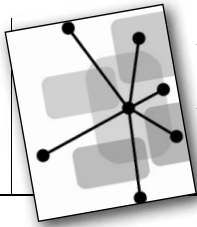




**Flower Shop Blooms
at 56th & Illinois**

PAGE 3



**Mass Transit Is
Coming to Indy,
Maybe...**

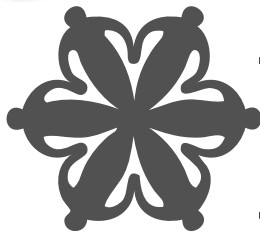
PAGE 4



**Gardening Tips
from BTNA's Master
Gardener**

PAGE 15

the news of our neighborhood • indianapolis, indiana



Butler-Tarkington

JULY & AUGUST 2010

www.butlertarkington.org

VOL. 55, NO. 4

100 ACRES IN OUR BACKYARD

CHRIS W. COTTERILL
BTNA BOARD MEMBER

Nestled north of 38th Street, east of Michigan Road, south of the Canal, and west of Meridian Street, our neighborhood is perfectly situated in Indianapolis. As these three thoroughfares lead others quickly to other places, we enjoy the tranquility of our neighborhood while living about fifteen minutes from just about anywhere you want to go.

Within our borders, we have Butler University's activities and public spaces, multiple public parks, improving commercial areas on Illinois at 56th and 38th streets, the Martin Luther King Community Center, and the Christian Theological Seminary—all this within walking distance of our homes.

It seemed like it couldn't get better, but it just did. On June 20th, the Indianapolis Museum of Art (IMA) celebrated the opening of its new "100 Acres: The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park."

A short walk west along 42nd Street brings Butler-Tarkington residents to Michigan Road to enter the 100 Acres via the Canal Towpath from Michigan Road or from the Pony Truss Bridge behind the museum. For those driving, the Edgar & Dorothy Fehnel Entrance to the park is situated just west of the 38th Street entrance to the IMA (and just before the bridge over the Canal) on 38th Street.



COTTERILL

The New York-based artist collective known as Type A created "Team Building (Align)," which consists of two 30-foot-wide metal rings oriented so that their two shadows will become one at noon during the annual summer solstice.

SINCE WHEN ARE THERE 100 ACRES IN BTNA'S BACKYARD?

In 1966, Ruth Lilly and J.K. Lilly III donated the land where the IMA is today to the organization that later became known as the IMA. Six years later, 96 acres of White River floodplain were given to the Museum by the firm Huber, Hunt and Nichols, which had operated a quarry there to build Interstate 65 after purchasing the land from the Indianapolis Water Company.

Almost a quarter century later, the IMA's 1996 strategic plan called for a sculpture park. Four years later, the first master plan for the park was created, and, over the next ten years, the IMA's leadership considered various plans. Ultimately, IMA settled on creating one of the largest museum art parks in the country and the only one to feature "site-responsive" artworks by artists from around the world.

SEE 100 ACRES | PAGE 6

BUTLER BRIEFS

Gordon Hayward Selected by Utah Jazz

Gordon Hayward, the 6-foot-8 forward, who averaged 15.5 points and 8.2 rebounds for Butler last season, was selected by Utah with the ninth pick in the NBA draft.

Hayward will become the first Butler player to join the NBA since Ralph "Buckshot" O'Brien in 1952-1953.

Basketball Moves to 1070 The Fan

Butler University has selected Emmis Communications' 1070 The Fan as the new radio home of Butler Men's Basketball. The multi-year deal begins in the fall of 2010 and includes all exhibition, regular season and post-season games.

Butler to Offer Master of Fine Arts in Dance

Butler's Board of Trustees has approved a new Master of Fine Arts in Dance degree, which will be offered in 2011. The masters will feature a concentration in ballet choreography, with a secondary study in pedagogy.

"We've put together the program to clearly address the development of choreographers in a contemporary ballet style," said Michelle Jarvis, interim dean of Butler's Jordan College of Fine Arts and chair of the Dance Department from 2003-2010. "MFA programs across the country—there are many—are mostly modern dance-based. We're continuing our tradition of classical training but taking it into the 21st century."

New Communication College Created

Butler recently announced the creation of its sixth college: the College of Communication (CCOM). CCOM is Butler's first new college since the Jordan College of Music (now the Jordan College of Fine Arts), which was established in 1951.

In CCOM "students will develop the ability to critically analyze and synthesize human and mediated communication, and learn to speak, write and create responsible messages across dynamic communication contexts and media platforms."

the president's message

BTNA Tox Drop Will Be on Saturday, July 31st at 9:00 a.m.

NEIL BLOEDE
BTNA PRESIDENT

Hello Neighbor. Summer is in full swing and I hope that everyone is enjoying the warm weather. The Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association (BTNA) has been busy working on several projects to strengthen the organization and the neighborhood. I want to provide you with a brief rundown of what we have been working on.

MEMBERSHIP

First, I want to thank all of those who have joined BTNA so far in 2010. Without all of the residents, businesses, and organizations that help to financially support the BTNA we could not continue to address the critical issues that impact the quality of life in Butler-Tarkington. Through the half-way point in the year we have roughly the same number of members as we did for the entire year of 2009.

