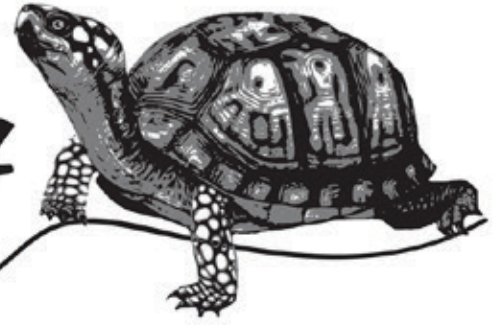


The Optimist



INDIANHEAD LEHIGH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Nene Fest 2016

A Festival for Neighbors by Neighbors
April 30 • 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. • Optimist Park

From heritage days and events in parks to art extravaganzas and downtown get-downs, Tallahassee has no dearth of regular festivals. However, there's nothing quite like the neighborly and down-to-earth Nene Fest, sponsored by the Indianhead/Lehigh Neighborhood Association.

Kat Milla



Join your neighbors and friends at Nene Fest 2016 on Saturday, April 30, from 3:00 to 9:00 p.m., at Optimist Park. You'll experience an exciting, family-friendly event that includes music, food, art, crafts, kids' activities, and a show that features a live band, original script, and giant puppets. Where else can you listen to the on-stage warbling of your musical neighbors, laugh at the antics of your neighbors' kids, and behave like a kid yourself as you help with crafts and puppet shows? And, of course, we'll be selling tee-shirts, posters, and water bottles with this year's new Nene Fest logo. What else could you want for a spectacular Saturday? We hope you will attend!

But wait! From the 5K and Fun Run early in the morning (see pp. 15-16) to the last strains of music in the evening—and the subsequent clean-up, Nene Fest is a neighborhood effort. This means that everyone is welcome to chip in to make the event a success. We can't wait to see you at Nene Fest 2016, but if you would like to share some hours and elbow grease, see page 2 for the list of volunteer opportunities.



Kat Milla

In This Issue

- Nene Fest and 5K Run
- Lafayette Center Development
- Old Spanish Trail Centennial
- Living with Cheeky Raccoons
- TNR for Community Cats
- Sustainable Indianhead/Lehigh
- Hartsfield Elementary Updates
- IHLNA Real Estate Trends

SPRING/SUMMER CALENDAR

2nd Sunday of the month

Potluck in the Park, Optimist Park, 6:00 p.m. Bring a potluck dish to share, your own utensils, and (optional) a chair or blanket.

Saturday, April 16

Neighborhood Yard Sale, Optimist Park, 8:00 a.m.–noon

Saturday, April 30

3rd Annual Nene Fest 5K & Fun Run, Optimist Park, 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, April 30

8th Annual Nene Fest, Optimist Park, 3:00–9:00 p.m.

Monday, July 4

Bike Parade, Optimist Park, 9:00 a.m.

We Need Your Help With Nene Fest!

Here's how you can make the event a success.

By Daphne Holden

SIDE SALADS AND BREAD. Donate side salads with about twenty portions or a couple of loaves of bread. Contact Wendy at yashimalu@hotmail.com.

DESSERTS. Yum! Yum! We need a dozen or more single-servings of sweet treats to compliment dinner. Contact Claudia Sperber claudiasperber@gmail.com.

SERVERS. Are you willing to help serve food? One-hour shifts are available from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Contact Wendy at yashimalu@hotmail.com.

PAPER GOODS COORDINATOR. We need someone to organize the existing inventory, purchase additional supplies, and bring everything to the festival. Contact Wendy at yashimalu@hotmail.com.

CLEAN UP. Can you help by cleaning up the food at about 8:00 p.m. or whenever it runs out? Contact Wendy at yashimalu@hotmail.com.

MUSIC. If you're a neighborhood musician and would like to perform, contact Richard at bertram63@gmail.com. Slots fill quickly, so don't wait! We encourage new musicians as well as seasoned professionals. Contact Richard if you're interested in MC'ing the stage, even for a one-hour shift.

PUPPET SHOW. If you'd like to take part in the Nene Fest Puppet Show—playing music, singing, creating props and puppets, wearing a giant puppet, directing, or writing a script)—contact Doug at dpschrock@gmail.com.

ACTIVITIES. If you have an idea for an activity for kids or adults, please make it happen! This Fest depends on community participation to make it great. Bring on your new ideas and energy. If you need to solicit help for your idea, you want to be on a schedule, or you need space in a booth, contact Daphne at daphne.holden@comcast.net.

ART, CRAFT, AND BUSINESS SHOWCASE. Sell your handmade art, crafts, or food (no single servings because it will compete with the Fest's food) or let others know about your business. You must provide your own table or booth and materials. Contact Kevin at kevin.hattaway@comcast.net.

STAGE SET-UP. Come to the park the morning of the festival and help out. We need people with ladders and trucks. Contact Grant at grant.gelhardt@gmail.com if you can help.

BREAK DOWN CREW. If you're willing to stay after the Fest ends to break down stages and pick up trash and recycling, contact Grant at grant.gelhardt@gmail.com.

If you plan to purchase dinner, please bring your own utensils and cup so we can reduce waste!

