



The Millersville at Fall Creek Valley Newsletter

September 12, 2018



Millersville is a Community of Imagination

From lumber mill to grist mill to distillery. From dairy farms to postwar boom to a business neighborhood and suburbs. What will amazing [Millersville](#) be next? We can make it whatever we imagine!

My wife and I moved here just three short years ago. We knew nothing about Indianapolis, let alone Millersville. By happenstance, a neighbor told us about a clean-up along Fall Creek, about a year ago now. So a new friend and I wandered down to help. There we met folks named Matt and Cac, Mollie and Melinda, Tom and others, and we chatted about this place called Millersville while we picked litter.



Winpenny Mill, Ca. 1852

Their pride and enthusiasm was infectious. They and others, they told me, came together not so long ago to work on their neighborhood. They believed, imagined, it could be better. Prettier. Neater. They came together to protect it from the usual dangers of urbanization. They wanted to foster a sense of place, an identity, that would nurture their own ideas of what home should be. They wanted a place good businesses would want to come to. A place for people to walk and bike and gather and marvel at some of the natural beauty too long hidden by a tangle of overgrown honeysuckle.



56th St. planting maintained by MFCV

They told me about the park we were in and the art they brought to it. They told me about their efforts to beautify the Fall Creek shoreline so everyone could enjoy it. I heard about fights to keep good quality businesses here. They showed me their beautiful new planters on 56th street. I soon realized these good folks were actually remaking this place, Millersville. They were owning it. They imagined it could be better.

They were not waiting for someone else to do it. Like the people who first got here in the 1830's, they were going to roll those sleeves up and make something of it. And they aren't done...nope. Just getting started, in fact. But the original cast of characters is changing and it's time for others to pick up their shovels and dig in too.

All of us, in all of our different neighborhoods, are the benefactors of their work, their vision, their imagination. We all need to step outside our small neighborhood and be a bigger part of our shared, larger Millersville neighborhood too.

So join me.....Join us! This is my home now and I am always proud of my home. Some of us have been here all our lives. Some just a couple years. And as usual, some of us will be leaving one day. But this is home right now. We need to own it. Be proud of it. Make it something a little bit better. Imagine what we could do! Imagine what we could make of our special little part of Indy, Millersville in the Fall Creek Valley.

Imagine, just like those litter-pickers I met a year ago have...



We Are Beating Binford Litter!

Our Matt Benson along with Chris Dossman of BRAG, met with The Amazing [Christine Scales](#) on August 21st to discuss the continued clean-up of Binford Boulevard.

Christine, our District 3 City-County Councillor, works tirelessly to support our anti-litter campaign. She has teamed up with the [Duvall Center](#) to engage men in work release programs to help pick up trash as part of their service to the community. Christine and the Duvall men have already completed three sweeps of Binford; 46th to 56th Streets, 62nd to 65th, and 71st-75th Streets.

Matt, Chris and Christine discussed how our local organizations can best support her and where other clean-up opportunities may exist. While they agreed the 465 Interchange certainly could use help, safety for the Duvall men was a concern. So for now, they agreed to continue to concentrate on the Binford Corridor. Christine also needs modest donations of cash and neighbors' time. Matt and Chris are working on creating ways we can provide that support.

Millersville is so fortunate to have Christine's support in [our anti-litter campaign](#). Thank You Christine for all you do for us!

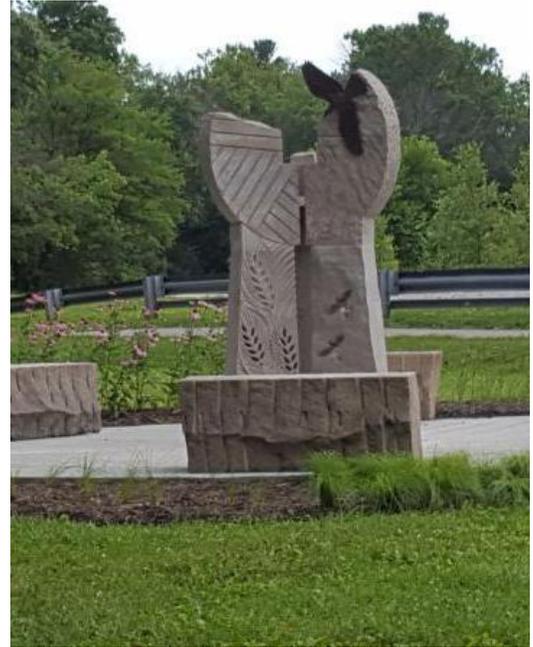
Donations to Millersville FCV Make Things Happen!

