



Indian Head Lehigh Neighborhood Association, Inc.

NEWSLETTER ** Spring 2002



Saturday, April 20



The Neighborhood Association will be sponsoring a neighborhood yard sale on Saturday, April 20th, at Optimist Park from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The yard sale is open and free to all members of the Neighborhood Association. For all others it will be \$10, but with it comes with a 1 year membership to the Neighborhood Association.

Do some spring house cleaning and make some extra cash. Come on down - sell some stuff, buy some stuff, (recycle) and meet your neighbors. For more information call Grant at 942-7608.

Nature Trail News

1. Greenway Erosion

The creek greenway is at the "bottom of the hill" in this neighborhood and that means that all the runoff from our yards and streets winds up there. This is most evident after heavy rains, when the force of the water creates channels along the trail and exacerbates existing erosion problems in the creek itself. The two tropical storms that dropped a lot of rain in a short time last fall were especially hard on the creek greenway. The board will be asking the city for assistance in solving this problem. If you have particular ideas for solutions or want more information, please contact Grant at 942-7608.

2. Trail Steps

The old steps leading to the nature trail north of Hokolin Nene are not in good shape. The Neighborhood Association would like to construct some steps from Hokolin Nene down the slope to the nature trail. If there are any contractors in the neighborhood that would like to provide the Neighborhood Association with a simple plan (or better yet, assist with building the steps), the neighborhood association would supply the materials. We are sure that we could get some neighbors to volunteer in building it, if only we had a design. Otherwise, we will need to contact the City for assistance. If you have any ideas, contact Grant or any member of the board.

3. Trail Slopes

The slope from Hokolin Nene southward to the trail is not so easy to traverse, either. We are going to contact the City to determine if the slope can be graded to be less steep and maybe less erosive.

Frances Hartnett Angara, who has moved from IndianHead to another established Tallahassee community, still has warm feelings for IndianHead Creek, which she shares in this poem. Thank you, Frances!

Ode to Indianhead Creek

You loaned your name
to our neighborhood, you
swallow rainwater flowing
from our lawns. Spring water
seeps from your banks. Bare-
foot children dam your cold
water with limestone chunks.
A migrating black bear splashed
between your flanks before over-
nighting behind Kmart on his trek
between forests. We rest easier
knowing you shelter and nurture
green tree frogs, garter snakes,
and minnows. We brag about
the hawks, owls, and bats
that swoop through the trees
cradling your banks. Legends
tell us Apalachees traveled
north from the Gulf to the hills
through your channel. I see you
picking your way south 1,000 years
after our last bridge has slumped,
dumping asphalt, concrete,
and gravel into your bed.



Sheep in the City

Last summer, the City brought sheep to the upper reaches of the greenway around the transformer area and behind the church to eat the kudzu. The sheep were an interesting addition to the greenway and lots of people stopped by to watch them graze. They (the sheep, that is) ate the kudzu to the ground fairly quickly, but kudzu plants have tremendous roots and the plants can grow back again as long as they have enough energy reserves in those roots. The plan is for the City to bring the sheep back every 6 to 8 weeks this spring and summer to continue to graze until the kudzu runs out of energy and quits resprouting.

Dogs can be a man's Best Friend....

Except when they are barking at night. Or have a barking spell during the day. It is natural for dogs to bark in response to other barking dogs, roaming raccoons, and other intrusions, but it is not natural for a dog to bark constantly. If you are bothered by a barking dog, first try to locate the dog and its owner. Talk with the owner and let him or her know about the problem. If necessary, follow up with a call if the barking continues. Only call animal control as a last resort. If you are the owner of a barking-prone dog, you can get tips from your vet or the humane society (www.nettally.com/lchs or 224-9193) on how to train your dog away from constant barking. Let's all do our part to be good neighbors and best friends.

Now, more than ever -

With longer daylight hours and people spending more time outside, *please* drive carefully, safely, and within the speed limit, especially near Optimist and Koucky Parks and Hartsfield Elementary School.

