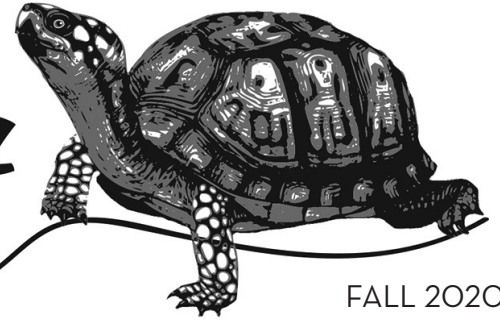


The Optimist



FALL 2020

INDIANHEAD LEHIGH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

IHLNA joins South City Initiative

By Marie-Claire Leman

The Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood Association has joined Woodland Drives, Myers Park, Apalachee Ridge Estates, Beacon Hill, Wilson Green, and other southside neighborhoods to form a Neighborhood Leadership Council (NLC), led by the South City Foundation, with the goal of empowering and engaging residents on Tallahassee's south side.

This initiative was born out of the Tallahassee Housing Authority's (THA) hiring of Columbia Residential to redevelop the Orange Avenue Apartments. These dwellings are in need of major repairs and upgrades; however, the cost of renovating them was prohibitive and still would have required that neighbors be relocated during the remodeling process. Several consultations about design and amenities with South City residents and stakeholders led to a master plan in 2018. The goal is to create mixed-income housing. The number of public housing units will not decrease, but

construction of a larger number of units will allow some to be available at market rate. Financing for Phase 1 has been secured, and demolition will begin in spring 2021.



Proceeding in phases allows more time to secure funds needed to complete the project, and more importantly, it reduces the number of residents who have to be temporarily relocated away from South City. The THA is helping tenants to relocate, with the understanding that they will have the right of first refusal for the new units once these are ready to occupy. The Relocation Support Services include consultation about relocation options based on household needs and preferences—for example, helping residents stay in the same area

or school zone; help completing rental applications; transportation to view possible dwellings; and covering moving expenses and the cost of transferring utilities.

When Columbia Residential began the project, it partnered with Purpose Built Communities (PBC) to ensure that community wellness, education, and economic vitality were central to the plan and in the forefront of the various development phases. Concerns have been raised by stakeholders at community meetings. For example, it was known that PBC had opted, in some cities, to serve K-12 educational needs with the creation of a new charter school, rather than supporting the existing public schools. Fortunately, in this case, PBC and Leon County Schools have formalized a partnership through a memorandum of understanding that designates Hartsfield Elementary, Fairview Middle,

In This Issue

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- Sustainable Indianhead Lehigh Community (SILC)
- Hartsfield Corner
- Real Estate News

IHLNA joins South City Initiative (cont.)

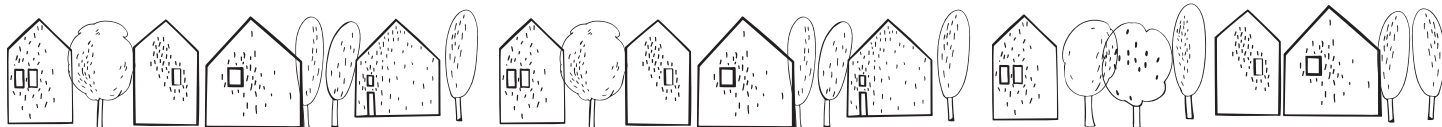
and Rickards High as the schools involved in the K-12 component of this initiative. Meanwhile, offering housing units at market rate raised a concern that gentrification might displace current residents permanently. However, research has shown that economic opportunity of low-income households increases with economic integration. While this can be achieved through mobility away from economically depressed neighborhoods, it also can be done through actively promoting greater income integration of low-income neighborhoods.

To achieve the housing, education, and wellness goals of the redevelopment, PBC requires a local nonprofit to take the lead. This ensures ample opportunity for residents and the community to hold the reins and steer the plan in a direction that is anchored in neighborhood history and is responsive to local needs and desires. South City Foundation is the local nonprofit filling that role. SCF has held regular meetings, in person and now online, to keep local community residents, schools, and business owners meaningfully engaged. Its Neighborhood Leadership Council is one of the groups that meets monthly to help build capacity, support, and empower southside neighborhood associations in hopes of cultivating transformation as well as generating and growing trust.

The success of this project in meeting the needs and desires of a historically underserved population, without displacing it, ultimately rests on the “effective engagement of stakeholders to hold policymakers accountable and affect the decision-making process.” The strength of the SCF is its ability to be the voice of residents, keeping them at the table throughout the various phases of development and ensuring the realization of its vision of “empowering Tallahassee’s historic South City to improve the quality of life for all.”

Marie-Claire Leman is IHLNA’s representative on the SCF Neighborhood Leadership Council. She is recruiting other residents to assist with the neighborhood’s involvement. To learn more or to participate, email marieclaireleman@gmail.com.

The next Neighborhood Council Leadership meeting will be held Friday, October 23, at 11:30 a.m., via Zoom. Individuals who would like to participate should contact Marie-Claire for the Zoom link.



Frog REALTY

INDIAN HEAD RECENTLY SOLD HOMES

Address	Bed/Bath	# Sq/ft	Sold Price
2011 Chowkeebbin Nene	3/2	1413	\$115,000
2009 Chowkeebbin Nene	3/2	1173	\$168,000
2107 Cheeke Nene	3/3	1512	\$185,000
1927 Atapha Nene	3/1	1572	\$205,000
2021 Atapha Nene	4/2	2174	\$205,000
1311 Mountbatten Rd	4/3	2676	\$265,000
1905 Chowkeebbin Nene	3/3	1862	\$280,000

**Data from CRTS, INC. MLS

Jacques Depart (850) 222-FROG (3764)

Community coop Market

Your neighborhood co-op grocery

Find the freshest produce, supplements and body care, prepared foods and more at the co-op! Our doors are wide open to everyone.