Sharon Kant-Rauch, Realtor (850) 524-3033
rauchsh@aol.com office: (850) 877-2121



Terry Anne Kant, Broker (850) 567-3033
terrykant@aol.com office: (850) 877-2121



NEWS & Notes

Honor a Vet

By David Riddle

Friends and Neighbors, let's send a veteran to Washington! At its January meeting, the IHLNA board agreed to support an initiative to sponsor an Honor Flight for a World War II veteran in our area. Our neighborhood association is accepting donations to enable someone who served in the armed forces in WWII, or any veteran with a terminal illness, to visit the national memorial that honors the heroes of the "Greatest Generation."

Since 2005, the Honor Flight Network has allowed nearly 100,000 veterans to visit military monuments in Washington, D.C. Each flight costs

Educational Technology Clearinghouse, University of South Florida



Florida Pillar at the WWII Memorial in Washington, D.C.

\$700, but the program is free for participants, who are escorted by guardians. We will work with Honor Flight Tallahassee, a local affiliate established in 2012 that offers the experience for WWII personnel in north Florida and south Georgia. The program eventually will transition to vets who served in the Korean War, Vietnam War, and other subsequent conflicts.

To support this meaningful project, send your donation to IHLNA Treasurer Patty Ceci Sharp, 2002 Wahalaw Nene. Be sure to note that you are contributing to our Honor Flight. If you have questions

or want more information about the program, contact me at derbubba@embarqmail.com.

Take a Holiday Spin

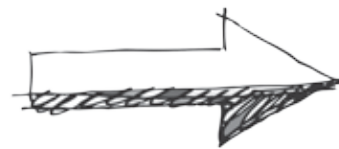
Celebrate the summer holiday with friends and neighbors at IHLNA's tenth annual Fourth of July Bike Parade. We'll meet at the Optimist Park clubhouse at 9:00 a.m. to decorate bikes (or arrive already adorned), then take a leisurely ride through the neighborhood. Our parade will return to the clubhouse for a pot-luck brunch and play time on a water slide. The IHLNA association will provide decorations, drinks, and bagels; participants provide the bikes, covered dish items, and fun. If you're not a cyclist, come as a spectator and simply hang out with friends. This event is for little kids, big kids, and everyone in between!

Come One, Come All!
10th Annual 4th of
July Bike Parade!
Meet at Optimist
Park, 9:00 a.m.



The
Optimist — SPRING 2016

GARAGE SALE



One Man's Junk...

Clean out those closets, and clear out that stuff! Bring it to the annual Neighborhood Yard Sale at Optimist Park on Saturday, April 16. The neighborly bargaining extends from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Participation is free for current IHLNA members and \$10 for non-members. The association will place an ad in the *Tallahassee Democrat* and a notice on Craigslist, and attendance is always robust. Here's your chance to get rid of that outgrown coat, vintage beer stein, or spare weed whacker.

Lafayette Center Development— An Issue That Deserves Your Attention

By Ramona Abernathy-Paine

As a concerned neighbor, I attended Tallahassee City Commission meetings in November and December because of proposed development on Lafayette Street, behind the Parkway Center, east of The Moon. From what I learned during these and other meetings, and by exploring the talgov.com website, I've assembled this summary for Indianhead/Lehigh residents, who should be aware of this project in progress.

Last fall, the Commission was reviewing a Planned Unit Development (PUD) for 1235 E. Lafayette Street. A PUD is a special zoning variance for an identified area that allows a developer to build in ways that the surrounding zoning otherwise would not permit. At Commission meetings on November 24 and December 9, concerned neighbors and business owners pointed out irregularities with the PUD application. They also raised numerous objections to the planned development. However, on December 9, commissioners voted to allow this PUD to go forward, with the provision that the developer would work with The Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department to fix irregularities in the application and make adjustments to the plans as required.

The Commission approved a PUD for the 5 acres immediately east of The Moon. Called Lafayette Center, the proposed project includes the construction of three buildings:

- A four-story apartment with offices and/or retail space on the first floor and seventy to eighty apartments on the upper floors;
- A four-story co-op housing facility for senior citizens; and
- A three-story "climate control [sic] storage facility"—i.e., self-storage mini-warehouses.

The two residential units would have been allowed under the existing zoning. The PUD was approved solely to allow building the mini-warehouses.

Several of the application irregularities have been corrected by the developer or allowed to stand by the Planning Department. The Department still is working with

the developer on issues related to driveways and access onto and within the property. Drawings submitted with the application show three driveways onto Lafayette Street. Currently, there are only two driveways onto Lafayette Street, so the developer will need another "curb cut" to build the third driveway. However, Lafayette Street is a county road (even though the land is in the city), and Leon County has told the developer that additional curb cuts will not be allowed on the street for five years, so the third driveway cannot be built.

The developer also must work with Leon County regarding an existing driveway onto Magnolia Drive, between Super Lube and the adjacent strip mall to the south. Developers want to enhance this drive to allow additional access into the Lafayette Center. However, it feeds into Magnolia in the middle of a school zone that already has five or six other driveways for businesses. The developer has been directed to work with Leon County to resolve this additional snarl to an already perilous intersection.