While this is exciting new growth, we must continue to grow to improve our outreach. I encourage those who have not yet joined to do so now. We will run our membership list in the next edition of the newsletter.

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCACY

The BTNA recently voted to send a letter to the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (IMCPL) to encourage the library board and the leadership to consider all possible alternatives to closing library branches, especially the Glendale Mall branch. Libraries are vital to the quality of life in Indianapolis and many residents rely on the public access to the entertainment, educational, and job searching opportunities that are available at our public libraries. The CEO of the IMCPL, Laura Bramble, responded to the BTNA that they are looking at all possibilities to avoid closures and that

she has been given authority by the Library Board of Trustees to negotiate a new one-year extension to the Glendale lease.

ALL-NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

BTNA just hosted the "All-Neighborhood" meeting at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center (MLKCC) on July 12th. I thank all of you who took time out of your evening to join us to listen to Indianapolis Public Safety Director Frank G. Straub present the new plan for public safety in Indianapolis. I believe there were good



BLOEDE

questions and lively discussion about the safety concerns our residents have for Butler-Tarkington as well as throughout Indianapolis. Public safety is always a major priority of BTNA and open discussion with the City leadership is critical to address the concerns in the neighborhood.

TOX DROP AT HINKLE FIELDHOUSE

BTNA, in conjunction with Butler University and the City of Indianapolis will be hosting a Tox-Drop Event at Hinkle Fieldhouse on July 31st. Drop offs will run from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All drop-offs must be made by vehicle. No Walk-ups will be permitted. I anticipate this to be a major event that is not only well attended by residents in Butler-Tarkington, but one that will benefit residents in the surrounding neighborhoods. Therefore, start looking through your garage, your basement or attic and find the electronic or chemical waste that is sitting around your house that you previously didn't know how to get rid of and bring it to Hinkle for safe disposal.

BUTLER TARKINGTON IS ON TWITTER

Interested in following what's going on in our neighborhood? Just follow us at www.twitter.com/Butler_Tark.

Flower Shop Blooms at 56th & Illinois

JOHN BARTH
BTNA BOARD MEMBER

After Becky Ruby, an Indianapolis-based, Chicago-raised entrepreneur graduated from Butler University, she spent some time as an event planner in the non-profit industry. Becky found herself designing centerpieces for various events around Indianapolis and discovered that the work was both fulfilling and challenging.

When a friend contacted her seeking assistance in designing wedding flowers, she quickly agreed and the experience ended up being the spark that put Becky on the path to open her own business. With the wind at her back after successfully completing several events freelance, Becky left her non-profit position in 2009 and began creating floral

arrangements full time.

Becky recently opened Lilly Lane—an event florist shop specializing in creating floral arrangements for clients who range from wedding parties to nonprofit, corporate, and individual events. Becky has created flowers for private events in her clients' homes, designed for Art of the Table and ISES-Indiana, and worked with Savoir Fare, the Indianapolis Zoo, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, the Circle City Chamber Group, Park Tudor, Morton's Steakhouse and Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology among others.

Becky has plans to expand Lilly Lane's services to include workshop events for private functions. This service will

assist hosts as they work to choose a piece to create, and party attendees will learn to make their own arrangement, typically themed around an upcoming holiday.



RUBY

When asked why she chose to open her business in the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood, Becky responded: "Having attended Butler University, I've always loved the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood and particularly the intersection of 56th & Illinois." She went on to express her desire to locate her business among other locally-owned businesses—making the former Reardon Tennis store location a perfect match.

To stay in the loop on what Lilly Lane is planning, neighbors can sign up to

receive the "Lilly Lane latest"—Becky's monthly email newsletter that lists upcoming events, photos, floral tips and special offers. To subscribe, email Becky at becky@lillylaneflowers.com with the subject line "Lilly Lane latest." Lilly Lane also has a web site up and running at www.lillylaneflowers.com or you can "friend" Lilly Lane on Facebook at www.facebook.com/lillylaneflowers. For the time being, the hours at Lilly Lane are varied depending on the events.

Becky is usually hard at work, but you can always get in touch via the email address above or call (317) 989-9936. Becky invites all her Butler-Tarkington neighbors to stop in and chat if you see her working inside. BTNA welcomes Lilly Lane to the neighborhood.