Our deli is open during renovations!

Valid through October 31, 2020

\$15 off
any purchase of \$50 or more



VA > F1V

No cash value. Offer applies before tax. Limit one discount per purchase. Not valid with others or discounts. Cannot be used to purchase gift cards or Membership. One coupon per person.

Community Co-op Market
1235 Apalachee Pkwy, Tallahassee, FL
Toll Free (866) 985-2667



Remember to Vote!

“The world is run by people who show up.”

This quote is attributed to various anonymous sources, but what a powerful and accurate statement it is! The following summary will help you prepare for the forthcoming election.

Three Ways to Vote

1. Vote-by-Mail: Request a mail-in ballot by October 21. Complete and return the signed ballot by mail (allow seven days for delivery), or in person at designated locations.

2. Early Voting: Cast a ballot at an Early Voting location, available October 19–November 1.

3. Election Day Voting: Polls are open at the Optimist Park Clubhouse, 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.

Leon County Supervisor of Elections (SOE) Mark Early has a job essential to the functioning of our democracy. It is his job to make the voting process in Leon County easy, secure, and COVID-safe so all eligible voters, regardless of income or ability, are able to cast their ballot. Voters should know that every precaution is taken to ensure a safe, germ-free environment. Masks and social distancing are required.

The SOE office is the go-to place for all your voting questions.

The website to visit is **LeonVotes.gov**.

The phone number to call is **(850) 606-8683**.

The location is **2990-1 Apalachee Parkway**.

Register to Vote. You can register to vote online, by mail, or by visiting Mark Early’s office. To register online, visit the SOE website or phone the SOE office. Numerous agencies around town provide voter registration forms as well. To register, you must have either a Florida driver’s license or Florida ID, and provide the last four digits of your social security number. You must register at least twenty-nine days before the election—by October 5.

Vote by Mail. Voting by mail is easy. Simply request a mail-in ballot at LeonVotes.gov or phone (850) 606-8683. The SOE office will begin sending ballots on October 4. Return your ballot in one of three ways: (1) put it in your mailbox—the USPO recommends mailing it at least seven days before election day; (2) drop off your signed ballot at Mark Early’s office during business hours; or (3) deposit your signed ballot in the drop box at each Early Voting site during Early Voting hours. You must sign the envelope of your mail-in ballot on the designated line.

General Election:

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Last day to register to vote:

Monday, October 5, 2020



Vote Early. You can vote early at a number of locations, including the Leon County Courthouse, the main library and several library branches, and at some community centers. Early voting extends from October 19 to November 1.

Update your Voter Registration Information. If you just moved to Indianhead Lehigh and have not updated your voter information, expect to spend a little extra time at the polling site while staff update the details. However, you can update it ahead by visiting the LeonVotes.gov website or calling the office at (850) 606-8683.

Review the Ballot. LeonVotes.gov has an online Election Guide—the paper version will be mailed out on October 5. Page 7 of this Guide includes a generic sample ballot with the six constitutional amendments that will appear on your ballot. You also can view the ballot specific to your precinct at the SOE website. This is the ballot that you will receive in the mail or when voting. Page 11 of the Election Guide provides a map of early voting locations.

Now that you know when, how, and where to vote, you will want to know who to vote for and which constitutional amendments to support, or not. To get informed, the following non-partisan websites offer easy-to-read information on candidates and the six Florida constitutional amendments.

- [League of Women Voters of Florida](http://LeagueofWomenVotersofFlorida.org)
- [Florida Ballotpedia](http://FloridaBallotpedia.org)
- Vote411.org

Remember, you do not have to vote for every office or issue on the ballot. Vote for the candidates and issues you do know and support. Or vote along party lines if you prefer.

Leon County has 215,000 registered voters, and everyone should make sure they have their say. Our democracy depends on you. Your single vote will help shape the future of our country.

NEWS & Notes



Year-end Events in the Hood

Alas, the Covid Grinch will prevent our neighborhood from hosting the traditional Halloween Party and Costume Parade in October or the annual Pony Rides and Petting Zoo in November. But have no fear! Event organizers are discussing safe, alternative options for trick or treaters, and the Holiday Lights Bike Ride in December likely will be held because mask-wearing cyclists can maintain a safe distance between each other. Watch for updates via IHLNA's Facebook page and email distribution list.



Webmaster Wanted

The neighborhood association needs a volunteer to help maintain the IHLNA website at ihlna.org. The commitment of time is not great, but the individual must be familiar with developing a website using WordPress, an open-source content management system. If you're interested, contact Edward Reid at edward@paleo.org.

The Optimist Takes a Bow

IHLNA's biannual newsletter received a national accolade in August when Neighborhoods USA announced that *The Optimist* was a finalist in NUSA's 2020 newsletter competition in the print category. The editorial staff received a plaque, and official recognition will be given at the organization's national conference in May 2021 in Fort Worth, Texas. The first-, second-, and third-place winners all are four-color publications, and *The Optimist* ranked fourth among the eight entries.

IHLNA Residents Meeting

November 12 • 7:00 p.m.