As of the end of February, the project is held up because of the driveways. The Planning Department has requested changes to the PUD relating to these issues, but it's unclear what will happen from here. Susan Poplin is a senior planner with Tallahassee-Leon County Planning Department and has been reviewing this application. If you have questions or comments, contact Ms. Poplin at (850) 891-6446 or susan.poplin@talgov.com.

*Your Backyard
Birdfeeding Specialist!*

Birdfood • Birdfeeders
Birdbaths • Nesting Boxes
Binoculars • Nature Gifts



1505-2 Governor's Square Blvd, Tallahassee, FL
Mon-Sat: 10am to 6pm Sunday: 1pm to 5pm
850-576-0002 www.wbu.com/tallahassee

Old Spanish Trail Centennial— A Catalyst for Upgrading Old St. Augustine Road?

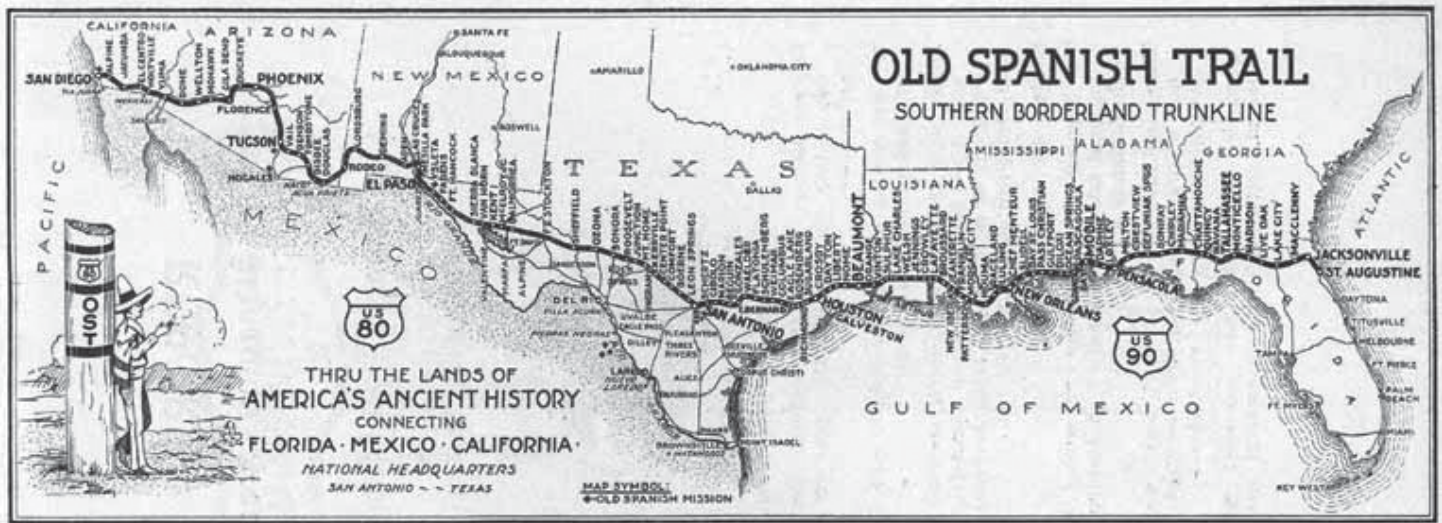
By Robert Burke

On December 20, 2015, the *Tallahassee Democrat* ran an article titled, “Plans in Works to Salute Old Spanish Trail.” A Texas resident wants to put the Old Spanish Trail (OST) back on the map via identification on highway signs and/or new pedestrian and biking trails along the entire route from San Diego to Saint Augustine.

If the city of Tallahassee plans to participate in the centennial celebration, it may be a catalyst for giving our treasured historic road some badly deserved help. In 1924, Congress authorized the construction of the first federal highway in Florida, to begin in Pensacola and following a trail first used by Indians and Franciscan missionaries to

is too fast, the road too narrow, and sidewalks generally are absent, leaving pedestrians to walk single file on an earthen path over gravel, tree roots, and rocks. In some places, there is no path at all, and people walk in the road. Rows of reflector stakes are a feeble reminder that deep cavernous culverts await you if you are forced off the road by a texting driver.

There is so much to say about the history of Old St. Augustine Road, the Apalachee, Spaniards, early settlers, and importance of the road in the growth of Tallahassee and other towns and cities in Florida. Old St. Augustine Road needs to be recognized for its unique and rich



Letterhead of stationary used by Harral Ayres in the 1930s. Image courtesy of www.oldspanishtrail.com/gallery.html

St. Augustine. This portion, a distance of 445 miles, was completed in 1826 and was added to other roadwork in the west totaling some 3,000 miles. A year date for the centennial is 2019—one hundred years after road workers first began.

Centennial events and efforts to memorialize the OST are underway, and Old St. Augustine Road deserves a starring role in the celebration. But as passionate as we are about our stretch of the highway, the canopy is broken in places, high tension power lines demand severe tree cutting, and trees are not nurtured or protected. Automobile traffic

heritage—I know just the place for an interpretive marker that would tell that story. The OST centennial may be the opportunity to bring about a thoughtful design process, combining efforts of the city and county, to address conservation issues of a mixed tree canopy, sidewalks for the increased number of pedestrians, and safety measures for cars. It could be a working example for all of our canopy roads, now and in the future. Contact city commissioners with your ideas and concerns about Old St. Augustine Road. For additional information: <http://www.oldspanishtrailcentennial.com/home.html>.