SIERRA FLOWERS

Your Neighborhood Florist

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Short-stem Roses	Dozen	\$19.99
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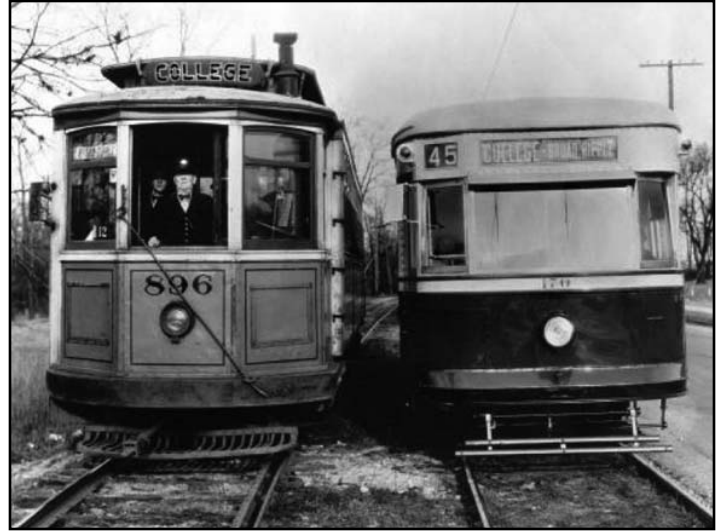
Mass Transit Is Coming to Indianapolis, Maybe...

CAROL CALDWELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Would you ever give up your car? Probably not. But consider this scenario: *You leave home headed downtown to work or shop. You walk a short distance to a bus stop, where you know the bus arrives every few minutes—not every 30 minutes or so. The bus stops, you hop on and grab a seat. You open your newspaper or the book you couldn't put down last night and begin to read. Before you know it, you're downtown. You don't have to pay for parking. You don't have to fight the traffic. And the bus runs every few minutes and can return you to your home stop even at night.*

Would that tempt you to ride the bus—even occasionally? The folks behind Indy Connect are betting that it might. They've developed a plan that's all about expanding the transit system for everyone. Not just transit to suburban areas for jobs, not just high speed rails: an overall transit system that links people to more services. This would include expanded roads, commuter and light rail, enhanced bus service, as well as bike and pedestrian walkways.

That's the job the mayor gave to the Indianapolis Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) a couple of years ago. Driven by the MPO, the Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA), IndyGo—the city's bus provider, and collaboration of private industry and public entities, Indy Connect is the result. The plan was released this past February and several forums designed to solicit public input and comment were held throughout the metro area. The goal is to refine the plan before the end of this year and determine more definite costs and the



The College Avenue line used to be a popular mode of transportation in Midtown. This line could be updated, or it could feature bus rapid transit.

means of funding those costs.

Lori Miser, executive director of the MPO, says there were several problems pinpointed by their study. For instance, anyone living in the area around 30th and Arlington Streets would now need about two hours to travel from home to Park 100 on the northwest side of Indianapolis. Travel requires a trip downtown to wait for another bus and transfer to it for the trip to Park 100. The Indy Connect plan includes cross-town proposals to fill in the gaps.

At the same time, HARMONI has been looking at the Midtown area and developing proposals for a non-automobile transportation link to major destinations when walking is not feasible or desirable. Proposals include:

- *The College Avenue Transit Line.* Utilizing a mass transit line of either bus rapid transit or at-grade light rail to connect Midtown north to 96th Street and south to downtown and the Old Northside. Stops would be limited in Midtown.
- *The Midtown Shuffle.* This proposal is a double loop system to connect major institutions/employers as well as residential neighborhoods. The loop would run from 52nd or 54th Street and College west to Butler and around the campus, north to 56th & Illinois, back across College to 62nd Street

SEE INDY CONNECT | PAGE 5

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Different Options Call for Different Routes

INDY CONNECT FROM PAGE 4

and east to Glendale, back down Keystone to 54th and College—with key stops along the way.

- *The Maple Road Express.* While not a route exclusive to the Midtown District, this would serve as a connector between the Fairgrounds and points east.

Although these Midtown proposals are not part of the initial Indy Connect plan, HARMONI has presented them to the consortium for consideration. Neighborhood residents who care about transit need to weigh in at www.indyconnect.org.

Why so much focus on multiple transportation options? The metro area population is growing and traffic congestion will continue to grow as well. Further, when people in the area were polled about what they would like to see, they asked for more extensive and faster bus service and expanded walkways to bus lines. There was also interest in the rail line proposed for service between downtown and the northeast side.

What do people see as the greatest negative aspect of Indy Connect? The economy, and that's understandable. Right now construction costs are estimated to be \$2.4 billion, with half of this coming from the federal government. Local entities would have to match those funds and cover the costs of maintenance. The question is what would generate those matching funds.

The Indy Connect Task Force looked at many options. The biggest bang for the buck, says Miser, is an increase in the sales tax. Although that would be a hard sell since the Indiana legisla-



Light rail systems, like the old streetcars, have fixed rails. Bus rapid transit (BRT) vehicles are alternatives that can operate with little roadway modifications.

ture controls sales tax increases and the public may be resistant as well, it wouldn't take much of a boost to provide the needed funds. Whatever option the consortium finally focuses on, the private sector entities will advocate for the plan and would undoubtedly call for a referendum to allow the public to vote.

Miser says Indy Connect is doing a lot of outreach now, going to speak with neighborhood groups, churches in Marion Coun-

SEE INDY CONNECT | PAGE 10

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The World's Largest "Site-Responsive" Park

100 ACRES FROM PAGE 1

WHAT IS A "SITE-RESPONSIVE" PARK?