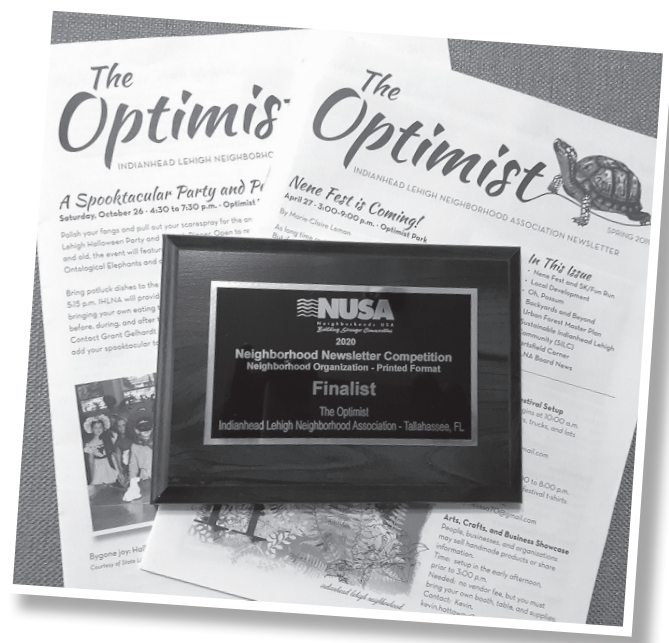
The Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood Association will host a general meeting via Zoom on Thursday, November 12, at 7:00 p.m. As residents of Indianhead Acres and Lehigh Acres, everyone is welcome to participate.

The purpose of the meeting is threefold:

- to give residents an opportunity to learn more about the Neighborhood Association, how to become involved, and the process for joining the IHLNA Board of Directors;
- to announce and discuss upcoming neighborhood-wide events and activities; and
- to ratify amendments to the bylaws of the Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood Association.

In anticipation of this meeting, by October 31, the amended bylaws will be made available electronically for review by all neighbors. In addition, an invitation for the Zoom meeting on November 12 will be sent by email to the neighborhood listserv and posted on Facebook. **For additional information, email indianheadlehighna@gmail.com.**

For folks who have not used Zoom online conferencing, it's easy to participate, and it is free. Go to zoom.us and follow the steps to download the application (app) to your computer. The meeting invitation will contain a link that allows you to join the conversation.



Keeping an Eye on Change

By Ramona Abernathy-Paine

Development has taken place across Tallahassee for years, but increasingly it has made its way to our part of town. Here's a summary of current projects close to Indianhead Lehigh; for details about these and other developments, go to [Talgov.com/Services/Growth Management](http://Talgov.com/Services/GrowthManagement) and <https://tlcpermits.org/>.

Magnolia Oaks is a multifamily residential development proposed for the property at the southwest corner of East Magnolia Drive and Country Club Drive. This project proposes 110 units, with one- to three-bedroom dwellings in five three-story buildings. The project meets Multi-Modal Transportation District (MMTD) standards and has been granted a type B building permit. Access will be via Country Club Drive. This is expected to be affordable or workforce housing, although no particulars are readily available. Details can be viewed at <https://tlcpermits.org/>; search for parcel I.D. #3107202090000.

Lafayette Gardens, a workforce housing project at 1235 East Lafayette Street, just east of The Moon, is well into construction. This property recently was designated an environmental "brown field" because a drycleaners once existed where Little Caesar's Pizza is now located. That site has been monitored by the Environmental Protection Agency for years. The developer does not expect to find additional contamination on the building site, but the brown field designation allows access to state funds if contamination is found. Moreover, by redeveloping a brown field, the developer will not pay sales tax on construction materials used at the site.

Chick-Fil-A has received site plan approval from the Tallahassee Growth Management office to build at North Magnolia Drive and Governor's Square Boulevard, in the corner of the Winn-Dixie parking lot. Restrictions have been placed on the site plan so that cars waiting in the drive-through lane will not interfere with traffic on Magnolia Drive or Governor's Square Boulevard.

Panera Bread has plans for a new store at 2009 Apalachee Parkway, on property across from the Florida Blue Center and the entrance to Target.

Blair Stone Road Self-Storage Units are planned at the northeast corner of Governor's Square Boulevard and Blair Stone Road. The Planned Unit Development zoning recently was changed to allow construction of self-storage units. Access will be via Blair Stone Rd.

Magnolia Drive Multi-Use Trail, a Tallahassee Blueprint 2000 project, continues though with delays relating to the installation of underground utilities. Construction between Jim Lee Road and Monroe Street is expected next year and will involve some road closures. Construction from Jim Lee to Apalachee Parkway is at least two years away. A traffic light will be installed at Jim Lee and Magnolia as part of these roadway improvements.

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From Bunker Down to Hunker Down

By Carol Bryant-Martin

"...Civil defense officials [don't realize what] they're asking when they tell people and communities to put in fallout shelters."

—Dr. Harold Knapp, Atomic Energy Commission, 1962

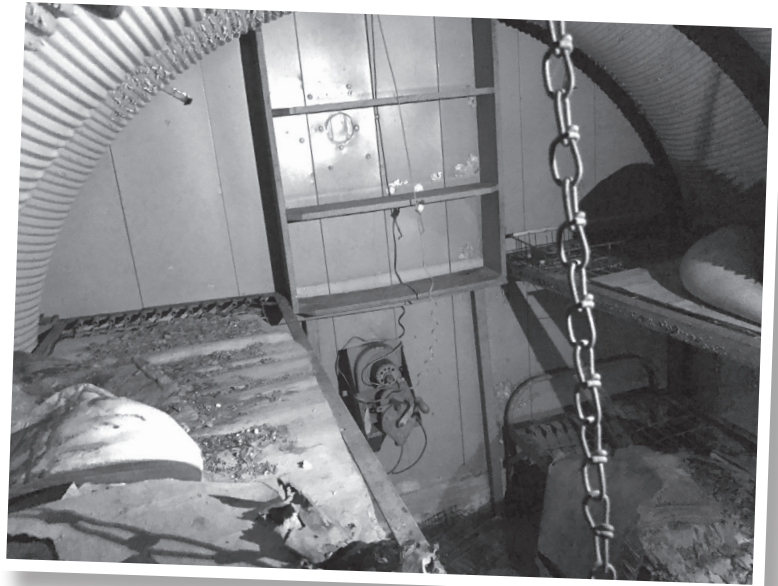
For Tallahassee residents, a major difference between the Cold War climate fifty years ago and events in 2020—including a global pandemic, shuttered businesses, and systemic job loss, is the amount of time people have had to prepare.