How to Live in Harmony with Cheeky Raccoons

By Sandy Beck

Dear Sandy, I need help relocating a family of raccoons from my property. These four marauders have come through my magnetized cat door since late July. They got in last night while I was sleeping and ransacked yet again. I'm not willing to close the cat door at night because my cat gets all freaky when confined. Please help. Ann

Most people love to watch birds, raccoons, and opossums, but they put their foot down when wild animals make themselves at home. Unfortunately, Ann's problem is not uncommon. A raccoon's usual territory is one to three square miles, but an abundant food source will draw more individuals to an area. After scoring an easy meal, they will return nightly—sometimes tearing screens or using pet doors to enter homes.

Raccoons are clever. When they see one raccoon caught in a live trap, others will likely steer clear. So, if it is a raccoon family, which is likely at this time of year, rounding up the entire group, one by one, may not be possible.

Separating mother and babies is not wise or humane. If you remove the mother, you seldom get all the little ones, and they probably will die. The mother also is teaching her kits how to forage for natural foods—insects, rodents, nuts, and fruits. Without her, they may be more dependent on pet food and garbage. Moreover, removing one raccoon (or family) will just open up territory for others to move in.

The law is clear about relocating nuisance wildlife to another private property without the permission of the property owner: it's illegal. Relocation to public



Raccoons are cute but cheeky and clever.
Photo: J. W. Callis

lands also is illegal. The best way to deal with nuisance wildlife is to remove the attractant. Feed kitty indoors and, if possible, keep her indoors too. There are many reasons relating to the safety and health of cats and wildlife for making our beloved cats indoor pets. Many, like Ann, feel that if their cat cannot go outside, she will go bonkers, but it is possible to make your outdoor cat a happy and safe indoor pet. Find out how at http://m.humanesociety.org/animals/cats/tips/bringing_outside_cat_indoors.html.

Following these suggestions and encouraging your neighbors to do the same should discourage the masked bandits from breaking and entering and enable you to live in harmony with your wild neighbors.

Sandy Beck serves as education director with the St. Francis Wildlife Association, www.stfrancis.org.

OFFICERS OF IHLNA

President: Grant Gelhardt
grant.gelhardt@gmail.com

Graphics: Charity Myers
thecreativepool@gmail.com

Nene Watch: Sylvia Smith
sylviasmith@comcast.net

Treasurer: Patty Ceci Sharp
cecisharp@embarqmail.com

Newsletter: Shelly Hatton
shellyhatton@gmail.com

Nene 5K: Jessica Kennett
jesskennett0079@yahoo.com

Co-Treasurer: Ashley Arrington
ashleyroberts10@hotmail.com

Newsletter: KC Smith
kcsmith614@hotmail.com

At-Large: Mary Louise Bachman
At-Large: Connie Bersok
At-Large: Daphne Holden
At-Large: Edward Reid
At-Large: Sandra Neidert

TNR: Coexisting With Community Cats

By Leslie Geller

“Free range” cats have coexisted with people for 10,000 years and still roam outside in most neighborhoods. Some are pets whose owners let (or put) them outside, but many are “community cats,” which may be feral or one-time pets that are stray, lost, or abandoned.

Community cats typically live in a colony—a group of related cats. The colony occupies and defends a specific territory where food (via a trashcan/dumpster or a person who feeds them) and shelter (beneath a porch, in an abandoned building) are available. Although sometimes seen by those who feed them, feral cats often are unnoticed by nearby residents. Stray cats usually are visible and may vocalize, and they may approach people in search of food or shelter. Stray cats also may join a colony or defend a territory of their own.

Given our climate, ample food sources (scavenged or supplied), and limited predators, Tallahassee provides ideal conditions for prolific breeding. A female cat can become pregnant as early as five months of age and have as many as five litters a year. The traditional animal control approach with feral cats—catching and killing—is costly and relatively ineffective. Cats reside in locations with shelter and a food source (intended or not); when they are removed, new cats move in, or survivors breed to capacity.

Cat overpopulation can be addressed more sustainably and humanely with “TNR” (Trap-Neuter-Return), a non-lethal way to reduce the number of feral or stray community cats and improve the quality of life for cats, wildlife, and people in an area. TNR involves a five-step strategy: humane trapping, spay or neuter surgery, rabies



← A “tipped” ear is the universal sign for a cat that has been spayed or neutered.

Image: FACE Animal Clinic

vaccination, surgically removing the tip of one ear (to indicate spay/neuter), and returning the cat to the area where it was trapped.

TNR has several benefits. The colony’s population stabilizes—no more unwanted litters of kittens, and the number of cats decreases over time. Community cats that are sterilized and have a reliable food source are less likely to engage in behaviors such as marking, fighting, and wildlife predation that can trigger frustration in people. A stable colony, which can be just two cats, discourages additional cats from moving into the sustaining habitat. Ideally, a colony also will have a dedicated caretaker who provides food and water and removes any newcomers for TNR (if feral) or adoption (if tame/socialized).

