



# Indian Head Lehigh Neighborhood Association, Inc.

NEWSLETTER \*\* Fall 2007

## ***HALLOWEEN PARTY***

The traditional Halloween Party and potluck, sponsored by the Neighborhood Association, is scheduled for ***Saturday, October 27th***. It will be held at Optimist Park from 4:30 pm. to 7:00 pm. Back by popular demand, Tao Jones and the Ontological Elephants will provide live music throughout the evening, including the costume contest. The costume contest is open to all ages. 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.

To volunteer for any aspect of this fun event (preparation, decorating, clean-up) or for more information, call Grant Gelhardt at 942-7608.



**Happy Halloween**

### ***Other events to put on your calendar***

October 13<sup>th</sup> – Leon County Extension Service Open House from 9 – noon, with garden tours.

The evening of November 3<sup>rd</sup> (or 2 am on Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, to be official) - Turn your clocks back one hour (“fall back”) to adjust for the end of daylight saving time. Note that this is later than usual!

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month - “potluck in the park” from 4:30 to 7:30 pm at Optimist Park. In addition to the potluck dish to share, please bring your own utensils and perhaps a chair or blanket for sitting and visiting.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of October and April– neighborhood meeting, at 7 pm, at the clubhouse at Optimist Park\*

December 1 – The Winter Festival and Jingle Bell Run downtown.

March 8 – Roadside and Greenway clean-up.\*

\* see related articles in this newsletter



## Changes in the Greenway



First, there were the signs notifying us that the city was going to treat some non-native and invasive plants with herbicides. Then, the workers arrived with their backpacks of chemicals and blue dye. And soon thereafter, some of the trees and other plants started to die back – the mimosas, ligustrum, skunk vine, air potato, and others. All this is part of a plan to remove those plants that don't belong in our forests, so the native ones can return.

The work by the city staff is a good start, and they will probably be back to treat any undesirable plants that returned. We as a neighborhood must do our part, also, to prevent the return of these invasive plants. Some neighbors with lots that back up to the greenway have contacted the city to treat the invasive plants in their yards so that they won't spread again into the greenway. To those neighbors, kudos! The rest of us need to be aware of the plants that threaten our native ones, remove them to the extent that we can from our yards, and prevent their establishment and spread. Remember, we all live uphill of the creek and our individual and collective actions will impact the creek and greenway – for better or for worse. Previous newsletters have given some advice on these topics, which is summarized below:

1. Take an inventory of your yard, including the roadside drainage swale, and see if you have any invasive exotic plants. If you are not sure which, if any, plants in your yard might be invasive exotics, you can contact Geoff Brown (656-2141) or Connie Bersok (942-7904) in the neighborhood to help in your identification.
2. Get rid of invasive exotic plants in your yard and the roadside drainage area in front of your house. Physically removing the entire plant (roots and all) is a good approach, when possible, followed up by removing young seedlings whenever you see them.
3. If you can't remove the whole plant, but you really don't want to use herbicide unless absolutely necessary, you can cut back the plant as much as possible, and then apply the appropriate herbicide (following all directions) to the remainder of the plant.
4. Prevent re-infestations. When removing these weeds from your yard, make sure you place them in well-secured bags or cardboard boxes for pick-up; otherwise, their seeds and pieces of stems or roots could be transported downstream in the next storm and start a new population in the neighborhood.
5. In the future, use native plants in your yard whenever possible and strive to have a Florida-friendly landscape\*.

We are fortunate to have a stream and greenway running through our neighborhood which provides recreation and aesthetics for humans in addition to habitat for wildlife. Let's all work together to keep it healthy.

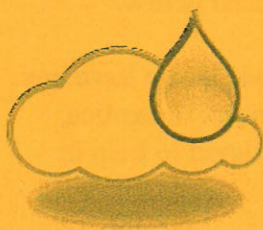
### \* What is Florida-Friendly Landscaping?

It is a public education and outreach program available through our Leon County UF/IFAS Extension office. It is creating and maintaining attractive landscapes to enhance our community and to protect Florida's natural environment. Learn how to select the right plant for the right place, water efficiently, fertilize appropriately, attract wildlife, manage yard pests responsibly, reduce storm water runoff and much, much more. Visit [www.FloridaYards.org](http://www.FloridaYards.org) for more information.