When the covid epidemic arrived last spring, blindsided Americans rushed to buy wipes, gloves, masks, sanitizers, and other recommended supplies to do battle against an invisible enemy. Amid the 1950s and '60s Cold War tensions between the US and the Soviet Union, preparatory tips urged people to construct in-home fallout shelters and to stockpile two weeks of provisions, in case "the inevitable" happened.

In 1960, the US Office of Civil Defense Mobilization (OCDM) conducted a mass media campaign about the importance of self-help in making preparations; publications gave instructions about basic survival needs and protective actions. Citizens were advised to stockpile food, water, cooking utensils, fuel, bedding, first-aid kits, sanitation equipment, gas masks, and a battery-powered radio, and to store them in the home shelter. OCDM told citizens to be on alert for warnings by radio, television, or local warning devices, especially when international tensions were high. Warning signals included "ALERTS" to act and tune AM radios to CONELRAD frequency stations for official directions, and to proceed to a community or home-based shelter. Moreover, citizens were ordered to not use a telephone.

In Florida, long-time Tallahassee residents remember the statewide fright brought on by the Bay of Pigs invasion in April 1961 and the Cuban Missile Crisis in October 1962. Everyone was scared that something terrible would happen, especially since the state capital was a mere 90-minute flight from Cuba. More than one local resident decided to add a fallout shelter in back of their 1950s-era dwelling.

In 2007, my husband and I were looking for a home and stopped by an open house in the Nenes. I remember seeing red kitchen-top counters, wood panel walls, and



Events in the early 1960s prompted one Tallahassee family to install a survival shelter that was attached to their house, outfitted with cots and a metal door.

Courtesy of homeowner

a well-maintained pool. I also recall an indoor staircase that led to a built-in underground fallout shelter. While exploring the dimly lit underground space, with cinder block walls and damp grey carpet, I asked my husband, "What would we use this space for?" We joked about sending our children there for timeouts. As a northern transplant to Florida, I had never been inside a bomb shelter before. Though we declined that house and found another in Indianhead, the idea that survival shelters still exist in our neighborhood piqued my interest. After conversing with real estate agents and IHLNA residents, I learned that no two bomb shelters are quite the same. Here are four examples.

Shelter 1: Circle Drive

The home of Jacques Depart, owner of Frog Realty, has a shelter that was built in 1961. Depart describes the shelter as an indoor and outdoor space attached to his house. It can be accessed from a closet inside the home as well as an outdoor staircase. The shelter has an air ventilation system that runs from underground to above ground. Inside the 9 x 18-foot space, there is a rusty ladder and a hatch to get out. Because Depart is a real estate agent, he has seen several other examples of survival shelters in Tallahassee. He notes that the spaces are difficult to maintain, and the possibility they could collapse is a valid concern.



A 2 x 5-foot door in a closet hides a steep metal staircase leading to Depart's shelter, which may have included a toilet, shower, bunkbed, air pipes, and a ceiling rail for separation curtains. *Courtesy of homeowner*

Shelter 2: East Indianhead Drive

Leslie Wilson bought her friend Karen Watson's family home, in which Watson's father, Henry Cary Peeples, had constructed a survival space. Peeples learned how to build fallout shelters while attending US Civil Defense training in 1962, and he authored a government guide about how to build them. Based on his training, he constructed a prototype in the basement of his home with his bare hands. He maintained a log in the shelter to record each time cans of food and two-gallon glass jugs of water were replaced. Peeples eventually supervised the construction of fallout shelters of state-owned buildings in Florida.

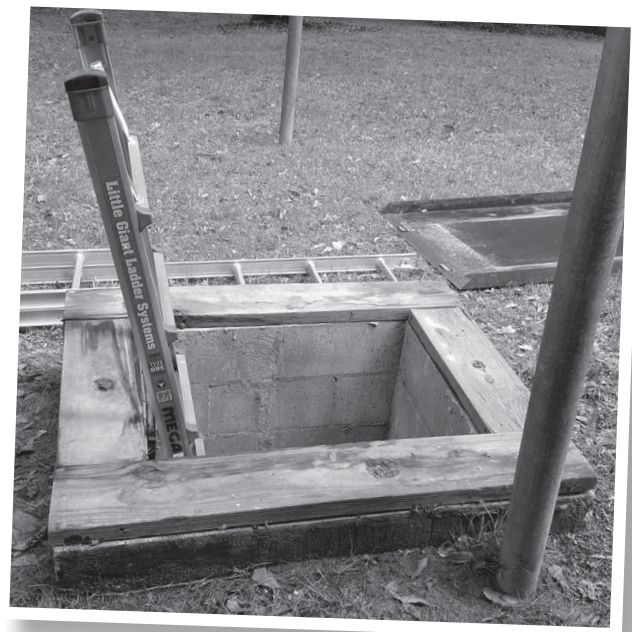
Shelter 3: Hasosaw Nene

Nick Gandy, who resides in a home built in 1953, recalls the moment a handyman crawled under his house and said, "Hey Nick, you gotta see this. I think you have a bomb shelter under your house!" Gandy describes the 10 x 10-foot survival shelter as having cinder block walls and a roof that essentially is the wood floor of his house. Inside the shelter, there are cabinets, a light, and a place to sit. He says, "When it rains, water collects on the concrete floor, so I bought a pump to get the water out."