A new IHLNA neighbor since September, Leslie Geller was a TNR volunteer in Texas for eight years. For more information or TNR assistance, contact her at (512) 577-0223 or leslieageller@gmail.com.



COUPON

IHLNA residents only

\$40 lawn care or \$100 house pressure wash

Contact Anthony at

ACT II Services, LLC

850-688-0392

actiiservices@gmail.com

Ask about discount for referrals



Bee Friendly

By Shelly Hatton

Honeybees are not so different from us. They need a diet rich in protein, carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals. Without it, they become malnourished, weakened, and die easily. Like us, honeybees get viruses and diarrhea and can be hosts to dangerous mites such as the Varroa mite that deforms their wings and shortens their abdomens. Poisoning from pesticides can make honeybees violently ill, and like a child whose brain is damaged from ingesting too much lead, honeybees also can lose brain capacity, rendering them unable to navigate.



Honeybees will not sting unless they feel threatened. Wasps, especially hornets, have the bad temper. *Photo: Michele Hatton*

So, what's all the buzz about bees? And why should we care? Honeybees are responsible for pollinating one-third of our food crops. Without them, we no longer could grow cucumbers, squash, almonds, apples, lemons, avocados, cantaloupe, and many more fruits and vegetables. We would be hard-pressed to grow the grasses on which cattle feed. Only wind-pollinated crops such as corn and wheat would remain.

Colony collapse disorder, a condition where a stressed beehive will simply disappear, is a clear and present

danger. We are losing 40 percent of our honeybees due to a loss of habitat, insecticides, viruses (imported), and poor beehive management. It's a perfect storm—one that my father, who kept bees fifty years ago, never confronted. Our native wild bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, bats, and bumblebees, all of which also pollinate our food, aren't faring much better.

There are a few things you can do to support our neighborhood honeybees.

- **Plant flowers with different colors, shapes, and bloom times.** A “polyfloral” diet will ensure that bees are well-nourished and foraging on a variety of blossoms. Not all pollens and nectars are the same; some are packed with nutrients, others not. Last year, I had great success with two annuals—African Blue Basil and Anise Hyssop. Both bloomed from April through November and were a favorite with the bees.
- **Avoid pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, and anything containing neonicotinoids, which are banned in Europe.** These chemicals can be highly toxic. Foraging bees absorb pesticides through their exoskeleton or drink contaminated water and inevitably bring the noxious substance back to the hive. Look for ways to discourage pests without using chemicals.
- **Plant trees, bushes, and flowers native to North Florida.** These plants are adapted to droughts and pests, endemic to north Florida. Natives are often the best source of nectar and pollen for native pollinators.
- **Go wild.** Dedicate some of your grass to native blooming plants or wildflowers—food pantries for pollinators.
- **Join the city's mosquito “no spray” list.** There are safer ways to deal with neighborhood mosquitoes. Email or call to request this service: pourciaug@leoncountyfl.gov or (850) 606-1400.

www.DavidBubbaRiddle.com



Fun Honeybee Facts

By Shelly Hatton

Did you know that...

Honeybees flap their wings 200 times per second, making the infamous “buzz” sound that we hear.

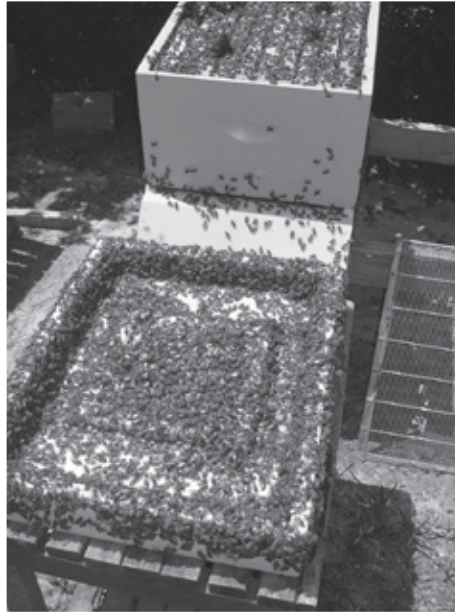
A single honeybee collects 1/12th of a teaspoon of honey in her lifetime.

Honeybees can forage up to a five mile radius from their home.

Honeybees keep the hive at around 92 degrees in the winter by pumping their wings and clustering for warmth. The cluster rotates so that colder bees on the fringes are moved toward the warmer center.

Beehives are over 99 percent female.

There are 4,000 species of bees in North America and 20,000 worldwide. Most are solitary animals and do not live in colonies like honeybees.



Each hive contain 20,000 to 60,000 bees. *Photo: Michael Callan*

Honeybees use the sun as a compass to navigate. Their GPS systems register the continuous movement and position of the sun.

When foraging bees find a food source (in Indianhead/Lehigh, this could be your spring flowers or your blooming magnolia tree), they fly back to the hive to share the news. Through a “waggle” dance, they share information about the quality of the nectar they found; the direction of the flower source; the distance to the flowers; and the most efficient route to take. Bees use vector calculus—with a brain the size of a sesame seed!

Worker bees have specific roles.

There are nursemaid bees to care for the babies, house-cleaning bees to keep the place tidy, attendant bees for the queen, and undertaker bees to remove dead siblings.