Perhaps it is easiest to describe 100 Acres by defining what it is not. Anderson explains: "With Plop Art, you acquire something that is already made and situate it in a public space. And, you miss so many opportunities. You miss the opportunity to make the art specific to its place and time. You miss the interplay with the staff and public."

As the IMA's publication about the 100 Acres explains, "Whereas most sculpture parks are composed of a space where nature has been carefully cultivated, 100 Acres presents a very special combination of both a cultivated landscape and something that is more wild and unmediated, allowing for new possibilities of engagement with both the creative and natural worlds."

Lisa Freiman, Director of the Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park and Senior Curator of Contemporary Art, has been the leading advocate for site-responsive art, new art conceived in re-

sponse to the landscape itself.

Artists from around the world were invited by the IMA to create site-specific works of art. The result: eight artists and artist collaboratives visited the park and created their own art in response to the features of the landscape they found compelling. (The first eight are pictured on pages 8 and 9 of this newsletter.)

Anderson explains that most of the art is temporary. In fact, a new artist will be commissioned each year to create a project for the park. Thus, as the landscape changes with each year, so will the art that is created. "Some of the others we consider temporary, like the *Funky Bones* project. But, I think others like the *Park of the Laments* and *Free Basket* will stay for quite some time," says Anderson.

Each project inspires very different reactions. Anderson explains his own feelings about Type A, the two pairs of suspended rings, which are, as he puts it, "tucked away a little bit."

"They are an elegant formula. First

of all, they are just beautiful works of art. But, these two extraterrestrial rings mark the summer solstice. We worked with Butler's astronomy department and the two rings create a perfect shadow on the summer solstice. With it, we literally forecast how the heavens move.... There is something primitive to that. Something that marks the fragility of the cosmos and, at the same time, it marks the beginning date of the park."

With *Indianapolis Island*, Anderson points out the contradictions of modern society. "People can be isolated, even in a bustling city. In modern life, we live in crowded places, but we are essentially alone."

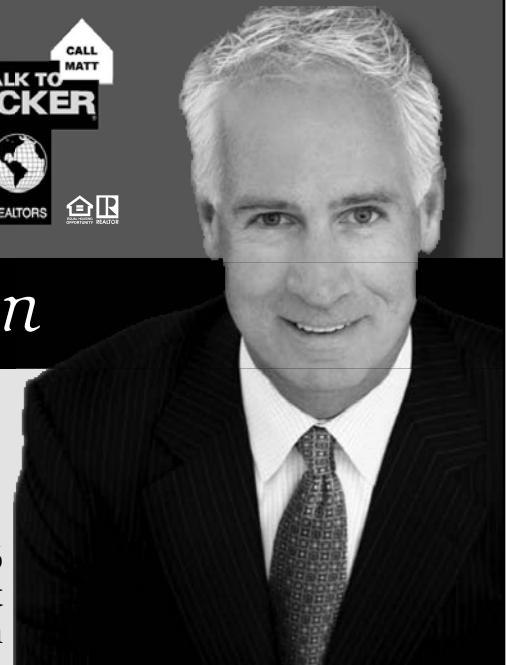
WHAT DOES THE PARK MEAN FOR IMA & OUR CITY?

As we talk about the projects and the park, I am struck by the intensity and clarity of Anderson's sense of the park's intended impact. Indeed, his feelings are supported by fact. Instantly, the park

SEE 100 ACRES | PAGE 7



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or Selling in the
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COTTERILL

As intended, people enjoy their hands-on experiences with *Eden II* (top left), the *Park of the Laments* (top right), *Funky Bones* (bottom left), and *Bench Around the Lake* (bottom right).

100 ACRES FROM PAGE 6

has made an impact, not just on its visitors but on the IMA itself and our city. “We have experienced a doubling of almost everything. Attendance is up to 2,000 visitors a day. We had 10,000 visitors in the first day,” explains Anderson.

And the park’s impact on the city?

Anderson says it creates a new center of gravity for the city. “By that I mean, free space for play, for the imagination, and for a sense of civic engagement. The great cities of the world have gathering places.... Most American cities today are bustling business centers and malls. To have a park in a neighborhood is a whole other enterprise.”

Neighborhood and civic leaders agree. “Indianapolis is proud of the new 100 Acres at the IMA, which provides an outdoor venue for residents to experience art and nature in relationship to one another,” Butler University President Bobby Fong told me. “Like Butler University’s Holcomb Gardens, it is the latest example of private educational and cultural institutions on the north side opening their grounds to the general public.”

Don Welsh, President & CEO of the Indianapolis Conven-

tion & Visitors Association, agrees. “Without question, the new art and nature park enhances our visitors’ experience and demonstrates the unprecedented level of vision and dedication the IMA has to our community.”

As for me, my day in the park with my family was perfect. My wife and I walked from our home to the IMA, bringing our two children along in our “double-wide” stroller. At our destination, our five-year old and I walked under the tunnel and up the stairs into the *Park of the Laments*. I read later that its creator, Alfredo Jaar, describes the park as a “refuge of silence, a place for lamentation and purging of the global atrocities of the 20th and 21st centuries.” While we did not understand that underlying intent at the time, we both intuitively understood it was a place for quiet reflection. From there, we travelled to *Funky Bones*, to the *Bench Around the Lake* series, to *Eden II*, and to the other projects.