Shelter 4: Chuli Nene

An IHLNA resident who requested anonymity discovered an underground shelter after he had purchased the property. Detached from the home and currently uninhabitable, the shelter is about 12 feet underground. It includes pipes for ventilation as well as a source for electricity. The owner plans to make improvements to the shelter by adding LED lights, a ladder, and a hatch to prevent anyone from being locked inside.

The United States' drive for mass shelters ahead of an impending nuclear attack remains evident in IHLNA. On the surface, the government campaign to build shelters amid times of uncertainty seemed simple. Yet, the great peril in which civil defense measures were meant to forfend are not at all easy to unpack. Then and now, amid the novel coronavirus scare, from one Doomsday Era to the next, "we're all in this together."



Access to one fallout shelter is through a hatch in the backyard. *Courtesy of homeowner*

WEATHER
Tallahassee area: Clear and slightly warmer
this afternoon, tonight and Friday. Gentle
variable winds. Highest temperature expected
Friday, 86 degrees; lowest 63.

THE DAILY DEMOCRAT

VOL. XXXIII, No. 190

Capital of Florida

TALLAHASSEE, FLA., THURSDAY AFTERNOON, SEPT. 25, 1947

Home of Florida State University



TIDES
High tides at St. Marks Light Polder, 1:23
am and 11:23 am; low tides at 5:22 am and
6:42 pm.

Price Five Cents

In the News- 73 Years Ago

Our thanks to Ricah Marquez, who was conducting archival research when she came across this edition of *The Daily Democrat*, dated September 27, 1947, announcing John Stead's purchase of "Indian Head farm." Noting that the 470-acre property would be renamed Indian Head Acres, Stead said he planned to subdivide it into half-acre and larger parcels for homes and businesses. The sections would conform "strictly to regulations of the new county zoning committee." Stead hoped "to turn the subdivision into a real asset to the county." Seventy-three years later, residents no doubt will agree that Stead achieved that goal. To learn more about the history of Indianhead Lehigh, look at "Nene History" on the neighborhood website, ihlna.org.

Register Your Bunker!

You might consider recording information about the fallout shelter on your property in the Florida Master Site File, or nominating it for addition to the National Register of Historic Places.

The **Florida Master Site File** is the state's official inventory of known and recorded historical and cultural resources. More than 200,000 items on file include archaeological sites; historical structures, cemeteries, bridges, and districts; and landscapes and linear features. For questions, call (850) 245-6440 or email sitefile@dos.myflorida.com.

The **National Register of Historic Places** is an official list of sites and properties that reflect the prehistoric occupation and historical development of our nation, states, and local communities. It includes districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture. More than 1,700 Florida properties and districts are listed on the NR. For questions, call (850) 245-6333 or email nationalregister@dos.myflorida.com.

MELISSA FARLEY

850-591-9590

HAIR STYLIST



470 Acres Sold For \$75,000 Sum

Indian Head Farm To Be Subdivided

The 470-acre Indian Head farm between the Perry and Woodville highways, with a 5,000 front foot-age on Magnolia drive extension, has been purchased by John Stead for \$75,000, he announced today, and it will be subdivided for residential and business property.

Stead purchased the land from a group of local men including Payne H Midyette, identified as trustee, and Jack Simmons, Leonard Wasson and Dr B A Wilkin-son. Stead said the property will be renamed Indian Head Acres.

The property has a front of 5,000 feet on the Magnolia drive, 1,600 feet on the Perry highway and between 800 and 900 feet on the old St Augustine road, Stead said.

The land lies immediately east and southeast of Country Club Es-tates. Magnolia drive is an ex-tension from the Perry highway to the Woodville highway and in-tersects with the latter road just south of the city.

To Be Subdivided

The property will be subdivided, Stead said, for homes on Magnolia drive and the Perry highway part will be available for business es-tablishments. He said the division will range from half an acre in size upward.

Stead said he plans no con-struction on the land under his own sponsorship, but will sell the lots for development by the own-ers.

He said it is his intention that the residential and business sec-tions of the land will conform "strictly to regulations of the new county zoning committee" and he hopes to turn the subdivision into "a real asset to the county."

Stead is a veteran of World war II. He was with a Seabee con-struction battalion and was dis-charged several months ago. Un-till a short time ago, he was en-gaged in large scale cultivation and combine work for local farm-ers.

N3 Gives and Seeks Service

By Betsy Tabac

A Friendly Call

Like everyone else, Neighbor to Neighbor in the Nenes (N3) is making things as normal as possible in an abnormal and sometimes frightening environment. One of N3's COVID-inspired creations is the Friendly Phone Call Service, in which a volunteer calls an elder resident weekly, or less often if the elder prefers. In setting up the service, volunteers talked with many people in the neighborhood over 75 years of age, checking that they were able to get groceries and medications and that they were not becoming too isolated.

The idea behind the service is that the caller and the elder talk about topics of mutual interest as they get to know each other. If the elder expresses a need for something, the full range of N3's volunteer services comes into play to provide what is needed.

So far, the concept has worked just as we hoped it would. For example, through the Friendly Phone Call Service, N3 identified a veteran who needed assistance with a hearing aid repair and another housebound elder who is dependent on Meals-on-Wheels. She is grateful for the MOW assistance, and she also enjoys the homemade meals we bring to her door on weekends when MOW cannot deliver.

If you would like to participate in the Friendly Phone Call Service, please call or email (see details below). In addition, feel free to tell any of your elderly neighbors about the service.

