



HALLOWEEN PARTY



The Neighborhood Association will be sponsoring the ever popular and perennial neighborhood Halloween Party with potluck on Saturday, October 28. It will be held at Optimist Park from 4:00 pm. to 6:30 pm. Music will be provided by Tao Jones and the Ontological Elephants – live! on the basketball court! – and Vicki Tauxe has again agreed to serve as emcee for the costume contest for children of all ages. As always, you and your neighbors will bring the most scrumptious foods for the potluck dinner.

To volunteer for any aspect of this fun event (preparation, decorating, clean-up, etc) or for more information, call Grant Gelhardt at 942-7608.



Other events to put on your calendar

The evening of October 28th (2 am on Sunday, October 29th) - Turn your clocks back one hour (“fall back”) to adjust for the end of daylight saving time.

November 5 – General Election – don’t forget to vote! Also, stop by the IHLNA table outside of the clubhouse at Optimist Park after voting.

The 2nd Sunday of each month - “potluck in the park” from 4:30 to 7:30 pm at Optimist Park. Neighborhood musicians are always welcome for informal jam sessions.

November 12th “potluck in the park” - in addition to the usual socializing, there will be a special pony ride for the kids.

The 4th Tuesday of October, January, April, and July – neighborhood meeting, at 7 pm, at the clubhouse at Optimist Park*

November 18 – Roadside and Greenway clean-up.*

December 2 – Winter Festival and Jingle Bell Run downtown.

January 6, 2007 – Hazardous Waste “Round-up”.*

* see related articles in this newsletter

Goodbye, exotics. Hello, natives.

Invasive exotic plants seem to be everywhere these days – the greenway, your yard, and in your neighbor’s yard, as well. Chinese Tallow. Nandina. Coral Ardesia (Christmas berry). Skunk vine. Mimosa. Air potato vine. Kudzu. Camphor trees. The list can go on and on. These plants are not native, but may appear to be “natural” because they grow so quickly and spread so well into our natural areas. Unfortunately, those are key characteristics that also make them difficult to control.

In the past, we have had a few workdays with volunteers to physically pull out or chemically treat some of these plants in the greenway. However, those pesky plants seem to be winning the battle. Fortunately, the City of Tallahassee has obtained some grant money that will allow them to hire a professional (Randall’s Land Clearing) to chemically treat these plants in the greenway to help with their eradication. The treatment will occur sometime this fall or winter, perhaps with a follow-up visit next spring-summer, and will cover the greenway area between Chowkeebin and Chocksacka. Getting rid of the invasive exotic species will not be pretty, as those plants that are treated with herbicides will turn brown and die, but it is necessary to allow the native plants to grow back in our greenway.

You can do your part, too. How? Here are some suggestions:

1. Take an inventory of your yard, including the roadside drainage swale, and see if you have any invasive exotic plants. If you are not sure which, if any, plants in your yard might be invasive exotics, you can contact Geoff Brown (656-2141) or Connie Bersok (942-7904) to help in your identification.

2. Get rid of invasive exotic plants in your yard and the roadside drainage in front of your house. Physically removing the entire plant (roots and all) is a good approach, when possible, followed up by removing young seedlings whenever you see them.

3. If you can’t remove the whole plant, but you really don’t want to use herbicide unless absolutely necessary, you can cut back the plant as much as possible, then apply the appropriate herbicide (following all directions) to the remainder of the plant. Different herbicides act differently, and some are more effective than others on certain plants, so please check with a knowledgeable professional for complete details. Your neighbors may also be a good source of information on what works and what doesn’t. For instance, adding some liquid dishwashing soap (such as Dawn©) to Round-up solution will make the herbicide stick to the leaves better and be more effective on those plants with slick and shiny leaves (such as the white-flowering, green wandering Jew).

4. Prevent future infestations. When removing these weeds from your yard, make sure you place them in well-secured bags or cardboard boxes for pick-up; otherwise, their seeds and pieces of stems or roots could be transported downstream in the next storm and start a new population in the neighborhood.

