

BRVA Meeting/Election Brings Large Turnout

by Alan Hague

October 19 There were over 60 in attendance at the October Broad Ripple Village Association (BRVA) meeting. Coffee was provided by Suzanna Held from Hubbard & Cravens Coffee Co. and a wide variety of tasty snacks were provided by Scholars Inn Bakehouse.

2004 BRVA membership is up 50% over 2003. The 2005 membership drive starts in January. Postcard reminders should be mailed in December. Due primary to the successful blues fest and the Taste of Broad Ripple, the treasury has a balance of almost \$40,000.

The last Farmer's Market for 2004 will be October 30. This is the last year for the market in its current location in the parking lot of Lor Corp, across the street from McDonald's. The BRVA has two potential sites for the 2005 market. It is estimated that the final location will be decided in November. Many of the vendors at the market say that the Broad Ripple market is their favorite.

Officer Ben Hunter and Deputy Chief Benton presented the IPD report. The taxi lane issue has passed committee and is in the council for a vote. It is expected to pass. This will create a taxi only lane on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights after 8pm in the 800 block of Broad Ripple Avenue. This lane was developed to ease the congestion caused by taxi cabs on the avenue.

Middle Shift Field Lieutenant Terry Eden was seriously injured when he was struck by a mini-van while standing outside of his

marked police vehicle. Lt. Eden was securing a perimeter position on 71st Street during a manhunt for the National City Bank robbery suspects when the incident occurred. Injuries sustained include a broken arm, broken rib, fractures of the hip and pelvis, and torn muscle in the right leg. North District officers have been frequent visitors to Lt. Eden in the hospital and wish him the best as he recovers. Ben said cards and emails from citizens are welcomed. To contact Ben Hunter, see page two - Local Government.

Chief Benton stated that assaults, namely bar fights, are way up this year. He has no idea why. A plea was made to bar owners to contact IPD with any ideas.

The October meeting is the annual election of board members. Tonight there were nine spots open and nine candidates. Each candidate made a brief speech stating their background and why they want to be on the board. The candidates each made it clear that Broad Ripple is a very special place in Indianapolis. Some went so far as to say that "It is the only place to live." It is great to see such neighborhood spirit and such a high caliber of people added to our already strong board. This should make for an exciting year in the village.

The ballots were collected and all nine were voted in unanimously.

There was a discussion about a recent notification process that may have been improperly handled. Residents that should have been notified about an upcoming zoning hearing were not. While the Gazette is no substitution for legal notification, we did print the notice of the hearing in question in our local government section.



by Mark Rumreich

Moe and Johnny's is a popular neighborhood restaurant and bar that attracts a mostly young and professional crowd. It's a long-time favorite of nearby Butler University students. The Moe & Johnny's "complex" was originally composed of three separate buildings, built in 1922. What was originally Indianapolis's first Kroger store, eventually became the famous Bulldog Lounge of the eighties. It's now been completely remodeled



as Moe & Johnny's main bar room, with tall ceilings, picture windows, oak-framed booths, a big bar, televisions and pool tables. What was originally a Pure Gas Station garage is now the family dining room. It's filled with booths and memorabilia from the gas station era. The Cornerstone Coffeehouse was first a dry cleaner, and is filled with vintage decor. In addition to the three rooms, there's an abundance of sidewalk dining available during the warm months.

The character of Moe & Johnny's depends on which room you're in and when you go. By day, it's a coffee house and family-oriented restaurant. After dark, it's a packed social hub with live local music on weekends.

Moe & Johnny's has a vast menu of appetizers, soups, salads, sandwiches and dinner entrees. It's one of those menus where you have a hard time deciding between all the appetizing choices. There's a kids menu too.

Beer-wise, there are nine beers on tap including Guinness, Bass, Sierra Nevada and Newcastle. There's a great selection of bottled beers too.

The pizza menu describes the no-expense-spared wood-fire oven and the great things it does to pizza. Unfortunately, the pizza oven was using only natural gas for our visit. Pizzas all have a thin crust and are available in 10 and 14-inch

Moe & Johnny's
5830 N. College Avenue
255-6376

Restaurant: 7AM-11PM daily
Bar: Mon-Fri 4PM-3AM
Sat 11AM-3AM
Sun 11AM-midnight

sizes. Toppings include the usual favorites as well as chicken, artichoke hearts, roasted red peppers, spinach, carrots (!) and sundried tomatoes. You can choose from six different kinds of cheese. There are five signature pizzas, including

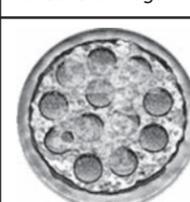
BBQ chicken with cheddar, red onion and pineapple, Philly Style with sautéed shredded beef, caramelized onions and peppers, and Greek.

We ordered a pepperoni & sausage, and a Greek pizza. The Greek comes with basil pesto instead of tomato sauce, feta & Parmesan cheeses instead of mozzarella, green olives, artichoke hearts, roasted red peppers and red onions.

About fifteen minutes later, our pizzas were brought to the table. The pepperoni and sausage pie had spicy pepperoni, lots of gooey cheese and sparse sauce. I found the small sausage chunks to be exceptionally bland. In spite of being pre-made, the crust was nice and crispy. The Greek pizza had lots of potential. It looked great; it was loaded with huge olives, feta, roasted red peppers and other colorful toppings. The problem was the dry crust. Even though the pizza wasn't overcooked, the crust was dried out. Without a protective layer of uniformly applied sauce and mozzarella, it was bound to happen. This could be a great pizza if the dry crust problem were solved.

To me, the most impressive thing about Moe & Johnny's was the variety of atmosphere. Moe & Johnny's provides a great place to unwind, socialize and dine, no matter what your mood or the time of day.

Mark Rumreich has been vigilantly surveying the pizza scene in the Indianapolis area for over two decades. He is an avid home brewer, has written for several magazines, and is the author of the Car Stereo Cookbook.



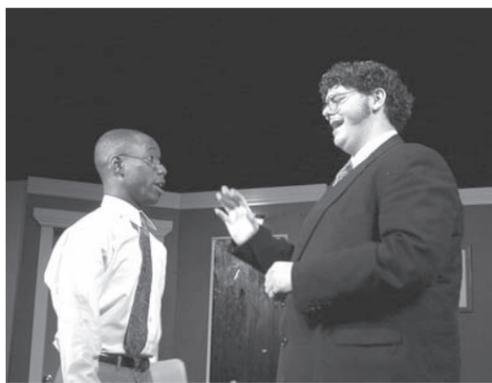
Want your pizza to be reviewed by The Pizza Scene?
Add a new pizza since your last review?
Did our review overlook your specialty pizza?

Contact the Gazette 508-6634

Random Ripplings

Andy Jacobs, Jr. (right) recalled fascinating stories of his life in politics on the set of "The Best Man" at Broad Ripple High School. The play by Gore Vidal explores the effects of dirty politics on two presidential candidates.

Below left, President Hockstader, Zachary Rotella (right) reassures candidate Cantwell, Milton Britton, Jr., that he can win the election in the BRHS Theatre Magnet Fall Play - The Best Man.



Crossword solution

puzzle on Page Five

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