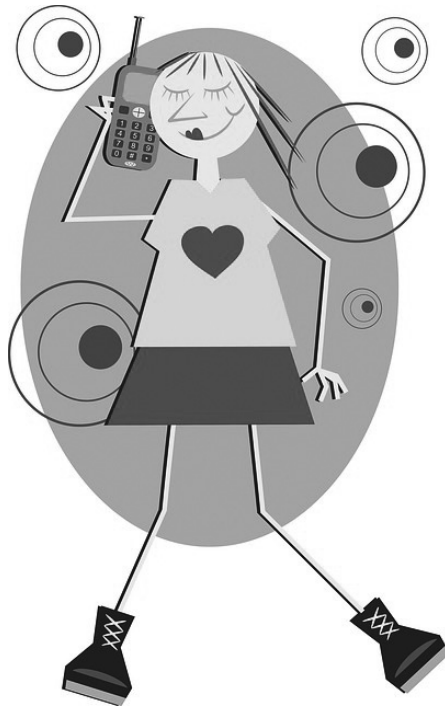


Image by Prawny from Pixabay



N3 Board of Directors

Nonprofit groups like Neighbor to Neighbor in the Nenes have an interesting organizational structure. Typically, within an organization there are two entities working together to enable services to be delivered. One entity includes the administrators and service providers charged with running a tight ship day-to-day to meet client needs. The other entity is the Board of Directors, the body that ultimately is responsible for the entire operation, even though it rarely provides direct services.

The board plans for the organization's future, sets policies, raises funds, and keeps an eye on finances. It evaluates the organization to ensure that goals and objectives are met. While the first entity—the administrators and staff—most often are the public face of the organization, it is the board members who keep the organization afloat in the long run.

No matter how wonderful the services are, no matter how many volunteers there are, and no matter how much the services are needed, no nonprofit organization can survive indefinitely without a fully functioning board of directors. Neighbor to Neighbor in the Nenes needs board members who have a passion for serving the elderly. We invite you to talk with us about joining our very collegial, very fun, and very hard-working Board of Directors.

For information: (850) 901-7818 or ageinplace@earthlink.net



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How Does Your Garden Grow...

By Marney Richards

Biking around the neighborhood, it's been great to see such a variety of garden projects this spring and summer. I've met neighbors who have shared their garden stories, along with ideas and tips. Here are just a few gardeners I met on the tour.

Liz, Andre, and Adam moved to Chuli about two years ago. This year, for Mother's Day, they built new garden beds. They've enjoyed growing tomatoes, cucumbers, watermelon, black-eyed peas, herbs, and flowers.

Moving to Florida from the mountains is a shift for a gardener. In new beds on Hechee, Jeannie started with compost delivered by Compost Community to help her veggies and flowers thrive during the season.

Carl and Sarah have containers full of tomatoes, peppers, and basil they brought when they moved to Semalachee this June. Carl roots cuttings from the tomatoes and basil to keep things going through the season. The couple added native perennials in the yard for butterflies and hummingbirds.



This sign designates a Certified Wildlife Habitat.
Courtesy of Marney Richards



Grace's garden row.
Courtesy of Grace Francis



Heechee garden beds.
Courtesy of Jeannie Christensen



Liz and Andre's tomatoes.
Courtesy of Marney Richards

The well-established beds in Tom's yard on Chowkeebin continue to thrive. Sharing the space, Grace expanded her rows this year, growing tomatoes, beans, eggplants, and more. You might see her some evenings, harvesting veggies for dinner.

In addition to our bountiful gardens, a number of Indianhead yards have been registered as Certified Wildlife Habitats through the National Wildlife Federation. These yards use sustainable practices and focus on native plants to provide food, water, cover, and places to raise young for our native critters.

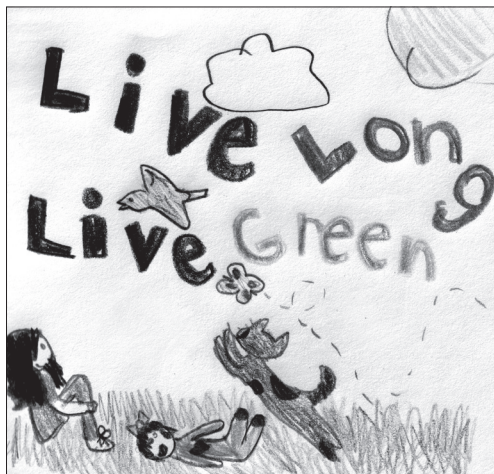
Tips for Fall Planting

By Connie Bersok

When is the best time to plant a tree? Twenty years ago. When is the second-best time to plant a tree? Today.

Trees are a long-term investment in your landscape plan, so take the time to identify the right location. Canopy trees need a lot of room to grow. Live oak, Southern magnolia, swamp chestnut oak, hickory, American beech, cabbage palm, and spruce pine are just a sampling of canopy trees that thrive here. Smaller, sub-canopy trees that can be planted in the sun or in the light shade of existing pine trees include redbud, fringe tree, native plums, and yaupon holly. Another factor to consider is whether you prefer a deciduous or an evergreen tree. A well-placed deciduous tree can ensure summer shade while letting the winter sunshine through, while an evergreen will provide a year-round buffer.

The cooler weather of fall and winter is also a good time to plant shrubs. Branch out beyond the usual non-native azaleas and hydrangeas—add native azaleas and oakleaf hydrangea. Similarly, native viburnums (Walters, Arrowood, and rusty) are interesting alternatives to the usual box-store shrubs. Try out something a little different, such as coontie or bear grass. For more information, visit <http://floridayards.org/fyplants/index.php>. This site presents an interactive database that allows users to identify Florida-friendly plants, including native species, and to tailor their selection of foliage according to their location in the state and local growing conditions. Developed by University of Florida/IFAS horticulture experts, the database includes recommended trees, palms, shrubs, flowers, groundcovers, grasses and vines. Each suitable plant is accompanied with a photo and detailed description.



Artwork by Sahni Myers

Stump Talk



Sunday, October 11; 2:00 p.m.