Soldier bees, which guard the hive, are beefier than the others and often head-butt people who are near the hive.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 5, 7:00 p.m. “Under the Radar... what made you buy and eat that? Hidden influences behind waste”—talk by Heidi Copeland, Leon County Extension Service, hosted at 1911 Wahalaw Court.

Every Thursday afternoon, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Rags2Bags: come sew reusable bags at The Sharing Tree; no skills or equipment needed.

Saturday, May 21. Star Metro Field Trip to the Farmer’s Market at Market Square.

Saturday, June 18, 9:30 a.m. Tour by Will Sheftall of the Leon County Extension building’s sustainable energy and water systems.



If you see a swarm of bees in your yard, contact neighborhood beekeeper Michael Callan (michaelcallan1c@gmail.com), who will give them a good home. *Photo: Michael Callan*

Mentoring at Hartsfield Elementary

By Sharon Kant-Rauch

Serbian refugees. ISIS. Ebola. Floods, earthquakes, tornadoes. In the face of so much human suffering, I often feel helpless.

But I could mentor one child, for one hour, once a week. That's what I finally decided to do last September when I signed up to be a mentor at Hartsfield Elementary School.

The day I met my second-grade mentee I was nervous. Would the kid be responsive? Would I be a good enough teacher? Would I enjoy it?

But the connection was immediate. His eyes got big and he stiffened in excitement when the teacher said I had arrived. He skipped on the way to the library and easily answered all my getting-to-know-you questions. Every Thursday morning after that, we read books together to improve his reading skills and comprehension.

He doesn't do this sitting still. He often stands beside me, bouncing up and down slightly on his feet. He interjects his thoughts on whatever story we're reading, making predictions, sometimes getting silly and talking in a funny voice.

But he's tenacious. Looking for books one day, he picked out a chapter book that was a level 3.0. That was above where he was reading. I tried to get him to pick out something a little simpler, but he was adamant that he wanted to read the Magic Tree House book, *Sunset of the Sabertooth*. But after he finished the book, mostly on his own, he didn't pass the test on it.



Kant-Rauch and her mentee work on reading skills and comprehension. Photo: Mary Jo Peltier

I was ready to pick out a simpler book for our next try. But no, he wanted to re-read the Sabertooth book. After reading a chapter one day, he quipped, "We're going to get this bad-boy!"

Recently when I showed up at the school, he was rehearsing for a play with a bunch of other students in the cafeteria. He spotted me the minute I walked in. With an impish grin, he slowly raised his hand and waved. Afterward, he was still all smiles, doing his little bouncy thing in front me. He breathlessly told me he recently had been bumped up to the 3.0 level.

My mentoring commitment no longer is a duty, my attempt to do my share. It's the highlight of my week.

Being a mentor at Hartsfield Elementary requires a ten-to twelve-week commitment, a one-time training, and a criminal background check. Volunteers are needed in a number of other capacities. For more information, contact Judi McDowell at 488-7322 or mcdowellj@leonschools.net.

A New Student's View of Hartsfield

By Jazmin, kindergarten

"Hartsfield is a good school. I like lunch the best because it is free, and my mom doesn't have to get it ready. The friends there are great, and some want to marry me. Ms. Duclos is a loving teacher and is teaching us about animals, and I like the cat the best. Music is fun, and we play games. In art, we draw and create things. In PE, coach sometimes lets us play on the playground."

A Tribute to Cindy Roy

This year, Hartsfield will say goodbye to one of its most enduring teachers. Cindy Roy's relationship with the school and the Indianhead/Lehigh neighborhood spans decades. As a student, parent, and educator at the school, she leaves a long and memorable legacy. We asked her colleagues to share some of their recollections about Ms. Roy.

"I joke about this, but I believe we should rename the school 'Cynthia Roy' because she has a very long history with Hartsfield. She was a student here and helped plant many of the trees around campus; she can tell you details about each one. She remembers the first and last names of her former students and coworkers and even the names of their parents. She is really going to be missed around campus. I love you Mama Roy!"

Ms. Vernisha Howard

"When a person is the best at what they do, being in their presence is simply awe inspiring. Ms. Roy is that person by being a consummate teacher and human being. I've had the honor of knowing her for eighteen years, and I've seen her in good times and difficult times. She always remains the steady keel in her classroom and the school community."

Ms. Judi McDowell

"One of my favorite memories is an early one. Ray King had been appointed principal, and Cindy was teaching at Oak Ridge. In the true Indianhead fashion, she showed up in shorts and a t-shirt to drop off a resume, hoping finally to teach at her childrens' school. Much to Ray's credit, he gave her the spot, and she has had Hartsfield in her heart ever since."

Ms. Nancy Oakley

"Cindy's boundless energy and enthusiasm have been an inspiration to me throughout my teaching career. She brings laughter when you need it and support at the drop of a hat. She is one of the strongest women I know, and I am proud to call her my friend!"

Ms. Jane McKinney

"Cindy offers advice, guidance, and a shoulder to lean on when you need it. Cindy is a master whose great works of art are the students she has taught!"

Ms. Candace Duclos



Photo: Vernisha Howard

"I have known Ms. Roy for more than fifteen years, and she hasn't changed a bit. I love the fact that she is a straightforward, no holds barred type of person. She is very passionate about children, and she loves what she does. She is a great listener and sounding board for others. She is never too busy to chat about a problem that one might have. Cindy is kind, witty, and an all-around great person to have on your team!"

