#### VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2 - SUMMER 2021



# Things Zoopy



The official quarterly newsletter of the Lawton Loop West Home Owners Association Fort Benjamin Harrison Lawrence, Indiana

## NEW ROOFS! - HURRAY!

The roofs and gutters are on their way. Phase one including the two multi-unit buildings on each end of the Loop, have received their new roofs and copper work. They are looking great. Take a look.

Phase 2 will begin as soon as the progress on phase one, supplies, and weather allow.

Remember that when it is your time to get a new roof, the contractors want you to know and request the following:

- Crews usually start between 7 and 8 am.
- Please keep driveways clear, make sure vehicles that you will need access to are removed from the garage and parked curbside. We will need the room for our trucks/ dump trailers.
- Remove all valuable items from the perimeter of the home. i.e., lawn furniture, grills, decorative lawn ornaments, potted plants, etc. This will reduce potential damage from falling debris
- Remove valuables from floating shelves (any items that are not secured to the wall may fall from the vibrations of the hammering during install)
- Tear off may cause debris to fall into the attic, please make sure to cover valuables.
- Their crews will run magnetic rollers each day.

If you have any questions regarding the work on the roofs and gutters, please contact:

C'Koh Andrew Knox Services (765) 413-6226



**Board Members:** 

Brad Klopfenstein, President Tom Marten, Jr. John Waddell Matt Vail Courtney Galyan



## IN THIS EDITION:

New Roofs on the Loop -Update

New Feature: "Loopy Pets"

Summer Concert at the Gazebo

Arts For Lawrence Cultural Campus Grand Opening

Behind the Scenes -Merici Village

**Upcoming Events** 





The latest feature of "All Things Loopy" is the "Loopy Pets!" section. Each quarter, a cherished, Loopy Pet will be featured. We know that the Loop is a perfect place to walk your favorite dog, cat, or llama. Please email Sheila Sego at sheilasego@gmail.com to schedule your pet photo shoot, so your gerbil (or any pet) can be featured here in the Fall.

## SUMMER CONCERT IN THE GAZEBO

The annual Summer Concert, hosted by Brad Klopfenstein and Sheila Sego, was a hit. Thank you to all who attended and Donated. The Members of the band, The Late Shift, loved performing in our historic gazebo. Look forward to more music in the Loop.



## **Arts** for Lawrence Connecting arts & community to inspire everyone every day.

In partnership with the City of Lawrence, Arts for Lawrence hosted a Grand Opening Weekend for the Fort Ben Cultural Campus on June 18th, 19th, and 20th. The campus features a newly-renovated historic Theater, a Visual Arts Center, an Artist Walk, a History Walk, and an Amphitheater, all surrounded by stunning public art displays and green spaces. Theatre, dance, poetry, visual arts, music, comedy, and much more were featured. The weekend also served as the kickoff to opening the world's first, permanent set of Musical Swings by Daily Tous les Jours – right here in Lawrence, Indiana!





### **Upcoming Events:**

**Every Wednesday:** Chamber Cruise In

## Fridays at the Fort (Arts for Lawrence)

June 18 - Indianapolis Jazz Orchestra July 2 - Mississippi Raglips and the Riverdogs July 16 - Queen Delphine and The Crown Jewels July 30 - Heartstone Crossing August 13 - Teresa Reynolds August 27 - 38th Infantry Division Band

July 31 - Fat Man Mile Run at the Loop

October 2 - Indy Half Marathon

**October 9** - Outrun the Sun - Fun run raising money for Melanoma

#### Announcements:

- If you hear of a neighbor who does not receive emails from the HOA, please let Brad know. He will get them added to the Loopy List.
- 2. Remember to slow down in our back drive and on Lawton Loop East and West. Children and adults are walking, riding bikes, working, and playing there.



#### **Contacts:** President: Brad Klopfenstein -Brad@GreaterLawrenceChamber.org

Newsletter: Sheila Sego sheilasego@gmail.com Behind the Scenes: Get to know The Village of Merici Nerici Villagé A

Links: <u>Village of Merici - Website Videos Donate</u>

## What is the Village of Merici?

The Village of Merici (VOM) is your neighborhood nonprofit, providing services and housing to adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities. Our focus is defined in three main categories – direct support services, independent housing opportunities, and programs which enhance quality of life. Gaining skills for self-advocacy, employment, and affordable housing are among the most important factors in a person's sense of independence and self-fulfillment.

