

INDIANHEAD LEHIGH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2012
Fall Newsletter

Halloween Party & Potluck-October 28th

The traditional Halloween Party and potluck, sponsored by the Neighborhood Association, is scheduled for Sunday, October 28th at Optimist Park, from 4:30 pm to 7:00 pm. This event is open to all residents of the neighborhood – it is not for kids only!

The party in the park will include live music provided by the ever-popular band Tao Jones and the Ontological Elephants. The costume parade, with musical accompaniment, is open to all ages and ogres.

As always, you and your neighbors will bring the most scrumptious foods for the potluck dinner. The Neighborhood Association will provide plates, utensils, and drink.

The party preparation and decoration of the clubhouse will take place from 11 am to noon that day. All decorating volunteers welcome! **For more information on how to help with the party, contact Grant Gelhardt at grant.gelhardt@gmail.com.**



Photo: Marie-Claire, Michèle and Ingrid

CALENDAR

Monday, October 22: Neighborhood Watch Meeting

7:00 p.m., Optimist Park Clubhouse (see article in this newsletter)

Sunday, November 4: Daylight Saving Time

Turn your clocks back one hour ("fall back")

Tuesday, November 6: Election Day

Vote at Indianhead precinct, Optimist Park

2nd Sunday of Each Month, Potluck in the Park

Optimist Park, 4:30 p.m. In addition to the potluck dish to share, please bring your own utensils and perhaps a chair or blanket for sitting and visiting. **November potluck will have FREE PONY RIDES**

Spring 2013: 4th Annual Nene Fest, Optimist Park

In this Issue

- The Walking School Bus
- Lafayette Street Community Garden
- Water Pollution Starts in Your Own Back Yard
- Indianhead Neighborhood Watch
- Geology of Indianhead

The Walking School Bus is Back!

Students are back at school and some neighborhood kids are getting there the fun way, by walking or biking together. It's a great way to ease into their day, transition from home to school, and get a bit of fresh air and exercise before spending the next few hours sitting and focusing. The group has added three kindergarteners and two students new to the neighborhood.

Neighbors enjoy watching us walk by - it reminds some of how, not long ago, they and most of their classmates got to school. And actually, to kids today it also feels perfectly normal.



Walking by their side, we savor these moments knowing all too well that this season of their life is fleeting and that their travels will soon take them far beyond the local school.

Treasurer Report

January 1, 2012 to August 31, 2012

Beginning Balance 1-Jan-12 \$2,818.40

Income

Nene Fest \$2,887.90

Membership Dues \$2,725.00

Ads - Spring Newsltr \$135.00

Total Income \$8,566.30

Expenses

Nene Fest \$2,645.22

Newsletters/Copies \$416.51

Insurance \$277.00

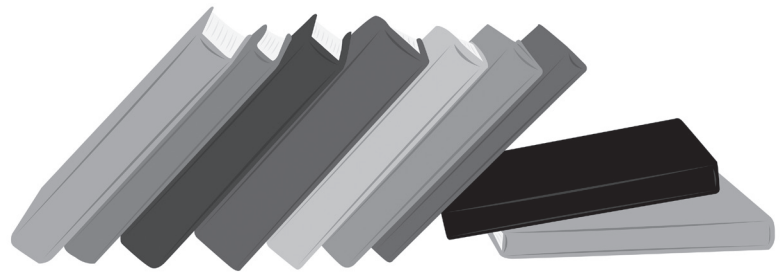
Bike Parade \$236.19

Potluck Signage \$412.80

Total Expenses \$3,987.72

Current Balance 31-Aug-12 \$4,578.58

Many thanks to our neighbors for such an amazing membership renewal response this year! Your renewals and contributions amounted to over \$2700. Nene Fest, through t-shirt and Food sales paid for itself with some left over to start the 2013 planning. The entire board thanks you for your support!



ARE YOU recently retired and looking for an interesting volunteer opportunity?

A Type-A personality who needs yet another thing on your plate? Have a high School or Middle Grades student in need of community service hours?

Check out the Literacy program at the Leon County Public library for interesting, satisfying, and FUN volunteer opportunities.
Call Rhonda at 606-2647 for more information.

