

INDIAN HEAD

LEHIGH

NEIGHBORHOOD

ASSOCIATION INC



SUMMER 1989 NEWSLETTER

DEAR NEIGHBOR:

During the first quarter of 1989, the Tallahassee Police Department crime statistics indicated that crime in the Indian Head/Lehigh neighborhood increased from 2 crimes reported in the last quarter of 1988 to just 3 crimes reported in the first quarter of 1989. All of Tallahassee has seen an increase in crime. We are seeing a much less significant rise than some areas of town.

We can all take precautions to insure our safety:

1. Lock windows and doors when you are away from home. When working in the backyard, keep the front door locked.
2. Cut bushes and shrubs away from windows and entry ways. Don't give burglars a place to hide.
3. See that entry ways are well-lighted.
4. Do not leave valuables in cars.
5. Establish a mini-crime watch with your close neighbors by exchanging daytime phone numbers and notifying them of your vacation plans or other extended absences. Any suspicious activity can then be checked with you or reported to the police.
6. Leave one or more lights on timers when you will be gone overnight.
7. Stop newspaper and mail delivery when you will be away from home for more than a day.
8. When you are going to be gone on an extended vacation, have someone come in to look after things; change the position of drapes, deposit garbage in the container, mow grass, and otherwise make it look as if you are home.
9. Report any crime or suspicious activity to the police.

Perhaps the most important step is the last one - report ALL suspicious activity and crimes. The police cannot help or protect us if they are not aware of our concerns!

The crime issue is clearly one we are all concerned about and many neighbors have wondered about the feasibility of reinstating a formal Crime Watch designation such as we had years ago (some of the old signs are still posted in the neighborhood). However, there is a tremendous amount of organization and cooperation required for such a designation. Some of the requirements include petitions for such recognition signed by 75% or more of the neighbors and people willing to be block captains to report periodically and to distribute information. This is a task that the neighborhood association Board of Trustees is unable to take on at this time. If anyone is interested in leading a drive for a formal Crime Watch, please contact any of the Board members listed on the back of this newsletter. If that effort is unsuccessful, we can still join in

informal groups to look out for one another. That is the true basis of Crime Watch and of the sense of community that we share.

Speaking of our sense of community, we will soon be growing. Terry McComb, a builder with an exceptional reputation, is planning to build new homes in the area between West Indianhead Drive and Atapha Nene, east of Chocksacka Nene and west of Mountbatten Rd. Terry has already built new homes near the intersection of Atapha Nene and Chocksacka Nene and along West Indianhead near Chocksacka. His new subdivision, called Brentwood III, will be along a cul-de-sac to be named Ohbah Nene. Ohbah is an Indian word for owl. Good luck Terry!

Praises and thanks go to all the fine folks who successfully fought the school rezoning and its potential impact on Hartsfield School. Maggie Dunaway did a superb job heading this effort.

Sincerely,

Ramona Abernathy-Paine

#### NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES 1989-1990

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AT-LARGE 3: Helen Carroll, 1521 E. Indian Head Dr., 878-3210

#### RENOVATIONS AT OPTIMIST PARK

Finally, after several meetings between the Board and City, renovations are to begin on the Optimist Park recreation building. The Parks and Public Works Departments assure us that a contract will be let for renovating the building in early fall. Improvements will include new bathrooms, interior paint, floor covering, new doors, new kitchen sink, new outside sign and more.

#### HALLOWEEN PARTY

It's not too early to start thinking about cooler days and creative costumes! A date for the Halloween Party has been set for Saturday, October 28. All are welcome and there will be special activities planned for the younger ghosts and goblins. There will be a planning meeting sometime in September. If you're interested in helping out, please contact any of the Board members listed above.

#### NEXT MEETING

The Board of Trustees meets at 7pm on Sunday, ~~August 20~~, at the Scout House (Optimist Park); public welcome.

*Supt. 17*

#### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

~~During the evening of August 8, staff from the Electric, Police, and Fire Depts. will travel through Tallahassee's neighborhoods, distributing information on crime prevention techniques. Be sure to leave your outside lighting on throughout the evening!~~

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