as a child was to go into the garden and pick something and eat it immediately. It's

life-changing," Franzman said. "Maybe someone has never experienced that before and they can experience that here."

Last spring, she put down the computer mouse and picked up a garden trowel to become a farm apprentice for Growing Places Indy. When the program ended, Franzman

was thrilled to find out that for 2014 a grant from the Indiana State Dept. of Agriculture would allow the organization to expand its operations at The Legacy Center and hire someone to oversee them. As soon as she

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COMMUNITY SPACE CLEAN-UP DAY

Bob Renaker (above) and Christy Cashin (left) were among the Cottage Home residents who took part in the Community Space Cleanup Day on Saturday, May 3.



PLAYING FOR THE PLAYGROUND

Aaron Cashin handled the beverage and Shaun Simms (as singer-rapper SAS) the entertainment at the Bashment Playground Bash, a May 3 fundraiser on behalf of the Cottage Home playground. Food and beer were provided by Duos Indy and Flat 12 Bierwerks.

Cottage Home

Neighborhood Association

Representing the interests of our neighborhood bounded by East 10th Street, Oriental Street, Michigan Street and Interstate 65/70.

The next meeting of the Cottage Home Neighborhood Association is:

6 p.m. Monday, June 2

at the Chase Near Eastside Legacy Center (on the first Mondays of even-numbered months)

Board of Directors

Dan Doll, president	Armando Perez
Christy Cashin, vice-president	Shannon
Steve Githens, treasurer	
Andrew Kierle, secretary	
Madeline Hutchins	Rex Scott
Crystal Rehder	
Samson	
Ethan Scott	
Andrew Teipen	

For more information on the Cottage Home neighborhood and association:

www.cottagehome.info

■ COTTAGE HOME

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scored the job, she got to work on planning and then planting the u-pick farm that spans two-thirds of an acre in the shadow of Howard Longshore Stadium.

"People can come on Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings and pick their own produce and weigh it, wash it, bag it and pay for it," Franzman explained. "We'll also have a farm stand. It's just expanding on the concept we had last summer where we had a teeny-tiny farm stand, and now we'll have a larger farm stand."

The u-pick farm will also have two 40-foot shipping containers. One will be repurposed to look like a food truck where customers can buy produce under a shaded awning; the other will have a storage area, walk-in cooler and space for an indoor-outdoor classroom. Growing Places plans to hold its meetings of the Eat Well Afterschool Club there and invite experts to lecture and demonstrate cooking techniques.

Franzman is also responsible for showing visitors what to do.

"How to pick things. How to tell if they're ripe," she said. "How to use a tool to pick things. It will be mostly vegetables. It's not like a traditional u-pick with apples or strawberries or blueberries where you say, 'OK, these look good. Let's put them in a basket and we're done.'"

The Legacy Center U-Pick will grow strawberries, but they're only one of the farm's many offerings that will include husk cherries, kale, collard greens, squash, cucumbers, peppers, tomatoes, lettuce, beets, arugula, kohlrabi, okra, bok choy and herbs. Franzman predicts people who haven't heard of some of those items soon will. "Kohlrabi is the next trendy vegetable. Kale's having a moment now as well," she said, laughing.

The u-pick and farm stand will be open twice a week and accept Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits just like at the Indy Winter Farmers Market, which Growing Places Indy Executive Director Laura Henderson created in 2008. As a registered yoga instructor, Henderson will hold classes inside The Legacy Center where donations will be collected to increase the number of SNAP benefits that can be accepted outside. The target customer base is residents of Cottage Home and Woodruff Place and families of Tech students involved in summer programs including practice for football season.

"We really think there is value in becoming invested in how your food is grown, how you harvest it and pick it yourself," Franzman said. "We hope that people will learn something here and go home and grow it as well. That's what this site will be all about."

If customers still prefer to buy rather than grow, Franzman hopes if nothing else, at least they'll come out to the u-pick to try something new or revisit an old favorite.

"That's the hope that if you pick it, you'll probably want to eat and who doesn't love to come pick something and pop it right into their mouth?" she said. "There's nothing - nothing - that tastes better than a cherry tomato picked right off the vine that's still warm from the sun. That's the best." ■

the Lockerbie Letter



▲ The Park Avenue home of Bob and Patsy Cram was built by the state's fourth governor. It was originally located at Pearl and Alabama streets Downtown.

Indiana Pioneers to tour Lockerbie, visit historic house

LOCKERBIE SQUARE WILL HOST several events in conjunction with the Spring Pilgrimage of the Society of Indiana Pioneers, scheduled for Tuesday, June 10.

A full day is planned at sites associated with Benjamin Harrison as well as Indianapolis area sites connected to the lives of early political leaders of the Hoosier state.