Meet at the stump of the former water oak tree in Optimist Park to discuss native plants in your yard. The cooler weather of fall and winter is a good time to plant trees, shrubs, and perennials. I will have some native trees, shrubs, and groundcover plants for you to take home. Questions? Contact Connie Bersok at (850) 590-6735 or cbersok@nettally.com.

Be Safe and Sustainable

It takes about 25 seconds to sing the “Happy Birthday” song twice, which everybody knows we should do when we’re washing our hands to prevent illness. At a



reasonable rate of flow, it also takes about 25 seconds to nearly fill a two-liter bottle with water. The point of this comparison? We

don’t have to let the water run when we wash our hands. Even the federal Center for Disease Control says so. It recommends wetting hands in running water, *turning off the tap*, applying soap, and then launching into song. CDC also provides the scientific bases for proper hand washing at <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>.

Candidates’ Forum

The Big Bend Environmental Forum will sponsor its **13th Biennial General Candidates’ Forum on October 8, from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.** Moderated by WFSU News Director Tom Flanigan, the online program will offer candidates an opportunity to answer vetted questions relating to the environment, growth management, renewable energy and climate change. (Indianhead residents will vote for some of the candidates.)

The virtual forum will be live-streamed to the Big Bend Environmental Forum Facebook Page. Members of the public also may participate via ZOOM by registering at <https://tinyurl.com/bbef2020>.

Home Sweet Home

By Sandy Neidert

Like most of us, I have never spent so much time in the house and yard. During the past few months, the things I've enjoyed most, and have used as an outlet for both stress and creativity, are several home and outdoor improvement projects.

I get most excited by projects and changes I can do myself and that don't cost much—activities that just require some inspiration, a little rearranging or organizing, or upcycling. I think this comes from my childhood. I grew up in a house my dad built, and I don't recall a visit from a handyman, plumber, or even an electrician. My dad was a skilled carpenter and gifted at fixing things. If something broke, my parents rarely called a repair person or bought a replacement; my dad just fixed it. My husband Spurgeon had a similar experience growing up in Jamaica, where improvising and innovating were the key to keeping things running around the house.

Now more than ever, I want our house to be comfortable, safe, and cozy—what Danes call “hygge.” I am trying to use my creativity and time to increase the beauty around me, and to enjoy the simple things in life. I love our 1959 Mid-century-Modest ranch, and with some tender loving care, I hope to enjoy it for many more years to come!

During recent walks on Nene streets, I've noticed projects that others have completed: a fort I'd like to hang out in, hand-built fencing, a major re-do to the backyard complete with an outdoor shower, a lovely water feature on a corner, new mid-century mailboxes, and many more. Here's a small sample.



Courtesy of homeowners Justin Harrell and Nicolette Castagna



Courtesy of the author



Courtesy of the author

Dinner Cooperatives in the Hood

By Terry Anne Kant-Rauch

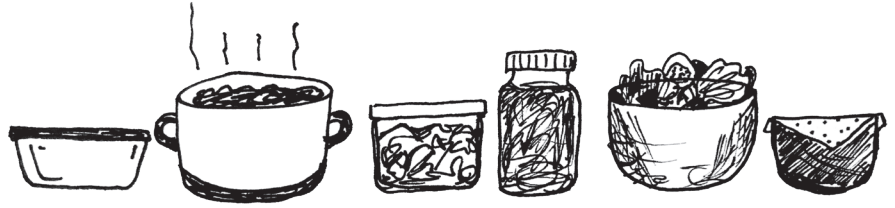
Many years ago—we're talking like thirty years ago, Sharon and I and three other households embarked on a dinner experiment to minimize our daily food preparation. I called it the Dinner Cooperative. Occasionally a family left and another came in, but we did this for several years. Now may be a great time to revive the concept while we're housebound during these COVID days.

In our plan, we decided on Monday to Thursday, with each household choosing one day of the week. If we couldn't make our day, we swapped with another family or cut the week to three days. Each of us had an ice chest on the porch during a two-hour period to allow "the chefs" to drop off dinner at their convenience. There was no expectation of eating together, although occasionally we ate with one other family; now, during COVID times, that idea likely is "off the table." Our families chose to prepare vegetarian, but we didn't restrict other kinds of meals, and we always hoped for child-pleasing items. We learned that the more flexible we could be, the better we liked the Cooperative. The biggest expense was for Tupperware, used to deliver food. We all purchased a base amount, and though we wrote our names on the tops, items got shuffled around. For folks who want to try this idea, we offer the following suggestions.

Find your group and have a meeting. To begin, determine the number of families and nights per week. It helps to have similar-sized households to ensure the same amount of food preparation. Select people who are easy to communicate with in case the inevitable "issue" arises. Use Zoom or a similar option, or have socially distanced meetings outside, to determine food choices and the mechanics of the plan.

Food choices. Discuss the types of foods that people prefer, will and will not eat, or cannot eat because of allergies. Most preferences or health conditions can be accommodated, but some may be too limiting—e.g., gluten intolerance or strictly vegan, in which case it may be easier to form a Cooperative with more like-minded households.

Mechanics of how it works. Determine a schedule, how much Tupperware to have, and the food drop-off time. Also discuss how to handle travel schedules, vacations, and other blips in the routine. We had some substitute



families fill in to explore their interest in participating. If a family was going to be absent one week, we usually just dropped the dinners from four to three nights for that week. However, sometimes a family cooked extra that week to accommodate the missing dinner; the absent family then cooked for two nights the following week.

COVID considerations. Discuss strategies that allow everyone to feel safe and confident, such as sanitizing containers before bringing them in, wearing masks while preparing food, and whether to allow raw fruits and vegetables on the menu.

Set up a household schedule for your home. Determine who will have which jobs, and how meal planning, shopping, cooking, and delivery will be done. This can involve everyone, depending on age and capabilities.