Since opening in 2014, the Village has grown tremendously. The staff currently provides direct services to approximately eighty individuals throughout the Indianapolis community including the twenty-three adults living at Merici Village Apartments.

With over two hundred individuals on our current waiting list, the Village of Merici is expanding with two additional locations in the works. The first location is on the Loop, literally two doors down. Renovation will begin within the next several months, transforming the old historic building into thirty-eight new apartments.

The Village of Merici has partnered with Old Town Companies on a new integrated community project currently underway in Carmel. This community will have apartments, townhomes, retail space, a farm-to-table restaurant, and many walkable features. Forty apartments within this larger building will be designated specifically for adults with disabilities, with oversight provided by VOM staff.

Not only is the Village of Merici filled with amazing people, as an organization, they are trendsetters, always looking for ways to make life better for the individuals we support. Having recently received the Community Connections for People With Disabilities Grant from the state (you may have seen Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch on our front porch presenting a large check), VOM is utilizing grant funds to create a cell phone app to address social isolation faced by many adults with disabilities. A second grant-funded project will pilot a unique transportation app in the Indianapolis area. VOM is focused on providing the tools needed for adults with disabilities to live independent, self-directed lives.

The Village of Merici invites you, our neighbors, to get to know us. Call to arrange a tour or schedule a time to meet.

HE VILLAGE

(317) 292-9408

## **Behind the Scenes Continued:** Get to know The Village of Merici

#### How Can I Get Involved?

There are lots of ways to learn more or become involved with the Village of Merici. You can share a talent, volunteer to drive, teach a class, make a new walking friend. The people we support may have unique challenges, but they love to meet new people, have friends, get out in the local community, and have fun.

If you would like to learn more about ways you can help or are interested in visiting, please give us a call.

We would love to get to know you.

#### **Fun Facts:**

Most of the individuals living at Merici Village Apartments are employed in the local community.

There has been a wedding held in the courtyard of Merici Village Apartments.

Our courtyard garden provides the people we support and coaches with vegetables and herbs spring through fall.



#### How Can Adults with Disabilities Afford an Apartment?

Merici Village Apartments were developed using Rental Housing Tax Credits that were awarded in 2012 to build affordable housing apartments specifically for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. A for-profit corporation comprised of Merchants Affordable Housing and Regions National Bank called Merici Village Apartments LP was formed to purchase the tax credits, providing the funds to develop the building on Lawton Loop and manage the apartments through the Rental Housing Tax Credit contract.

Village of Merici Inc. is the non-profit tenant support and Medicaid service provider for individuals living in the Merici Village Apartments as a well as a provider of services to others with disabilities in the greater Indianapolis area and surrounding counties. Initially, rents were set aside at the 30, 40, 50 and 60% AMI levels. AMI is an abbreviation for 'area median income,' this is a statistic by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for purposes of determining the eligibility of applicants for certain federal housing programs.

Two years later, Merici Village Apartments LP was the recipient of Project-Based Housing Choice Vouchers. The Housing Choice Voucher Program is the federal government's major program for assisting the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. Since many individuals with IDD are underemployed and are considered extremely low income, the Housing Choice Voucher Program allows them to receive additional subsidies to pay for housing. The Housing Choice Vouchers are directly attached to the partnership that owns the building. If the building would be sold, the new owner would have to apply for new vouchers.

## How Can I Donate to the Renovation of VOM's Second Building on Lawton Loop?



Recently, the Village of Merici was honored with a dollar-for-dollar match up to \$1 million dollars.

The Build the Village Campaign is currently underway which focuses on the renovation of the historic building on Lawton Loop and will provide thirty-eight, ADA compliant apartments. Given the current condition of this building, which has been vacant since being decommissioned in the early 90s, this campaign seeks to generate \$2 million needed to revitalize the building and transform the space into apartment living.

Please consider donating today to help us save this building and transform the lives of the individuals who will live there. To make your pledge or donation, <u>Click Here</u>.