Ms. Letashia Betsey

Upcoming at Hartsfield Come One, Come All!

PTO Potluck Family Night

Tuesday, April 12

National Bike to School day

Wednesday, May 4

Cultural Fair

Tuesday, May 10

Kindergarten Orientation

Wednesday, May 11

Real Estate Trends for Indianhead/Lehigh

By Kevin Hattaway

It's been an interesting ride through the recovery in real estate in Tallahassee. The Indianhead/Lehigh neighborhood is no different. The information shared in this article is based on data from the Tallahassee Board of REALTORS® Multiple Listing Service.



2013

Twenty-seven homes sold ranging from \$35,000 to \$260,000, with a total sales volume of \$3,218,088. The average sales price was \$119,188. Home sizes ranged from 933 to 3,000 with an average of 1,411 square feet of heated and cooled living space. Almost half of 2013 transactions were cash sales. Five sales were short sales or foreclosures. In a short sale, an owner's lender agrees to take less than is owed to them to facilitate the sale of the property for someone in a distressed situation. A short sale prevents the lender from having to go through the aggravation and expense of a formal foreclosure.

2014

Forty-one homes sold ranging from \$33,500 to \$275,000, with a total sales volume of \$4,460,300. The average sales price was \$134,238. Home sizes ranged from 816 to 3,240 with an average of 1,552 square feet of heated and cooled living space. Twenty percent of 2014 transactions were cash sales. Eight sales were short sales or foreclosures.

2015

Thirty-one homes sold ranging from \$50,000 to \$215,000, with a total sales volume of \$5,503,740. The average sales price was \$143,881. Home sizes ranged from 888 to 2,418 with an average of 1,513 square feet of heated and cooled living space. Thirty percent of 2015 transactions were cash sales. Four sales were foreclosures, and there were no short sales.

2016

Three homes have sold so far this year ranging from \$45,500 to \$200,000. As of March 2, there were eleven active listings and twelve under contract waiting to close. Of these, the prices range from \$54,000 to \$275,000.

There was one flip sale in 2013 and in 2014 and four in 2015. In a flip sale, a property is bought, remodeled, and immediately put back on the market for resale.

Please contact me at kevin@kevinhattaway.com if you have questions about this article or real estate in general.



**Kevin
Hattaway**

850-980-2134

www.KEVINHATTAWAY.COM
KEVIN@KEVINHATTAWAY.COM



Changing Times
Realty Company

Kevin Hattaway Neighborhood Listings:

1329 Lola Drive, 1,083 Square Ft, 3/1.5, \$85,000
Under Contract

1409 Lola Drive, 1,450 Square FT, 3/2, \$100,000
Available

1548 Heechee Nene, 1,012 Square Ft, 3/1, \$130,000
Under Contract

1518 Chowkeebbin Nene, 1,096 Square Ft, 2/1, \$130,000
Available

More to come...contact me if you want to know about them!

SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES!



Yoga for Every Body!

Daily Classes • All Levels • Great Teachers

namaste-tallahassee.com
find us on facebook

1369 E. Lafayette Street
(850) 556-2625



ROSANNE
Wood
for School Board
Strong for Our Children

A creative problem solver with
proven leadership in Leon County Schools

I'm asking for
YOUR VOTE
in the
Tuesday,
AUGUST 30th
primary.

Vote for Rosanne!

AUGUST 2016						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

For further information, please go to RWood.net

Paid by Rosanne Wood for Leon County School Board, District 2

—UNCLE—
MADDIO'S
PIZZA

**WEEKLY
ACTIVITIES**

MAHAN LOCATION:

3122 Mahan Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32308 | (850) 765-1681 | [f /UncleMaddiosMahan](#)

PARKWAY LOCATION:

1435 E Lafayette St., Tallahassee, Florida 32301 | (850) 765-2875 | [f /UncleMaddiosApalachee](#)

MONDAY

MADDIO MONDAY
Every Monday
9" 3-topping pizza & drink
\$7.99

Available at both Mahan & Parkway locations

TUESDAY

PARKWAY KIDS NIGHT
5:30PM - 7:30PM
FACE PAINTING OR
BALLOON ARTIST

WEDNESDAY

MAHAN KIDS NIGHT
5:30PM - 7:30PM
FACE PAINTING

SATURDAY

FREE KIDS ART CAMP
11:00AM - 2:00PM

Available at both Mahan & Parkway locations

Your neighborhood



BURGERS & FRIES
So good it'll make your head spin!™

1395 E. Lafayette Street
(850) 878-2020

Mon-Sat: 11am-9pm
Sunday: 11am-6pm

HAPPY HOSTA

A Florida Friendly Yard Service

850.566.4149

www.happyhosta.com

your gardening help is here!
weeding, mulching, pruning, feeding
flower beds (annuals & perennials)
shrubs & ornamental trees

SUPPORT OUR NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESSES!