My wife and I talked about the park, its art, and our kids’ reaction to what they experienced. We couldn’t help but talk about what a tremendous addition the park is to the IMA and Indianapolis, and how fortunate we are to have 100 Acres in our backyard.

100 ACRES IMA



ANDERSON

This place seeks to be a sanctuary, one that is as fine as any afforded in contemporary American life. It hopes to relieve visitors of the privations of urban, suburban, and rural life—both recreational and visual—and from the behavioral constraints of a museum filled with precious objects. It seeks to offer a fresh perspective for denizens of every context—paved streets, manicured lawns, and uncongested land. For each, there may be a new discovery, afforded by the freedom to picnic, run, jump, and play, or by encounters with art that is as sophisticated as any in the world, or by chance meetings with people from different walks of life.

...

What we hope it provides is a palpable impact on the lives of millions of people over the next decades. With this expansive canvas—the IMA's largest—we seek to foster greater openness to new ideas expressed through art, an improved understanding of our collective obligation to care for the environment we share, and a greater tolerance for each other—whether we hail from an urban, suburban, or rural life, and whether from Indiana or India.

Maxwell L. Anderson
The Melvin & Bren Simon
Director & CEO
Indianapolis Museum of Art

KENDALL BUSTER (American, b. 1954) *Stratum Pier*

Stratum Pier consists of a series of organically shaped and layered platforms at the water's edge that provide a vantage for observing the expansive 35-acre lake and woodlands. The design of the emerald green fiberglass and steel structure suggests a topographical map with stacked layers that merge with the environment and appear to be an extrusion from the shoreline. Terracing and curved edges reference the natural processes of erosion and layered growth. Sponsored by the Indianapolis Foundation, a CICF affiliate.



LOS CARPINTEROS (Cuban, founded 1991) *Free Basket*

Containing soaring blue and red steel arcs, this sculpture makes apparent the trajectory of a bouncing ball. *Free Basket* juxtaposes the practical and the imaginary, drawing on the form of an international basketball court, and turning it into an aesthetically surprising sculpture that offers the community a place to play. In developing their project, Los Carpinteros focused on the prominence of basketball in Indiana, bringing together art, culture and sports, and developing an iconic project for the city of Indianapolis.



JEPPE HEIN (Danish, b. 1974) *Bench Around the Lake*

Bench Around the Lake is a series of 15 vivid yellow benches that interact with specific sites within the Park and along the bordering bank of the White River. Hein envisions the installation as one long bench that emerges from the ground, twists, turns and submerges again, forming a circuit around the Park's 35-acre lake. *Bench Around the Lake* challenges the assumption that a bench is made for passive sitting, encouraging visitors to explore less frequented areas of the Park and providing opportunities to sit, look, listen, interact and play.



ALFREDO JAAR (Chilean, b. 1956) *Park of the Laments*

The form of *Park of the Laments* is a square within a square, one rigid and made of limestone-filled Gabion baskets, the other soft and organic, made of indigenous trees and shrubs. Visitors enter the work via an underground tunnel. Moving towards the light, they climb stairs that lead them above ground into the center of the park. Visitors are invited to occupy this quiet contemplative space, which Jaar describes as a refuge, a place for lamentation and purging the global atrocities of the 20th and 21st centuries.





TEA MÄKIPÄÄ (Finnish, b. 1973)

Eden II

A large, foreboding ship emerging from the 100 Acres lake and a guard house on the shore nearby comprise *Eden II*. An unexpected sight in the idyllic Park environment, *Eden II* is a modern ark seemingly filled with human passengers from an unknown homeland. The guard house offers views of the ship from its deck, and surveillance monitors in its interior display footage of *Eden II*'s passengers, imagined as refugees displaced by rising sea levels and the ecological impact of climate change.



TYPE A (American, founded 1998)

Team Building (Align)

Team Building (Align) is constructed of two 30 foot-wide metal rings suspended from telephone poles and trees, oriented so that their shadows become one during the annual summer solstice. Elements of this installation were determined in collaboration with a team of IMA staff members who worked with the artist collective over a two-year period on an experiential education performance. From conversations about art to rigorous challenge courses, Type A and the IMA team collaborated to develop a sculptural form that could metaphorically convey the complexity of their collaboration.



ATELIER VAN LIESHOUT (Dutch, founded 1995)

Funky Bones

Located in the Park's central meadow, *Funky Bones* is a group of 20 fiberglass benches emblazoned with depictions of bones that together take the form an enormous, stylized human skeleton. The project draws on artist Joep van Lieshout's interest in the body, as well as in pre-history and relics, with the bones emerging from the ground like archeologically revealed specimens. A fantastical apparition that reveals itself progressively upon approach, *Funky Bones* is designed to be a site for resting, climbing, picnicking and social interaction.



