



Indian Head Lehigh

Neighborhood Association, Inc.

NEWSLETTER ** SPRING 1998

YARD SALE

The Neighborhood yard sale last year at Optimist was a huge success. Over 30 neighbors brought stuff out and there was a huge turnout of both neighbors and bargain hunters.

The Neighborhood Association is planning to have another neighborhood yard sale on **May 9, 1998**, from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the open field at Optimist Park. If you plan to sell stuff there, please unload your car and then move the car to the parking area by the T-ball field.

This is a great opportunity to sell that stuff you have accumulated. It is also a good way to meet your neighbors by either participating in the sale or by browsing. Hope to see you there. For more information call Grant.

Trail news

The trail along Indian Head Creek that was extended north of Optimist Park a few years ago has become a popular place for folks to get out and walk and explore. As a result, the trail is now well established and not much additional clearing needs to be done this spring. In addition, "good citizen" neighbors have taken it upon themselves to clear the trail of major tree or limb falls after storms. Thanks to each and every one of you that have helped in your own way to maintain this trail! However, there are some areas that are generally too wet for foot traffic or bikes much of the year. There is also the potential for expanding the trail with the addition of a couple of boardwalks and bridges. Ken Woodward would like some assistance in getting the boardwalk and bridges projects done. If you are interested, please call Ken at 877-4034 to arrange for a work party.

The trail between Optimist Park and Koucky Park also continues to have a lot of use. Please be careful and slow down if you are riding your bike along the narrow portion of the trail.

Both sections of trail have "problem" or exotic pest plants, such as air potato, Christmas berry, and nandina. We have made substantial progress in removing some of these. We have no plans at this time to do another eradication work day; however, we may get a group together later this spring when the plants have fully leafed out. If you are interested in doing this type of work, please let Connie Bersok know (942-7904). Also, if you have any questions about which plants are the "pests" and which are the proper native ones along the creek, feel free to call Connie.

Sidewalks!!

You may have noticed some survey stakes and new fencing along East Indian Head Drive next to Hartsfield Elementary School. This is the preliminary step to putting in a sidewalk in the area. The City of Tallahassee's Streets and Drainage Division will be installing a sidewalk and doing other minor work in that section to provide for a safer pedestrian experience. This work should be completed this spring.

CONA Banquet is May 21, 1998

The Council of Neighborhood Associations of Tallahassee/Leon County (CONA) will hold the CONA Annual Awards Banquet May 21, 1998 at the Ramada Inn on North Monroe, commencing at 6:00 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased from any CONA board member and through forms printed in the CONA newsletter. A \$20 ticket is required for entry and may be retained for a door prize. Volunteers to sell tickets for the event are welcome. Contact Dotty McPherson Roberts at 656-9763 to volunteer.

The "Neighborhood of the Year" and "Citizen of the Year" will be announced at the banquet. A distinguished guest speaker will also be a highlight of the evening.

CONA and Local Government

CONA will sponsor a Law Enforcement and Emergency Services Appreciation Day in October. A planning committee is being organized for the event. Volunteers will be sought to assist with the planning and production of the event. Anyone wanting to participate may contact Dotty McPherson Roberts at 656-9763.

Residents are encouraged to learn about the "Fast Track" issue being considered by our local government. The issue is being pushed by developers. Another issue to keep informed about is rezoning requests by developers. Presently, the city is examining rezoning areas near our neighborhood. Watch for their signs and notices in the newspaper.

About Dogs

Now that the warm weather has finally returned to our neighborhood it time to open up the windows and head outdoors. But it's not just people that's going to be spending more time outdoors, it's also our pets, and in some cases that can pose problems to neighbors. Most of the complaints made to the neighborhood association about pets concern two

problems. barking dogs, and dogs not on a leash.

Allowing your dog "to habitually bark whine or howl ... in an excessive, continuous or untimely fashion so as to result in a serious annoyance or interference with the reasonable use or enjoyment of neighboring premises" is defined as an animal nuisance, under Tallahassee City Ordinance 5.2, and can lead to fines or even impoundment by City officials for repeat violations.

Typically, once a neighbor has complained to a dog owner about a barking problem the owner has ten days to solve the barking problem before the neighbor can ask Tallahassee City Animal Control officials to issue a citation. Their number is 891-6790.

If you are a dog owner, be responsible for your dog's behavior in your own yard. There are many highly effective remedies to correct excessive barking, including high tech collar systems. Any of these should be used as part of an overall obedience training program.

Another complaint concerns unleashed dogs. Tallahassee City Ordinance 5.1 requires "Immediate, continuous, control of a dog at all times...by means of a leash, cord, secure fence, or chain." Voice control is not acceptable control over dogs in the city. Under this ordinance voice control is only allowed in official training or field events such as dog shows.