## Slow The Flow!

That is one of the campaign mantras of the TAPP program (Think About Personal Pollution). TAPP is funded partially by federal grants and managed locally through the City of Tallahassee's Stormwater Management Division. (see also [www.tappwater.org](http://www.tappwater.org))

As we all know, stormwater quality and quantity are issues that impact Tallahassee residents by degrading lakes and streams, eroding yards, or flooding homes. Tallahassee ranks #9 for the top 10 wettest cities in the U.S.



This year, TAPP offered up to \$175 in reimbursements for plants and mulch to city residents if they planted a rain garden. But what exactly *is* a rain garden?

A rain garden is a landscaped area designed to capture and hold excess water for a short period, allowing it to soak into the soil. The garden is planted with vegetation that prefers a slightly wetter environment, but can tolerate dry times, too. It is usually constructed in a depression or with a berm on the downstream side of the natural flow of water. The rain gardens prevent erosion in your yards and reduce the amount of runoff flowing to roads where it collects and transports additional pollutants to streams, ditches, ponds and lakes.

Three Indian Head residents took advantage of the grant program this year. One was built in a low area of the back yard to catch water from a downspout and additional uphill sheet flow. A second one was constructed just next door and uphill to the first rain garden. This one was more of a linear garden parallel with the fence line so that the berm re-directs water flowing under the fence around the house. The homeowners have seen positive results already! The third resident constructed the rain garden to slow the flow of runoff coming down the driveway, which created an eroded path through the middle of the front lawn. These projects

were not overwhelming and TAPP even provided some advice from Master Gardeners. TAPP and the City hope to offer the Rain Garden Grant program again next year.

## City Crime Data Now Available Online

The Tallahassee Police Department now offers citizens online access to neighborhood crime statistics. The web-based tool is called Tallahassee Online Police Statistics (TOPS).

Information is updated twice daily and includes criminal activity such as burglary, vandalism, noise violations, traffic accidents, fraud and others. You can search by address or by neighborhood association.

"TOPS" can be found at [talgov.com](http://talgov.com) or go directly to <http://tlcgis6.co.leon.fl.us/tops/>

Officer Tommy Tennison will be discussing this new tool at our October neighborhood meeting. Join us on Tuesday, October 23 at 7:00 PM in the Optimist Park Clubhouse.

## Time for another roadside clean up!



Grant Gelhardt will be heading up a clean-up to remove as much debris as possible from our roadway and greenway. If you are interested, please join him and your

neighbors on **Saturday, March 8 at 10 am** at Optimist Park. Bring gloves and wear sturdy shoes or boots. Children are welcome, too, to help pick up lightweight trash.

In years past, we found many "interesting" items in addition to the ubiquitous fast food and drink packaging. There is no telling what we will find this year! If you have any questions, give Grant a call at 942-7608.

## Neighborhood Welcome Wagon

If you are interested in becoming involved with your fellow neighbors in welcoming newcomers to our neighborhood, please contact Maria Goodman at 510-5212. A goal of The Welcome Wagon committee is to have enough representatives living throughout the neighborhood to quickly identify new residents and bring them a welcome basket filled with goodies and local information.



## Hazardous Waste Recycling

The IHLNA board was in the process of making arrangements for our annual hazardous waste “round-up” by the county when it was discovered that this program is being revised in the light of funding cuts. Therefore, we are not able to work with the county to provide this service to you this year. However, at this time, there are plans to provide a monthly pick-up of hazardous household materials at Tallahassee Mall and there may be regional pick-up events, including our area. So, watch the news, read the paper, and keep an eye out for e-mail notices on this in the future.

In the meanwhile, remember to keep your hazardous waste materials (paint thinners and other solvents, leftover fertilizers and pesticides, fluorescent bulbs, electronics, and more) out of your garbage can, recycling bins and roadside trash. Please dispose of it properly at the county landfill on Apalachee Parkway or call 414-9353 if you have any questions about safely handling your hazardous wastes.