ANDREA ZITTEL (American, b. 1965)

Indianapolis Island

About 20 feet in diameter, *Indianapolis Island* is a fully inhabitable experimental living structure that examines the daily needs of contemporary human beings. For the next four summers, the island will be occupied by one or two commissioned residents who are local art students. They will collaborate with Zittel by adapting and modifying the island's structure according to their individual needs. This summer artists Jessica Dunn and Michael Runge will act as residents on the island to create an accompanying project titled *Give and Take*.

REACTIONS TO 100 ACRES

"The Indianapolis museum is lucky to have such a large, varied and beautiful site as a platform. And it did well to devise a different kind of sculpture park, a relief from the tried-and-true; a model—but also, perhaps, *sui generis*."

Judith H. Dobrzynski
The Wall Street Journal

"It's not only the museum that's lucky to have such a platform.

It's the entire city's good fortune, as well. The IMA's maturation in recent years—of which 100 Acres is just the latest addition—has brought a fresh energy and vision to the city's art and cultural scene."

Editorial Board
The Indianapolis Star

"All eight of the artists' installations, which dot the park's unruly woodlands, wetlands, meadows and lake, were conceived to handle wear and tear from people as well as nature. ... The new art park is one of the largest in the United States and rare in its focus on temporary, site-specific commission."

Hilarie M. Sheets
The New York Times

Hoosier Hospitality Can Ease Culture Shock

KRISTA JONES
CONTRIBUTOR

Being a frequent traveler around the world, I've found many potential ingredients for culture shock. The way people talk, an embarrassing cultural faux pas, or turning down the wrong way on a narrow street. There are many chances to feel far away from home when traveling abroad. However, there is one thing that translates into any language and transcends any culture—and that is hospitality.

Butler Tarkington has an opportunity to extend a welcoming hand to students from other countries who are studying at Butler University. Butler's International Student Services (ISS) has set up a program called the Family Dinner Program that invites members of the community to "adopt"

students and give them a full, hospitable experience while living in America.

The requirements are simple: spend time with your student at least a couple of times a semester. Take them to an Indians game, cook out on a holiday (maybe even one from their culture!), or invite them to a picnic or family soccer game during the week. Allow them to get the full experience of knowing good people who live in their neighborhood. It doesn't have to be anything out of the ordinary—just include them in on a piece of your everyday life!

ISS has set up an application process that will match you with students that may have similar interests as you and, after filling out an application, they will contact applicants to set up a brief interview and training time.

BTNA can make a huge impact on someone who lives far away from what is familiar. If you are interested you

can find more information at www.butler.edu and search family dinner program, or you can call (317) 940-9888.

Mass Transit Coming

INDY CONNECT FROM PAGE 5

ty and other groups about the plan. The Indy Connect map that charts the new and improved transit lines are color maps that don't reproduce well in black and white print. You can view the map on-line at www.indyconnect.org. If you'd like to read more about HARMONI's Midtown proposals, visit www.indyharmoni.org.

And about that initial question: Would you give up your car? Miser says people they've talked with have visited areas with extensive urban transportation systems, so they

know what good transit can be. The problem is, with the current transit system in Marion County, most people really can't picture themselves using public transportation. Wait 30 minutes or more for a bus? No way! A transit system that is faster and features more efficient connections might change that picture. So maybe you won't give up the car entirely, but you might be tempted to leave it at home sometimes. Me? I hate that drive to Castleton Mall and try not to do it very often. I can't wait for a speedy bus to deliver me there.



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GETTING AROUND WITH THESE INDY CONNECT ELEMENTS



BUS AND EXPRESS BUS



LIGHT RAIL TRAIN



COMMUTER RAIL



EXPANDED ROADWAYS



BIKE/PEDESTRIAN

BUS & EXPRESS BUS

Adding more buses and routes would expand service, decrease wait time, resulting in better cross-city service, fewer transfers, as well as more and quicker service beyond Marion County.

LIGHT RAIL TRAIN

Adding an in-street, light rail train on or near Washington Street would enable riders to travel east and west with frequent stops at popular destinations.

COMMUTER RAIL TRANSIT

A ground-level commuter train service could run north to Fishers and south to Greenwood, with multiple stops in Indianapolis. This service could also run all day from Union Station to the near north side and the near south side with less frequent runs to the suburbs.

EXPANDED ROADWAYS

Although it is important to provide options, Central Indiana will continue to rely on roadways for a majority of

its travel. Existing roadways need to be maintained and safety improvements made.

To view specific road projects, visit www.indyconnect.org.

BIKE/PEDESTRIAN

Biking and walking are efficient means of travel for short trips, not to mention an important part of a healthy lifestyle. An expanded and improved bike and pedestrian system could connect with other methods of transportation like bus or train stops.



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Welcome

North Church programs and ministries reach out to people in our neighborhood, our city, across the country, and around the world.

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Meet Elizabeth Krajeck

CAROL CALDWELL
EDITOR IN CHIEF

Elizabeth Krajeck has loved living in her Butler Tarkington bungalow since she bought it 32 years ago, with the assistance of realtor Robbie Williams. “The house is scaled to my life,” Elizabeth says.