Optimist Park News

1. Clubhouse

Have you ever wanted to host a party in the park? The clubhouse can be reserved and used for neighborhood and family parties, such as children's birthday parties or family reunions. For details, contact Grant Gelhardt at 942-7608.

2. Speaking of parties....

The 2001 Halloween party was, as usual, a scream! There was lots of fun, good food and music, and great costumes. Thank you to all the participants and special thanks to everyone who decorated the clubhouse, brought treats, and cleaned up afterwards.

3. Picnic tables and benches

The newly installed tables and benches are a great addition to the upgraded playground equipment. Enjoy!

New Sidewalk

Have you checked out the latest sidewalk in the neighborhood? It is located on Mountbatton between Jim Lee Road and Atapha Nene. Kudos to the city for another great job with working around existing landscapes and making the sidewalk fit in an already established street.

Update on Neighborhood "Oil Spill"

In our last newsletter, we reported about the fuel oil spill/leak located in the creek on Wekewa Nene and what the City of Tallahassee was doing about it. The Storm Water Management Department believes that the spill was only a small amount and did not cause any damage to the surrounding areas. The boom that is in place has been changed several times to help "soak up" the fuel oil. Regular surface water and groundwater monitoring has taken place, and currently the fuel oil is below detection limits. The city will leave the boom where it is currently located, as well as continue to monitor

the water for a couple more months. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Christy Gandy at 877-0294.

Orange Avenue Widening

As reported last year, Leon County is planning to four lane Orange Avenue from Monroe Street to Blair Stone. The Neighborhood Association has requested that the County install a vegetated sound barrier between the proposed four lane Orange Avenue and the houses in Lehigh. In particular, we have suggested that the County plant either azaleas or wax myrtles to create a quick-growing dense hedge. For more information, call Grant at 942-7608.

Southside development

The City has created the South Monroe Steering Committee as part of designing a sector plan (an overall development plan) for the South Monroe Street area. The area includes the fairgrounds, Indianhead, and Rickards High School. The Indianhead Lehigh Neighborhood, represented by Grant Gelhardt, was given a seat on this committee. We will be hearing more about this plan as it develops.

WANT ADS

Want additional income while working from home? Get in on ground floor opportunity as deregulation of local phone service expands nationally. There is great income potential in the communications industry and with this company. I would love to share this wonderful opportunity with my Indianhead neighbors. Call 561-4674 (for a 2 minute information message) and leave your message if interested. Or call Sherry (pink house on Atapha & Chocksacka with Boston terrier) at 656-3625 (home) or 878-6008 (work).

Need someone to help with house cleaning on an "as-needed" basis? Weekends or weekdays. Sherry 656-3625

Council of Neighborhood Associations

You can keep up with the latest news from CONA on their website. Check it out at www.econa.org. There are also links to local government offices and officials.

Officers of IHLNA

President: Grant Gelhardt	942-7608	At-Large: Ann Kemp	877-3419
Vice-pres: Christy Gandy	877-0294	At-Large: Tony Biblo	656-2528
Secretary: Vacant			
Treasurer: Mary Louise Bachman	877-6344	At-Large: Vacant	
At-Large: Connie Bersok	942-7904	At-Large: Vacant	
At-Large: Charlie McCoy	878-3106	At-Large: Vacant	

We are on the look-out for more new voices and faces on The Board. We only meet every two or three months - that is just 4 to 6 times a year. Volunteer today!



We are putting together an e-mail list so that we can inform you of issues of importance to the neighborhood, especially if those issues arise between newsletters. If you would to get periodic updates on what is happening in the neighborhood, please either fill out the e-mail address on the membership form or send an e-mail note to cbersok@msn.com.

INDIANHEAD LEHIGH NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

(Please print)

Membership ___ \$10.00 Current resident
year 2002

___ \$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:

___ Halloween party ___ Landscaping/Nature Trail ___ Crime Watch

___ Planning/Zoning Issues ___ St. Augustine Road cleanup ___ Deliver Newsletters

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

Comments or Suggestions _____