## Speaking of trash and recycling....

When the city changed the garbage and recycling service this year, it eliminated “back door” service and therefore each household is now required to bring the trash and recycling bins to the street for weekly pickup. Please remember to also remove the bins from the street-side as soon as possible after pickup.

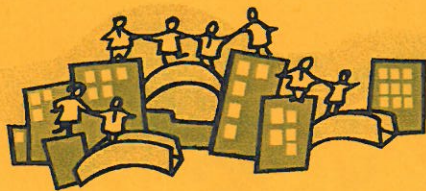
Please also remember that the bi-weekly bulk and yard trash service is intended to help you properly dispose of items that are too large to fit into the trash bin and cannot be recycled or composted. Electronics, such as television sets and computer monitors, are *not* picked up with “bulk” trash, as they contain hazardous materials.

See <http://www.talgov.com/you/solid/index.cfm> for details on how to neatly handle all your trash.

## Who to call to report...

... constantly barking dog, other nuisance pet, potential pet abuse.....	891-2950
... discarded appliances that need to be removed from roadside.....	891-4968
... garbage or recycling not picked up.....	891-4968
... street lights out.....	891-4968
... power outage .....	891-4968
... roadside drainage problem.....	891-5300
... noisy party, disturbing the peace.....	891-4200
When in doubt, Neighborhood Services is always helpful.....	891-4154
And, of course, for all true emergencies (fire, car accidents, etc).....	911

## IHLNA membership



Thanks to all of you who so generously responded to our membership drive last January. We will again be sending out reminders to renew or join the neighborhood association in January, 2008. You can also download the membership form from the IHLNA website ([www.indianhead-lehigh.com](http://www.indianhead-lehigh.com)) anytime.

## Neighborhood Meeting

The next neighborhood meeting will be held in the Optimist Park clubhouse at 7 pm on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. In addition to a crime watch update, there will be a presentation on landscape plans for the park. As always, expect an exchange of ideas and lively discussion. Come on out and bring your neighbor for an informative and fun evening.

## Officers of IHLNA

President: Grant Gelhardt	942-7608	At-Large: Oxo Slayer	656-2545
Secretary: Patty Ceci Sharp	309-0260	At-Large: Tony Biblo	656-2528
Treasurer: Mary Louise Bachman	877-6344	At-Large: Connie Bersok	942-7904
At-Large: David Moynahan	656-5506	At-Large: Sandra Neidert	656-7894
At-Large: Ramona Abernathy-Paine	656-6182	At-Large: vacant	

To join the neighborhood e-mail list, either fill out the e-mail address on your membership form *or* e-mail a note to [cbersok@nettally.com](mailto:cbersok@nettally.com) *or* sign up on our website, [www.indianhead-lehigh.com](http://www.indianhead-lehigh.com)

**Terry Anne Kant, Broker** (850) 877-2121  
terrykant@aol.com fax: (850) 877-6342

2731 Blairstone Lane  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

**Kant Realty**  
of North Florida  
A three generation Real Estate Family since 1932

terrykant.com

"IndianHead? Ask us, we live there!"

**Watts Mechanical, Inc.**  
5126-A Woodlane Circle  
Tallahassee, Florida 32303  
(850)-224-4822  
FAX 222-9756  
LIC. #CAC046922 #CFC056824 #CGCO60301

Your neighbor, Jackie Watts, offers services for heating & air, plumbing, general contracting and wood floors

Have you been thinking of remodeling? Need more space? Mom coming to live with you?

Kitchens Baths Additions Decks Tile  
Mother-In-Law Suites Doors Windows  
Repairs Roof-overs We do it all!

Randall E. Dender, Architect-Builder, LLC  
2049 Wahalaw Nene  
545-6674 cell 671-3236 office



## Casie Moran

Realtor®

Mobile: (850) 445-4735

Office: (850) 893-2525

Fax: (850) 668-7590

E-mail: [casie@armorrealty.com](mailto:casie@armorrealty.com)

ARMOR REALTY OF TALLAHASSEE, INC.

1519 Killeam Center Blvd

Tallahassee, Florida 32309



Because, there's no place like home!