If you are a dog owner, it is also your responsibility to keep your dog leashed at all times when on a walk or a visit to the park. Not only is it required by the city codes, it is in the best interest for the health and safety of your dog.

Most of us in the Indianhead/Lehigh Acres area love animals, and many of us have dogs. But we must remember to be courteous neighbors as well. Barking dogs and unleashed dogs are not only against the law, but can seriously disrupt the happiness and joy of our neighborhood as well.

CRIME WATCH

In the spring and summer many burglaries are crimes of opportunity. Please close and lock your windows and doors when you are not at home. Don't leave your bikes on you lawn or in an open carport!!! Put your bike behind your house, lock it up if you leave it in the carport, or put it in a shed.

The best way to insure a safe neighborhood is to know your neighbors and report any unusual activities.

IF YOU SEE SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE OR ACTIVITIES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD CALL THE POLICE

Planning issues

Over the last year the City and County Comprehensive plan was revised. The major revision was to change the ambiguous mixed use zoning to a site specific zoning. What that meant for the neighborhood was the mixed use designations around the neighborhood would get specific designations on what could or could not be built there. The areas covered in this change was Dacron and Myrtle Drive, the commercial area along Lafayette street and a parcel of land on Blairstone that backs up on to the houses on Wahalaw Nene.

The neighborhood association lobbied for and got the neighborhood along Dacron and Myrtle designated low density residential R-2. The original plan was to have the area designated medium density residential which would allowed apartment complex in the neighborhood. The area along Lafayette was eventually designate urban pedestrian to encourage a more pedestrian friendly development along this stretch. The neighborhood association was unsuccessful in requesting a reduction of density on the parcel along Blairstone Road, presently allowing for apartment complexes, but was able to convince the City to pursue the purchase of the parcel as a park.

Other planning issues

The neighborhood association and other concerned citizens were successful in blocking a proposed rezoning of a parcel across from the school. The property owner wanted to rezone a residential parcel adjacent to the school to commercial. That was defeated.

The residents along Chowkeebin were successful in putting together a petitioning for traffic calming devises along their road. The project is presently number 24 on the list and lets hope it moves up fast. If other streets are interested in the installation of traffic calming devices - contact the neighborhood association. (You need 75% of the owners along the street supporting the proposal)

Lafayette Street Study

The City is conducting a study to see what physical improvements can be made to enhance safety, access, convenience and comfort for business patron of the neighborhood commercial district along Lafayette Street.

This small commercial district provides many services to the neighborhood. This is an opportunity for Indian Head residents to ask the City to provide safe and convenience access to this commercial district through street scape improvements including addition bike lanes and sidewalks in the neighborhood and along Lafayette Street and Old St Augustine Road. This also offers the opportunity to look into potential traffic calming activities in and around the neighborhood.

For more information about the upcoming workshops call Anil Panicker 891-8600 with the City or Ben Chandler at 222-2277 with Hall Planning and Engineering.

OFFICERS OF IHLNA

President: Grant Gelhardt 942-7608
Vice-pres: Ken Woodward 877-4034
Secretary: Jennifer Edwards
Treasure: Mary Louise Bachman 877-6344
At-Large: Connie Bersok 942-7904
At-Large: Charlie McCoy 878-3106
At-Large: Dotty McPherson Roberts 656-9763
At-Large: Bill Gallo 671-3187
At-Large: Jim Cahill 877-0276
At-Large: Johnnie Chavies 878-7632

Membership in your IHLNA neighborhood Association is a good investment! You are helping support volunteers in your area who are willing to give their time and energy to maintain and support our quality of life in our neighborhood. For a minimal amount of money, \$5 or \$10, you are acknowledging that you appreciate the labors of your neighbors and friends who are concerned for all our well-being. In addition to your financial contribution, we need your active support of our activities. We need volunteers to help us with our projects, including the delivery of the newsletter. Our fiscal year runs January 1 through December 31. If you have made a membership contribution since January 1, 1998, you and your family are on our membership roles. If not, please complete the form below and send to the IHLNA Treasure, M. L. Bachman, 1905 Wahalaw Court.

INDIANHEAD LEHIGH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Membership 1998 \$10.00 Current resident
 \$5.00 20 year resident

**Make Checks Payable to IHLNA
Mail to M L Bachman
1905 Wahalaw Court**

I am interested in participating in the following activities of the neighborhood:

These activities are open to all residents of the neighborhood

Halloween party Landscaping/Nature Trail Crime Watch

Planning/Zoning Issues Neighborhood Yard Sale Deliver News Letters

Neighborhood Association Board Member - we always appreciate any help and ideas

Comments or Suggestions _____