Walking into Elizabeth’s house, you notice that it’s full of interesting things to look at, things that reflect her interests and her personality. There’s a collection of antique toy horses



A 1950s “teddy bear” coat, worn by the sisters in a family of 12 children, is displayed in a shrine designed by Steve Hubert.

(circa 1940-1950) given to her by a friend, a grouping of large stone animals near the hearth, and the first typewriter she owned. Elizabeth has “written things” most of her life and that manual typewriter was a tool for drafting many of her earlier works.

Shortly after buying her Butler Tarkington home, she attended a poetry writing class at the Free University. That started her down the poetry path with the professor from class as a mentor.

An on-going poetry workshop has helped Elizabeth hone those skills. The workshop is a group of friends and fellow-writers who meet as “equals to critique each other’s work.” That group has been meeting for about 20 years, although a few folks have filtered in or out of the group over time.

The Internet has democratized the literary arts, according to Elizabeth. More people can display their work to a broader audience through self-publishing, blogs, etc. One of the newer themes is connecting writings to materials that have relevance

“I KEEP MY BROWN COAT AS A PET”

ELIZABETH KRAJECK
BTNA RESIDENT

Discovered alive—
my brown coat,

like the red farm house,
woods and snow

hides from rockets,
whistles and guns

while I walk around drifts
inspecting the earth and
its melting.

I count with the bears
the “v’s” in survive

“s’s” in emissions,
and how many Kodiaks?

A legacy of the electronic
age is time
to walk among millions of
words,

some considered weapons
or songs, others debris.

Discovered alive,
My mouth tries new words—

ballistic, radar, laser
and from memory,

short easy words—
air, tree, brain

and from water—
an old word: fish

to life. The visual aspect of this appeals to Elizabeth and she’s branching out into multi-media.

One of these works connects to a “shrine” on her living room wall. It’s a small, brown coat that was worn by everyone in her family—Eliz-

abeth and all her sisters—as young girls. The “shrine” was built by Steve Hubert, another Butler-Tarkington resident, out of parts from an old house and is lit from within. (See accompanying poem and photo.)

SEE KRAJECK | PAGE 13

the news of our neighborhood • indianapolis, indiana

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BTNA Mission

To enhance neighborhood livability, to maintain open communication with state and local government and other neighborhoods and neighborhood associations, to involve neighbors in neighborhood activities, to eliminate prejudice and discrimination, to defend human and civil rights, and to combat juvenile delinquency.

About the Newsletter

The *Butler-Tarkington* is the official newsletter of the Butler-Tarkington Neighborhood Association (BTNA) and is funded with BTNA membership fees and advertisements.

This newsletter exists to provide relevant news and diverse perspectives in and around our neighborhood.

Letters to the Editor & Advertisements

To write for *The Butler-Tarkington*, please contact the editor in chief. For information about advertising, please contact the advertising manager.

Letters to the Editor are encouraged and should be sent to editor in chief.

Krajeck: Poet & Neighbor

KRAJECK FROM PAGE 12

Elizabeth spent more than 20 years working as a coordinator of programs for the homeless and the disabled and as a community economic development specialist for the Indianapolis office of Housing and Urban Development. She says that earlier in life she didn't know how to have a career in writing. Since retiring from HUD, however, Elizabeth has figured out how to combine some of her interests to put those to work for the community.

Elizabeth started the Artists' Club for children at the Dayspring center. The focus of the program was to help the children build competence in the literary arts—and to not fall behind. It introduced children to poetry and provided them with an opportunity to write their own

poems. Then Elizabeth was awarded a Creative Renewal Grant from the Arts Council of Indianapolis to work with Partners in Housing, Inc., and their residents at the Blue Triangle Residence Hall. As a part of that project, she completed a series of prose poems, "Restoration Poetry."

Elizabeth also has had an opportunity to work with children at the Kaleidoscope Youth Center, through Butler University's Center for Citizenship and Community. She now works at the Butler Center as a community writer.

That does not mean, however, that she's given up on her own work. Elizabeth is still "writing things." She says that the Internet has opened so many new directions to head to and she seems to be interested in all of them.

Four August Events!

BACK-TO-SCHOOL EVENT

Free back packs, school supplies and health screenings will be available for area families at the 3rd annual Back to School Resource and Health Fest from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 7th at the Martin Luther King Community Center, located at 40 W. 40th Street.

BTNA GARAGE SALE

The Butler Tarkington Neighborhood Association will place an ad in *The Indianapolis Star*, telling people to visit the neighborhood on Saturday, August 14th, starting at 8:00 am. All you have to do is place signs directing people to your own garage sale.

"MEET THE CANDIDATES"

BTNA and the Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Association have partnered to sponsor "Meet the Candidates" on August 11th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Indianapolis Opera, located at 4011 North Pennsylvania St.

Candidates for Prosecutor, Terry Curry (D) and Mark Massa (R) will square off, as will candidates for Sheriff John Layton (D) and Dennis Fishburn (R).