Final thoughts: Sometimes we couldn't eat on a particular night, so we saved the meal for another night. Often there were leftovers. Figuring out how much to make is a matter of trial and error. Sometimes the meals were staples like spaghetti; other times, a great soup with salad and bread. Or a casserole. Sometimes dessert showed up, depending on the cook(s) and what they felt like making. Flexibility was the most crucial aspect. With careful forethought, a Dinner Cooperative can be fun and energy-saving, and provide more variety in our daily menu.

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Coming Back Strong Hartsfield is Ready for the School Year

By Dr. Rhonda Blackwell-Flanagan
Proud Principal of Hartsfield Elementary School

The last months have been quite a journey as we worked to find a new normal in response to COVID-19. We spent the summer preparing Hartsfield for the safe return of students, making sure to have precautions in place to keep them, our teachers, and our staff safe, while also getting ready to teach students through our Digital Academy. But we have not lost sight of our goals when it comes to continuing to embed our Conscious Discipline practices, developing our IB Primary Years Programme (PYP), and working toward becoming an Eco-School. We are Hartsfield Strong, and our theme for this year is, *Still We Rise!* We will meet the challenges one day at a time, and collectively as Hawks we will keep rising and soaring!

We are a school that values a culture of care through connection and kindness. With the implementation of Conscious Discipline, we promote social emotional learning and prioritize learning in a safe environment. With two successful years of Conscious Discipline under our belt, the goal this year is institutionalizing the practices across the campus.

Additionally, we are working toward authorization to become a Primary Years Program—IB World School with the goal of writing our first units of inquiry for trial implementation this year! While the interruption of school during the fourth nine-week session of last year was significant, we took the opportunity of being able to work together through Zoom to focus on the PYP curriculum. An important part of that work is what we call “cross-walking” the PYP standards to the Florida Standards. A team of teachers from each grade level worked hard to begin the process of creating our very own Hartsfield curriculum, anchoring each PYP standard in the corresponding Florida Standard, ensuring that as we move toward a more inquiry-based and whole-child approach to teaching, we continue to cover all the essentials of an elementary education in Florida.

During this time, while the students were learning and growing from home since mid-March, our new Butterfly Garden did some growing of its own. Tended with love and care by Hartsfield’s custodians, Mr. Reggie Black

and Mr. Luther Albert (known as “Mr. Luther”), as well as by Media Center Specialist Mary Jo Peltier, Assistant-Principal Lisa Thompson, and community volunteers Marney Richards and Tom Ballentine, the Butterfly Garden has thrived and become an oasis of calm and beauty. With outdoor learning being safest



The Butterfly Garden has grown so much over the summer!

Courtesy of Mary Jo Peltier



Mr. Black works on the pathway in the Butterfly Garden.
Courtesy of Marie-Claire Leman

this fall, our Butterfly Garden will serve as a place of respite and inspiration for our teachers and students. Contact with this unique pollinator habitat will give students an opportunity to learn about and admire wildlife in their very own school yard.

With the creation of our Butterfly Garden, we are on our way to becoming a nationally certified Eco-School. One of the tenets of the Eco-School certification is that students must be at the center of the process; hence, we await their return with anticipation to embark on the next steps. We are excited to use this new feature of our campus to teach the Butterfly Effect—that small change can make a big difference. Just as this barren corner of our campus was transformed by just a few saplings, so can our students transform their community and the world through their actions.

To the neighbors and supporters of Hartsfield, we value your time, your generosity, and your positive energy as we partner to provide a world-class educational experience for all of our students.



A visitor takes a rest on the railing.
Courtesy of Mary Jo Peltier

Piano Lessons

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IHLNA Real Estate Report

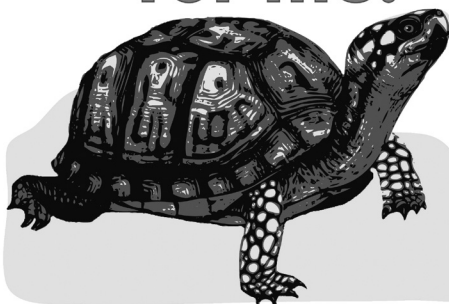
All Information is taken from the Tallahassee Board of Realtors CATRS and Multiple Listing Services for the past 12 months. This includes Indian Head and Lehigh subdivisions plus other less well known ones that are part of Indian Head, such as Brentwood, Ohbah, Semalachee, Rance, and Patricia Estates. These statistics do not include homes sold by family members or sold separately from a realtor's services. However, most sales and listings are included.

In the past year, 34 houses were sold, twenty of which were sold in the past six months. Seven houses currently are on the active market, and some of these are under contract. The average price listed right now is \$231,900. Square footage ranges from 1,395 to 3,339 square feet, with the average being \$120.93 price per square foot. Of sales in the past year, the listing price average was \$193,443, with ranges from \$79,000 to \$354,900. Sold prices were \$60,000 to \$328,000. Average days on market was 39, and price per square footage ranged from \$58.45 to \$178.23.

Indian Head seems to be moving briskly, though inventory is low....more buyers than sellers. As always, it's important to remember that this is one of the most eclectic/diverse neighborhoods in terms of house styles, size, age, and upgrades in all of Tallahassee. It's very challenging to price a home by what your neighbor got for theirs, regardless whether has the same square footage, number of bedrooms and baths, and so forth. Lot sizes also vary—generally they are 1/4 to 1/2 acre, but again, this varies.

Compiled by Terry Anne Kant-Rauch, Real Estate Broker and co-owner of Kant Realty of North Florida, and also a thirty-plus-year Indian Head resident.

**SLOW DOWN
& WATCH OUT
for me!**



IHLNA Officers & Project Coordinators

Note: The board currently is seeking two At-Large Board Members. Please contact Marney Richards for information.

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