Join us on

facebook.

www.ihlna.org

Lafayette Street Community Garden Interest Meeting

As the community garden movement has grown, many of us (merchants and residents) in the Parkway District have tossed around the idea of a community garden on Lafayette Street. Thanks to Scott Carswell, owner of The Moon, it looks like that dream could become a reality. Scott has kindly offered three separate locations along Lafayette Street (between Stone Rd and Magnolia) as possible garden locations. What we need to know now is whether or not there is community support.

Please join us on Tuesday, November 13 at 7:45 in the New Leaf Market deli seating area to learn about the possible locations and the next steps to beginning a Lafayette Street Community Garden. If you are unable to attend, but would like to be a part of the community garden, please contact Cristin Burns at Cristin@newleafmarket.coop or call 850-942-2557 ext. 246. A minimum of 25 interested individuals or families will be required in order for the garden to move forward.

About the Parkway District

The Parkway District is roughly defined as Franklin Boulevard to the west, Blairstone Road to the East, near the Capital City Country Club to the South and Apalachee Parkway to the North and including the Woodland Drives, Indian Head Acres and Myers Park neighborhoods.

Tuesday, November 13 at 7:45

Lafayette Street Community Garden Interest Meeting

New Leaf Market deli seating area



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Water Pollution Starts in Your Own Back Yard

by Catherine Bray

Ever driven by your neighborhood pond or the local lakes and wondered why they were green? Or, do you find yourself muttering about polluted lakes, wondering where the pollution comes from and asking what can be done about it? If you have, you may be surprised to find that the answers might involve YOU. What do you have to do with green lakes and ponds? First, let's identify the "green stuff." Then, let's look at where it comes from and what individuals can do about it.

Nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, are the food in water that feed algae and plants. Algae are the microscopic plant and bacteria life in the water. Too many nutrients can upset the balance of a lake's ecosystem where the larger plants can't consume the food as fast as the algae. When the algae multiply or bloom, this causes our lakes, ponds and streams to look like pea soup. Fish kills can result because algae blooms consume much of the oxygen during night and on cloudy days, so that the fish can't breathe. Nitrogen and phosphorus come from three primary sources in your neighborhood: Fertilizer, Leaf Litter, and Soil. Surveys show that only about 30% of Tallahassee residents fertilize their lawns. Alternatives to fertilizing are xeriscaping (using plants that require little water) and reducing the need for fertilizer. If you do choose to fertilize your lawn, be sure to follow the City's fertilizer ordinance, that includes prescribed application rates, prohibited periods (before heavy rainfall events, flood watches, etc.) and hire only

commercial applicators that have a City certification. Both nitrogen and phosphorus can be found in most fertilizers. Because Leon County soils already contain an adequate amount of phosphorus for lawns, use a lawn fertilizer with a ZERO in the middle of the three-number sequence (no phosphorus).

Decaying leaf litter that enters the storm drains, swales and ditches contributes both nitrogen and phosphorus to stormwater runoff. Keep leaf litter and grass clippings on your property by reusing it for mulch around hedges, gardens and flower beds. Properly bag unwanted leaf litter for yard waste pick up, preferably using the paper lawn bags. (Did you know that Leon County has to pay people to break open all the yard waste in plastic bags before chipping it up for mulch?) Please do not place the leaf litter in loose piles for the yard waste pick-up as the trucks cannot adequately collect the debris, which then washes down the street clogging drains or adding nutrients to the local streams.

Soils in most of Leon County are naturally high in phosphorus. When soil from your yard washes down the street to the nearest storm drain, then to Indianhead Creek and then eventually to Lake Munson, local waters are overloaded with phosphorus, causing algae blooms. Stop soil loss from occurring on your property by using mulched borders and shade-loving groundcover in areas too shady for grass to grow.

Your local landscaper, garden store or www.TAPPwater.org can provide helpful suggestions for maintaining your yard.



Indian Head Neighborhood Watch

by Bill Teehan

As most of you know, this past summer has seen its share of anti-social behavior in the neighborhood. This includes (but not limited to): burglaries (resident and auto); auto theft; criminal mischievous; loitering; weapons violations; suspicious persons/vehicles; and, my personal favorite, loud music.