Local historian Nelson Price and Jim Kienle, a Lockerbie neighbor, architect and preservationist, will lead a walking tour of Lockerbie. The Pioneers will visit the residence of Bob and Patsy Cram at 302 Park Ave. A wine-and-cheese reception will bring the tour to a close in the (by then) newly finished visitors center at the James Whitcomb Riley Home.

An Indiana Pioneer is one who lived within the present boundary of an Indiana county on or before 1840. This society of descendants was created in 1916.

The Cram's home was built by the fourth governor of Indiana, James Brown Ray, who served from 1825 to 1831. The legislators appropriated money in 1827 to build a Governor's Mansion on the Circle, which at that time was a grassy knoll. A home was built there, but Mrs. Ray refused to live on the Circle because she didn't want the citizens to see her laundry. No governor ever lived on the Circle.

Gov. Ray built a new home for his wife at Pearl and Alabama streets. In 1891 the county bought the Ray prop-

Lockerbie Square People's Club

Lockerbie Square Foundation

The next meeting of the Lockerbie Square People's Club is:

7 p.m. Tuesday, June 10

in the Max Kade Room of the Athenaeum

CONTACT YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Residents wishing to place business on the monthly agenda are encouraged to contact any member of the Board of Directors prior to its regular meetings — the last Monday of each month, just over two weeks before each People's Club meeting.

Board of Directors

Linda Sturges, vice-president,
linda_sturges@yahoo.com

Steve Wagman, treasurer, 697-3030,
arwagman@yahoo.com

Helen Small, secretary, HSmall@indy.rt.com

Dennis Wright, vice-president,
wrightmaia@gmail.com

Rolando Quintana, vice-president, 966-0224

Joe Shierling, vice-president, 636-4886

Pete Howard, vice-president, phoward2102@gmail.com

Learn more about the Lockerbie Square People's Club at:

www.lockerbiesquare.org

erty which later became the site of the Marion County Jail. The home was split in two, put on rail-road flat cars and moved to St. Peter Street.

In 1976, it was slated for demolition. Through the combined efforts of Urban Renewal and Indiana Landmarks, the home was moved to its present location at the corner of Park Avenue and New York Street.

According to preservationists this home is a rare find. It is not a large home and most people equate size to importance. It is also significant because it has survived and predates the Civil War. It is thought to be the oldest surviving house associated with the City of Indianapolis.

After moving the home to Lockerbie, it was stabilized and sold at public auction in 1977. The Crams are the third owner at this site, having purchased the home in 1996.

■ BUILDING

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between Trinity and the Atkinson owners about this purchase.

For decades, the Atkinson facility housed health care professionals — from physicians to psychologists — who cared for many of the school's neighbors. In recent years, a number of tenants either retired or moved.

In 2012, the death of Dr. Ray Henderson, a prominent cardiologist and a co-owner of the Atkinson Building, touched both St. Richard's

and Trinity. Dr. Henderson's daughter, Catherine, graduated from St. Richard's in 1994. The Hendersons have long been Trinity parishioners.

St. Richard's is an independent Episcopal day school educating children from age 3 to Grade 8. With a foundation in classic English educational disciplines, a global perspective, and a spiritual, inclusive culture, the school is dedicated to preparing its students for success and fulfillment in education and in life.

Contact Abby Williams, director of admission and communications, at awilliams@strichardsschool.org to arrange a tour of the school. ■

Thanks for supporting the Historic Meridian Park Neighborhood Association

Thank you to our current 2014 dues-paying members of the Historic Meridian Park Neighborhood Association. Your dues are separate from your contributions to the pocket park. Association dues are used to support activities such as social gatherings, neighborhood beautification and other services that neighbors enjoy. Pocket Park contributions are used solely for insurance and park development.

Alexander, Charles - 4*

Baiz, Eric - 6

Brisnehan, Bob & Cecile - 1

Button, Babs & Peter Iverson - 6

Carner Watson Properties - 6

Chirgwin, John - 6

Day, Doug - 6

Dawson, Margie - 5

Edwards, Dirk - 1

Gamble, Sharon - 2

Gautier, Chris & Anne - 2

Gog, Thomas & Carol - 3

Haughey, Mathew & Kara - 1

Herner, Mark & Karla Johnson - 6

Johnson, Wade & Michael Nichols - 2

Krieg, Christy & Pat Carroll - 6

LaNore, Jess - 6

Mead, Bob - 4

Richcreek, Lamar & Jean - 6

Smith, Andrew & Kristen Lee - 1

Valentine, Spencer - 1

van Santen, Jay & David Conrad - 1

Walsh, Mike & Leanna - 1

Wilcort, James - 2

* Years of membership