5. In the future, use native plants in your landscaping whenever possible. There are also non-native options that have been proven over the years to *not* be invasive – some good examples are azaleas and camellias. It is generally safe to avoid plants that are promoted to provide quick growth, rapid spread, hard to kill, etc, as they could become the next big invasive problem. Information on how to have a Florida-friendly landscape is available at

www.FloridaYards.org



Community Involvement – Coordinators Needed!

Last fall and spring, many of you expressed interest in becoming more involved in neighborhood activities. The neighborhood board could certainly use your help now!

Neighbors are needed to coordinate some of our established activities and provide leadership with new projects:

- Beginning a new neighbor welcome
- Assisting with the spring yard sale
- Coordinating Crime Watch
- Working with local government on neighborhood issues
- Writing a neighborhood history

If you're interested in helping to coordinate any of these or want to work on other projects, contact board member Patty Ceci Sharp at cecisharp@earthlink.net or by phone at (850) 309-0260.

Time for another roadside clean up!



Grant Gelhardt will be heading up a clean-up to remove as much debris as possible from our roadway and greenway. If you are interested, please join him and your neighbors on

Saturday, November 18 at 10 am at Optimist Park. Bring gloves and wear sturdy shoes or boots. Children are welcome, too, to help pick up lightweight trash.

Last year, we found that much of the trash was from “fast” food and drink packaging, in addition to old tires, car batteries, and some interesting old street signs. There is no telling what we will find this year! If you have any questions, give Grant a call at 942-7608.

Get Your Motor Running....Take Off For The Highway

Have you been awoken early on a summer Saturday morning from the noise of your neighbor's lawnmower only to discover that it was his motorcycle? Or maybe you've felt the ground tremble as you witnessed your neighbor flying by on her bike (going under the speed-limit, of course!). There's no mistaking it, there are Indians, Hondas, Suzuki, Harleys, BMWs, and many more in our neighborhood. Your fellow neighbors are coming together for a ride to a destination decided on by the group. Everyone is welcome!

If you want to learn more, please call Bruce or Maria Goodman at 656-9732 (evenings) or Bruce at 545-8212 (daytime).

Hazardous Waste “Round-up”

Clearing out your old electronics to make way for the new holiday gifts? Done with your pre-holiday house sprucing, but don't know what to do with those odds and ends of leftover paints? Or simply want to start the new year with a clean shed or utility room? You can easily and safely dispose of those household hazardous products that you no longer use, want, or need. The county will be sending its Hazardous Waste truck to Optimist Park on **January 6, 2007**. (see one-page flyer in this newsletter). In addition to clearing out your old collections of various paints, solvents, car batteries and more, you can also bring in old electronics.

Please remember that these items should *not* be put into your trash can or left on the curbside for pickup, as they contain toxic components that need special handling. If you can't make it to the neighborhood round-up on January 6, you can take them to the county landfill on Apalachee Parkway. The center is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you have any questions about how to handle any of these items, call the county's Hazardous Waste office at 414-9353.

HAZARDOUS WASTE & ELECTRONICS ROUND UP

SPONSORED BY INDIANHEAD/LEHIGH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, January 6, 2007

9:00 am to 12:00 noon at OPTIMIST PARK

Household Hazardous Waste includes

Aerosol Cans

Antifreeze, brake & transmission fluid

Ammunition

Batteries* – Automotive, Button, Lithium Ion, Rechargeable, Sealed Lead-Acid

(*most non-rechargeable batteries can be disposed in regular trash pickup)

Bleach

Fire Extinguishers

Flares and Pyrotechnics

Fluorescent Bulbs and Ballasts

Household and Drain Cleaners

Mercury-containing Devices

(such as thermometers, thermostats, manometers)

Motor Oil, Gasoline, Kerosene, Diesel

Paints, Stains, and Thinners

Pesticides, Herbicides, Lawn and Garden Chemicals

Photographic Chemicals

Pool Chemicals

Prescription Drugs

Pressure Bottles and Tanks (oxygen, carbon dioxide, etc.)

Propane Bottles and Tanks (less than 40 lbs.)

Tires (limit one per household)

Electronics includes

TV's (limit one per household, 19" max.)