The Tallahassee Police Department (TPD) developed an initiative referred to as the Neighborhood Action Plan (NAP) to combat the issues that were plaguing the Indianhead community. The NAP was a comprehensive plan that involved various patrol and specialty squads, and the plan ran from Wednesday August 15 until Wednesday August 29, 14 days. During that period TPD worked 118 total incidents, or an average of 8.4 incidents a day. The majority of the incidents appear to be officer initiated and they broke down as follows:

- 53-Business checks
- 27-Residential check
- 16-suspicious incidents or persons
- 7-Traffic stops
- 6-Field interviews
- 3-Miscellaneous service calls
- 2-False alarms
- 2-Traffic crashes
- 1-Loud noise complaint
- 1-Disorderly conduct

In the 14 days following the conclusion of the NAP, TPD worked 88 incidents, or an average of 6.2 incidents a day with the majority being officer initiated, and those incidents broke down as follows:

- 37-Business checks
- 19-Traffic stops
- 8-Residential checks
- 7-Suspicious incidents or persons
- 6- False alarms
- 4-Miscellaneous service calls
- 2-Trespass warnings
- 1-Auto burglary- no force used

- 1-Community Policing
- 1-Traffic crash
- 1-Fraud
- 1-Grand theft

What can you do? Here's a checklist for you home security – How does your home rate?

- Have you trimmed all bushes and shrubs to provide visibility to all windows and to prevent people from hiding near doors and windows
- Do all your exterior doors have good quality deadbolt locks with no less than a 1 inch throw?
- Do you have exterior floodlights/motion sensors illuminating all sides of your home at night?
- Have you documented and photographed all possessions including computers, furniture, jewelry, guns, etc. that are in your house?
- Is your address clearly visible from the street in the event emergency people need to find you quickly?
- Are there any inside locks that can be reached and opened (within 40 inches), should the door glass or any adjacent window be broken?
- Do you lock your car doors?

For more tips, please go to www.talgov.com/tpd/prevent_tips.cfm

Remember report any suspicious activity.

Call 891-4200. Join the Tallahassee Police Department and your Neighborhood Watch Team on October 22, 2012 at Optimist Park starting at 7:00 to learn more.



Geology of Indianhead

By Shelly Hatton

As you stand in your back yard, consider this. Beneath you, thousands of feet down, are rocks that tell the story of how our neighborhood came to be.

When Pangea broke apart (251-65.5 mya), the continents of Africa, South America and North America headed toward their current positions, but a little piece of northeast Africa remained welded to the North American plate. We call it Florida.

Florida stayed underwater in a warm shallow ocean for another 75 million years. Tiny sea creatures lived and died in that ocean, donating their skeletons to a graveyard on the bottom of the sea. Over geologic time, the skeletons cemented to produce a massive limestone deposit, thousands of feet thick, which now is the hallmark of Florida geology--a complex of holes, caverns and conduits that gives your yard its foundation and holds your drinking water.

Between 23 to 28 mya, Florida emerged from the sea. The first land animals appeared: bats, horses and carnivores... As time moved forward (23 – 5.3 mya), large sharks patrolled our Gulf. Mammals—some of the largest to have ever existed—took up residence. It's possible that creatures like dire wolves, saber-tooth cats, giant sloths and giant beavers made their homes in Indianhead and hunted for food where Monroe and Apalachee Parkway now intersect. Look around

sometime—you may find teeth or bones left behind from these creatures in our creek.

From five mya to about 11,000 years ago, climate fluctuated repeatedly. Glaciers came and went causing sea levels to rise and fall. Then 2.6 mya, the cycles of thawing and freezing intensified. During the freezes, you would have had to travel over 100 miles from your house, through dry savannah lands for a dip in the Gulf. During glacial thaws, you could have taken a few steps out your door to enjoy a swim. In fact, remnants of an ancient shoreline can be seen just a few blocks from our neighborhood. Stand on South Monroe street at the intersection of Gaines and look south at the abrupt sloping of the land. This is the shoreline that separated the hilly highlands to the north from the flat seabed to the south. It's called the Cody Scarp.

For millions of years, powerful forces have been at work sculpting the rolling hills of our neighborhood. Rivers and streams cut channels that were filled and then cut again. Sinkholes formed, then eroded, leaving behind gullies and slopes. Paleo rivers and oceans deposited sands and clays into our yards. Even the eroding Appalachian Mountains contributed quartz to the area. (You can thank the Appalachians for our crystal white beach sands.)

Though Homo sapiens evolved some 200,000 years ago, we've only been in Florida around 14,000 years. And here we are.

Thank You Neighbors!

DAVID (BUBBA) RIDDLE

I'll Be Back!

DAVID (BUBBA) RIDDLE

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At-Large: Cyndy Brantley	656-7445	At-Large: Mike Murphree	219-1223
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