Everything we accomplish in our Millersville home is the result of generous contributions in time and money from our communities! Since 2009, so many cash [contributors](#) have helped us remake this exceptional part of Indianapolis. That need continues as we work to maintain our plantings and park, battle litter, improve our signage, and many other projects.

We are so grateful to the community associations that have donated this year. In March, the **Brendonridge Homeowners' Association** donated \$500. This August, the **Windridge Condominium Owners' Association** also donated \$500. And to date this year, \$305 has been raised from individual donors who care about their community.

Millersville FCV relies on grants and these donations to elevate our community's quality of life. As a 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation, donations are not currently tax-deductible under Federal Income Tax Law. But they are always sorely needed and so much appreciated as we work to keep the good going!

Please consider asking your neighborhood homeowners' associations to give to our shared community. And if you can personally, please consider supporting us with any modest [donation](#) you could afford. My two favorite expressions that sum up the success we see in our community; "Many hands make light work", "Be the change you hope to see in the world!"



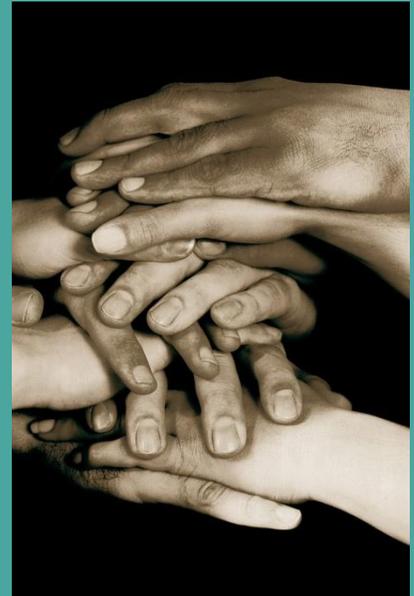
Our beautiful art in our park!

The Latest Donation Towards The Binford Blvd Clean-up

Teamwork is essential to achieving our many Millersville goals. This past Friday, September 7, our own Amy Schau Hammes worked hard in support of Christine Scales' Binford Boulevard clean-up effort. She passes along this latest bit of good news;

"Our City-County Councilor, Christine Scales, has worked tirelessly to help keep our community beautiful. She generously donated \$1,000 to this effort, enlisting the help of the Duvall Center residents who have lent their hard work picking up litter along Binford Boulevard. You might even see her picking up litter alongside them! To show our thanks, we provide the cleaning crew with lunch and snacks. This is a dream come true for Millersville. Thank you, Councilor Scales!"

And thank you. Amy, for your own selfless support of Christine, the Duvall residents and our Millersville community!





New Signage to Identify Our Home

Tom Eggers and Sallie Rowland are almost done working on new signs that will help identify Millersville to those who enter it.

Signage helps bring identity to a community, both to those traveling through it and to the people who live in it. It is an essential part of increasing ownership in that community. Community pride develops from the sense of place that good signage brings. It establishes our physical boundaries and welcomes visitors to an identifiable place.

Millersville is a renewed identity, only formally recreated by the formation of Millersville at Fall Creek Valley, Inc. in 2009. So in order to promote our sense of place and pride, beautiful signage defining our community is a wise investment. Tom and Sallie have collaborated on a 3' -round sign based on our logo to be placed at three prominent roadway intersections into Millersville.

Tom reports that we will need appropriate permits from the city before installation. Also, Sallie is looking into a double-sided sign option that may be more attractive. Otherwise, a prototype should be fabricated soon!



So What Can You Do Right Now To Help In Your Millersville Community?

Volunteers are the essence of 'Us'!

Right now you can help with watering and maintaining our beautiful flowers on our curbsides! Contact Diane and Keith Gardner at k_d_gardner@yahoo.com

Or perhaps you would like to be involved in our schools? Contact Amy Hammes at drhammesgov@gmail.com

How about supporting Christine Scales and the Binford

Clean-up effort? Contact Amy Hammes at drhammesgov@gmail.com

And if you want to see the other areas we need your help, check out our [volunteer](#) page on our Millersville [website](#)!

