

NUVO



I ♥ my 'hood

Indy's great neighborhoods

Welcome to our first guide to neighborhoods. You'll first encounter Tom Alvarez's survey of downtown neighborhoods. If it had been up to Tom, he would have taken twice as much space so he could include neighborhoods like Windsor Park and Holy Cross, but we told him he could get to those in our next year. Lori Lovely stretched out across the city and beyond for her "10

Great Neighborhoods" feature, and we know there are plenty more to look at in future editions.

You helped, too. We asked for your neighborhood testimonials and you delivered. Some we include in the individual features, some we include near the end of this product. We know you'll want to contribute more ideas, so please do so at ilovemyhood@nuvo.net.



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I ♥ Little Flower

www.littleflowerneighborhood.com



Photo by Giles Clement

For the past three years, Morris Schefcik has served as the president of the Little Flower Neighborhood Association. Originally from Denver, Schefcik has lived in Little Flower since 1999, working out of his home. As president of the association, he focuses on building assets in the neighborhood, as well as zoning issues.

NUVO: What do you like about Little Flower?

MS: Its affordability. When I moved to Indianapolis, I wanted a home built before WWII — something brick, with a front porch — a neighborhood with mature trees and sidewalks. My decision was between Broad Ripple and Little Flower, but Little Flower is definitely more affordable. It's the same neighborhood minus the high prices and nightlife.

NUVO: What changes have you seen in the neighborhood?

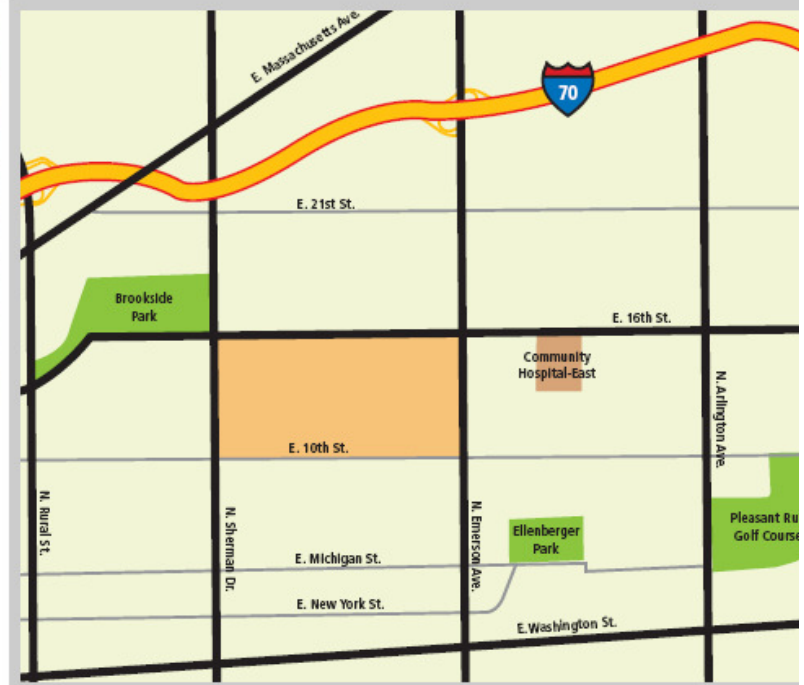
MS: People are drawn to homes with character. Younger people are moving in: Broad Ripple types — singles, couples, families, gay, lesbian. Because there are younger people here now, there are more people outside: jogging, walking ... There's more activity in the neighborhood.

NUVO: What are some of its stand-out features?

MS: Sidewalks! And the people. They're very interested in making Little Flower beautiful. We get a great response to the tree initiative to re-establish this lost asset. The association applied for a grant to plant trees two times a year. IPL gives trees to Keep Indianapolis Beautiful; we plant them in people's yards, but the city owns and maintains them. So far, we've planted 263 trees. Our goal is 750-800.

NUVO: What most attracted you to the area?

MS: It's its own little town. It's not a tract development; there's an eclectic collection of homes. The last ones were built in the late '70s or early '80s, so there's a lot of diversity. There were lots of different builders.



BOUNDARIES:

16th Street to the north, 10th Street to the south, Emerson Avenue to the east and Sherman Drive to the west.

HISTORY:

Little Flower developed in the 1920s. The historic Eastside neighborhood features Arts & Crafts bungalows and Tudor Revival-style homes, most with a large front porch. Many were built around St. Therese, the Little Flower Catholic Church and school established in 1925. Minutes away from downtown, Little Flower is an older, family-centric neighborhood with mature trees.

SCHOOL SYSTEM:

Indianapolis Public Schools

BUS ROUTE: 10 11

Home prices:

\$60,000 to \$155,000
(note: foreclosures account for the low end of the range)

I love my 'hood:

Crossing 10th Street into my neighborhood, differences are readily apparent. While our homes mostly date to WWI owners take pride in maintaining the houses and yards. As older owners sell to younger singles and couples seeking a quiet neighborhood that still offer affordable mortgages, Little Flower has become a blended neighborhood of old and young. Yet dogs (on leashes of course) outnumber children and neighbors stop to chat and wave as we walk or drive by. In a nutshell, we continue to shovel our sidewalks, water our lawn and walk our dogs as the city grows and changes around us. So if I could just get my mailman to stop walking through the flowers and have my I-70 exit open again it would be the perfect place to live.

—Tina Icenoglu