IHM'S NEIGHBORHOOD FALL KICK-OFF FEST

Immaculate Heart of Mary's Neighborhood Fall Kick-Off Fest is an enjoyable evening for the whole family.

On Saturday, August 28th, from 3 to 11 p.m., come enjoy hot dogs, brats, hamburgers, pulled pork, the Beer Garden, kids' games, movies, great music and more. Greta Speaks, Butler Tarkington's own Chad Mills, and The Dugan Brothers will play music during the Fest.



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One Block West of 56th & Meridian

Overgrown Grass & Weeds—That's Solvable

KRISTA JONES
CONTRIBUTOR

It's not hard to drive down the roads and side streets of Butler-Tarkington and know that we live in a beautiful and diverse neighborhood. I love seeing how our neighbors landscape their lawns and what decorations are put up based on the seasons and holidays at hand.

The beauty and uniqueness of our neighborhood, however, is lost when we pass lots that are overgrown with weeds, unkempt yards and dilapidated houses. These sites send deceiving messages about the Butler-Tarkington neighborhood.

This past month, I experimented with how easy it is to report abandoned houses and lots. Our local officials have set up the Mayor's Ac-

tion Committee that works to improve the look and safety of neighborhoods in Indianapolis.

There are a couple of ways to report problems. One is by going to the indy.gov website and clicking on the Mayor's Action Center link on the top right. You can also call the hotline at (317) 327-4MAC (4622).

The process is simple. In the last month, the two lots that I reported were cut. To report a home, it took all of about thirty seconds online, and even provided a confirmation number to check the progress of the report.

I believe that the more we as a neighborhood report on these such matters, the more MAC will want to respond. It will know we are serious about improving our community. When our community

improves, the desire to live here and be a part of Butler-Tarkington will also increase. Home values will go up, morale will improve, and we'll

own the distinction of being a developing community.

Take some action against those abandoned lots and houses!

GROUP CELEBRATES WOMEN LEADERS IN EARLY CHRISTIANITY

A prayer service and public lecture featuring Holly Hearon, professor of New Testament at Christian Theological Seminary, will be held on August 18th, 7 p.m., at Cathedral High School Chapel, 5225 E. 56th Street. All are welcome to attend. A free will offering will be collected to support The Julian Center.

Local organizer, Maria McClain, says the project is part of a worldwide effort to expand awareness of the leadership role of Mary of Magdala and other women leaders in the early centuries of Christianity.

For more information contact: Maria McClain, mtmclain795@sbcglobal.net.

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Gardening Tips from BTNA's Master Gardener

Abundance of rain and hot weather means great gardens in Butler-Tarkington.

LARRY FITZGERALD
BTNA BOARD MEMBER

Wow! An abundance of rain and now an abundance of hot weather (think about this in January). The neighborhood is filled with vegetable and flower gardens. I am including pictures of a few gardens around the area including the BTNA garden located at the Unitarian Church on 43rd Street. The vegetables are growing quickly and the abundance is being shared with neighbors and friends. St. Thomas Church and Common Ground Church have transformed the vacant lot at 43rd and Illinois into a beautiful vegetable garden with the produce to be used in their food pantries. What a great way to share!

Vegetable gardens are in full swing with produce. Keep soil moist and weed free by covering around plants with grass clippings or other material to discourage



FITZGERALD

A little care and feeding can lead to a great garden, like this one!

weeds. Pick produce as it becomes ripe to achieve maximum flavor. Share excess. There is nothing like a good Indiana tomato.

Annuals. Dead head faded blooms to encourage new growth. Don't let plants

dry out in hot weather. If plants become overgrown and shaggy, give them a haircut and you will be surprised to see an abundance of new growth. This is especially true with marigolds, petunias, and

SEE **GARDENS** | PAGE 16

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Take Care to Water Plants & Trees Appropriately

GARDENS FROM PAGE 15

zinnias.

Rhizomes, tubers, and bulbs in pots need to be kept hydrated during hot weather. Do not water the leaves.

Houseplants may appreciate being outside to encourage growth. Do not put houseplants in direct sun as they may dry out quickly and damage the leaves. Air conditioning can dry out inside plants also. Check plants for mites or aphids before bringing back into house. Spray plants with insecticidal soap.

Perennials, Cut back on faded blooms to encourage new growth. Keep good cover of mulch around perennials to maintain adequate moisture level.

Roses. Keep check for aphids and mites. Remove



FITZGERALD

Follow these tips and you too can have a garden like this one.

faded blooms to encourage new growth. Helpful hints to enjoy your rose cuttings inside: cut in morning, cut buds that are just about to open, cut just above a “five” (a five leaflet leaf) leaving a least two fives on the plant, Immediately immerse the stems in warm

water with floral preservative, place vase of flowers in the fridge for 4 hours to harden, remove and enjoy.

Trees. Established trees need about one inch of water per week. Do not overwater trees. New trees need more attention. Water them and

let the soil dry out before watering again. Mulch around trees helps maintain a good moisture level. Do not make a mountain of mulch around the tree base as it may led to disease.

Enjoy the summer and all the beauty of nature.