Piano Lessons
for beginners and intermediate players
with TOMOKO BALDRIDGE

(850) 559-7076

tomokorolfer@gmail.com



 **BE THE SOLUTION, INC.**  *Fixing pet overpopulation from the start.*
SPAY & NEUTER TODAY

The Fix Thrift Shop
Supporting Be The Solution, Inc.
1210 Capital Circle S.E. Unit B
850-298-1129
www.bethesolution.us

 Like us on Facebook

Donate Today!
Drop off your gently used donations
during store hours or call us at 850-298-1129
to schedule a pickup.

Store Hours:
Tuesday-Friday 11-5
Saturday 10-5

All proceeds benefit spay and neuter.

interior exterior artistic

JOYCE'S PAINTING

joycespainting@gmail.com

850-544-2521



Ardisia Slayers at Work!

By Judy Rainbrook

Join us on April 9 and May 14, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., as we remove coral ardisia plants in the Greenway and expand the cleared area. Some Slayers have requested informal weekday sessions. Interested individuals should post an invitation with day and time on the IHLNA Facebook. The bins for ardisia berries will remain at Koucky and Optimist parks for anyone who wants to collect berries.

Here is the drill for total removal: 1) pick and bag the berries; 2) pull up baby ardisia plants underneath the mother plant; and 3) use a shovel to loosen the dirt around the mother plant and pull it up. Cut off the roots six inches above the base and bag them as well. Tops can be left on the ground. However, simply removing the berries and putting them in the trash will prevent next year's crop. Cutting or breaking the mother plant off at the base also will slow down reproduction. Every bit slows the spread of this pernicious plant.

Here's some good news from Lake Jackson Indian Mound Park, where an AmeriCorps volunteer works full-time on coral ardisia removal. In areas where the plant has been removed, native species bounced back in a year with no other help. The park is having a wonderful trillium season right now.

Third Annual Nene Fest 5K and Fun Run

April 30, 2016 8:00 a.m. Optimist Park

Join neighbors and friends for a morning of healthful activity and camaraderie!

by Jessica Kennett, Charity Myers,
and Marie-Claire Leman

Three years ago, the 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run were added to the Nene Fest line-up with several goals in mind: to encourage neighborhood and community involvement, promote health and wellness, and support and connect with our neighborhood school, Hartsfield Elementary. Every year, we have exceeded our expectations because of the involvement of awesome neighbors, volunteers, participants, and sponsors and donors!

This year, money raised by the race event will help fund new playground structures at Hartsfield. We thank you all for supporting our school and our community!



Participants of the 2015 Fun Run line up in anticipation of the start of the race.

Here's how you can participate:

- **Sign up to run or walk.** Complete the race registration form on the back page of *The Optimist* or register online at eventbrite.com.
- **Volunteer.** Last year's races were hugely successful thanks to the nearly fifty volunteers who worked to ensure an exciting, safe, and smooth event. If you would like to volunteer, contact Marie-Claire Leman at marieclaireleman@gmail.com or (850) 728-7514.
- **Become a sponsor.** Consider making a personal or business contribution. Contact Marie-Claire Leman for details.
- **Questions and suggestions.** If you need information or have comments about the races, contact Jessica Kennett at jesskennett0079@yahoo.com or 850-241-3283.
- **Check out the IHLNA Facebook page.** Go to facebook.com/nene5k for additional information.



2015 runners of the 5K begin the race near Optimist Park.

(still) WANTED
GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Are you a GRAPHIC DESIGNER,
or do you possess design skills?

Would you like to contribute to your
neighborhood and join the
The Optimist newsletter team?

Please contact Charity for more information.
(thecreativepool@gmail.com)



Benefiting Hartsfield Elementary

APRIL 30, 2016
OPTIMIST PARK,
East Indianhead Drive
Tallahassee

6:45-8:00 a.m. Registration

8:00 a.m. 5K Race

9:00 a.m. Fun Run

ENTRY FEE:

Before 4/27/2016

\$15.00

\$10 (12 and under)

\$5 (Hartsfield student)

Day of Race

\$20.00

\$15 (12 and under)

\$5 (Hartsfield student)

Reusable bag included in price to first 150 registrants.

Registration: www.eventbrite.com OR Mail completed form with payment to:



Nene Fest 5K/Fun Run

c/o Jessica Kennett

2017 Chowkeebin Nene

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Not a runner but
still want to show
support?
Circle "Donation"
below—we welcome
any amount.

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Gender (circle): Male Female Age on 4/30: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Entering (circle): **5K** **Fun Run** **Donation**

Please make checks payable to IHLNA (Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood Association)

Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ **Donation Amount \$** _____

WAIVER: I know that participating in running activities is a potentially hazardous activity. I should not enter and run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to my ability to safely complete the run. I assume all risks associated with running in this race including, but not limited to, falls, contact with other participants, the effects of weather (excessive heat and/or humidity), traffic and the conditions of the road, all such risks being known and appreciated by me. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of you accepting my application, I for myself and anyone entitled to act on my behalf waive and release the Race Director, Gulf Winds Track Club, or any other sponsoring agent, their representatives and successors from all claims and liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event, even though that liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the parts of the persons/agents named in this waiver. I grant permission to all of the foregoing to use any photographs, motion pictures, recordings or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose.

Signature of Entrant (Parent or Legal Guardian if under 18 years old)

Date

For additional information, please contact Jessica Kennett at jesskennett0079@yahoo.com