Millersville FCV will be holding an open community meeting in October to talk about all of our goings-on! Time and date are still to be determined, but check-in on our [website](#) for details.

Taco Bell Going Up Fast!

Construction of the new **Taco Bell** is flying! This modern edition to our streetscape will have many landscape and building amenities Millersville wanted, such as an outdoor dining area. The franchise owner is an excellent example for businesses coming into our neighborhood. They worked with the community to develop their site plan and both the business and the neighborhood should reap rewards for that cooperation.



Graphic of new Taco Bell building

If you are curious about the status of the old **Walgreen's** building, it is pending an appeal by the land owner. Stay up to date on this news [here](#).

And more new businesses are coming to Millersville! We will keep you up to date on many of the initiatives Tom Eggers is working to support our local business community. Always try and shop local first!

Fun fact: Visit our **Walmart** and take a look at the wall over the registers. That is a big company that in so many ways is working hard to be the best neighbor it can be in our small town!



A Hearty Millersville Welcome to our new Neighborhood Advocate

Mo McReynolds joins Greg Garrett as our newest Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate! You can reach Mo at mo.mcreynolds@indy.gov. The Mayor's office has been pretty supportive of many of our Millersville initiatives because of the tireless work of our advocates on our behalf. We know Mo will work hard for us and we thank her in advance for all the help she will provide!

If you want to reach out to our advocates or our City-County Councillors, don't hesitate to reach them! Their contact information can be found on the [Resources](#) page of our website!

Be The Squeaky Wheel!

While we do our best to take care of our lovely community ourselves, sometimes a problem is just too big for us to tackle alone.

We want to inspire you to make a phone call that can make a difference. Have you seen the trash off of the 465 Interchange as you exit from the north onto 56th Street? How about the trash on Binford going north from the Kessler Blvd. intersection? Awful. Disgusting. Embarrassing.

With \$1,100,000,000 budget, you would think Indianapolis could keep its streets clean! Yes, there are all kinds of things from safety forces to social services to roads that need funding, but to neglect the physical appearance of our otherwise wonderful city is to discourage visitors and investors from coming here. Trash is a bald-faced visual statement that the city just doesn't care about where and how its tax-paying citizens live. Nothing discourages growth more than the sloven state of our roadways.

So call the Mayor! Everyone! Take 5 minutes to phone in this complaint on the **Mayor's Action Center line at 317.327.4622**. Or visit <http://maps.indy.gov/RequestIndy/> to create an online request. We can let the Mayor's office know this is a priority to us and get that grease we need to make our city beautiful!

Make Indianapolis as beautiful as the people who live and work here are!





The Millersville Crew after planting on the 56th St. median

There is so much good going on around us, all of it because of people who care about the community they call home. From how the community looks, to engaging the kids in school, from planning for the future, to promoting a vibrant business district, from creating fun social opportunities to preserving our beautiful Fall Creek shorelines, Millersville is a community of imaginative and involved neighbors committed to making our corner of Indianapolis the best place to live!

It all comes from the hearts of volunteers who are doing their small part. Please join us in making Millersville even better! Please stay informed by following us on social media. When you see something that tweaks your interest, get involved! [Volunteer](#). [Donate](#). Or just help spread the word!

My special thanks goes to Kim Robertson. Kim and her husband, Jim, just left our Brendonwood community for some empty-nesting in downtown Indy. We miss them already. But Kim set this platform up for us, paid for it, and got this writer settled in, even though she was leaving our Millersville area. There is no better testimonial one could write than the demonstrated love of community that Kim has shown. We will miss her and Jim, and I thank her for all her support!

Our newsletter's purpose is to continue to build on the Millersville link with you. And we will always connect to our website where Mollie Benson has done amazing creative work that stays up to date on what is happening in the community. Visit www.millersvillefcv.com anytime you want to catch up or learn more about our community!

Let's all have some fun together!

Tom Carey
Millersville at Fall Creek Valley

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Click on the links below, then hit the follow buttons, and stay up to date on the goings-on in our evermore beautiful Millersville community!



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Millersville at Fall Creek Valley

for the newsletter, contact tcarey3.tc@gmail.com
<http://millersvillefcv.com>



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