Computer Monitors and CPU's (Hard Drives)

Printers

Scanners

Keyboards

VCR's

Stereo, Audio Components

50 Pound Limit per Household



New Neighborhood Crime Watch Group Online

There is now a way to immediately share important information about neighborhood crime alerts. A new bulletin board has been created online for residents of Indianhead-Lehigh. To go directly to the message board: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/indianhead_lehigh/

This site can be an effective tool to keep everyone informed and aware of what is occurring in our neighborhood. Please check it often and use the site as a way to post suspicious activity in our neighborhood. The current Crime Watch e-mail list will run parallel with the new group for the next 60 days to allow neighbors ample time to sign up. Members of the group will be able to post to the message board as well as send and receive group e-mails.

And remember to CALL TPD AT 891-4200 if you have strangers coming to your door and PROVIDE A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ANY SUSPICIOUS PERSON(S). Every detail you can remember helps the police solve crimes.

IHLNA membership

Thanks to all of you who so generously responded to our membership drive last January. We will again be sending out reminders to renew or join the neighborhood association in January, 2007. You can also download the membership form from the IHLNA website (www.indianhead-lehigh.com) anytime.



Remember, we are a volunteer organization and depend upon our volunteers to provide many of the services that benefit us all, such as delivering newsletters, staffing the coffee table at our polling place on election day, serving on Crime Watch, etc, in addition to paying the voluntary dues. Our expenses each year (~\$1,200 - \$1,800) include membership in the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA), an incorporation fee, sponsoring the Halloween Party, printing signs, flyers, and newsletters, and special projects such as improvements to the nature trail and parks.

Neighborhood Meetings

Once a quarter, on the fourth Tuesday of the month, there is a meeting at the Optimist Park clubhouse to which all neighbors are invited. Reminders are posted throughout the neighborhood, in addition to our website. These meetings are not long, they include drinks and treats, and they are becoming a well-established forum for meeting with your neighbors on topics important to you. In addition, guest speakers have proven to be great sources of both information and entertainment. In April, we had a panel of speakers coordinated by the local chapter of the American Red Cross addressing personal and community hurricane preparation. On July 25th, the Animal Services staff had sage advice and answered numerous questions dealing with problem animals.

Be sure to attend the next meeting, on **October 24th**, that will feature Donna Legare, owner of Native Nurseries and former IndianHead resident. She will be talking about the practical, ecological, and aesthetic aspects of planting native trees.



IHLNA by-laws



According to the Wikipedia website, a bylaw is a set of rules governing the internal management of an organization, such as a business or an association. They do not take the place of any governmental law, but can supplement them. Bylaws can widely vary from organization to organization, but generally cover topics such as how directors are elected and how meetings are conducted. They contain the most fundamental principles and rules regarding the nature of the organization.

In keeping with this concept, the IHLNA board has revisited the old by-laws of our organization and updated them to create a new draft set of by-laws, which is posted on our website (see www.indianhead-lehigh.com). Copies will also be passed out at the next neighborhood meeting at Optimist Park on October 24th. Please take the time to read this draft – it is really quite short – and let Grant Gelhardt know of any concerns or comments that you may have. A vote on the adoption of this set of by-laws will be taken at the January, 2007, neighborhood meeting.

Want to stay informed and get periodic updates on what is happening in the neighborhood? Got e-mail? Please either fill out the e-mail address on your membership form *or* e-mail a note to cbersok@msn.com *or* sign up on our website, www.indianhead-lehigh.com and you will be placed on the neighborhood e-mail distribution list. No solicitation, no spam – just news! ☺

Officers of IHLNA

President: Grant Gelhardt	942-7608	At-Large: Oxo Slayer	656-2545
Secretary: Patty Ceci Sharp	309-0260	At-Large: Tony Biblo	656-2528
Treasurer: Mary Louise Bachman	877-6344	At-Large: Connie Bersok	942-7904
At-Large: David Moynahan	656-5506	At-Large: Linda Meadows	656-6543
At-Large: Ramona Abernathy-Paine	656-6182	At-Large: Sandra Neidert	656-7894



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“IndianHead? Ask us, we live there!”