

February 2014

Fairfields-Sylvan News & Views

FSNA Calendar

Fairfields-Sylvan neighbors meet at John Strange School, 7:00 pm, 3rd Wednesdays

Guest Speakers

- **Jan 15**
Katy Brett,
Executive Director
Renew Indianapolis
- **Feb 19**
Christine Scales,
County Councilor
- **Mar 19**
TBA
- **Apr 16**
TBA
- **May 21**
Annual Elections

\$25 Annual Dues by

March 15 to:
FSNA Treasurer
PO Box 20070
Indy, IN46220-0070

Email: "comments
@ fsnaindy.org"

Vital Information

Indy North Police

327-6100

Mayor's Action Center to report:

327-4622

Potholes

Abandoned vehicles
Illegal dumping, etc

Christine Scales County Councilor

317-578-8901

cscscales_2000@
yahoo.com

Gregory A. Ballard Mayor

2501 City-County
Building, 200 East
Washington Street
Indpls, IN 46204

Chief of Staff:

[Ryan.Vaughn@](mailto:Ryan.Vaughn@Indy.gov)

Indy.gov

You are invited to meet City-County Councilor, Christine Scales.
February 19, 7:00 pm. John Strange School cafeteria, 3660 East 62nd Street.

Please visit our website

www.fsnaindy.org

Neighbors for nearly 500 households in our area can view updated 9-1-1 Facts; IMPD link; homepage postings for Lost Pets; meeting agendas, online opinions; Drainage Mapping Project; Republic Recycling calendar; DMD map showing your street and lot; minutes; our Independence Parade & Pitch-In; Facebook; Block Parties; other events.

New Real Time Link on FSNA Homepage: SafeTown.org

"SafeTown is a powerful, easy-to-use suite of cloud and mobile apps that empower citizens to share information with local law enforcement, fire, emergency services, and other citizens to make our community a better, safer place to live."

With SafeTown, citizens can create household profiles to provide critical information for use by First Responders in an emergency. Profiles can include photos, medical conditions, personal descriptions, or access information. Quicker access can save seconds, and seconds can save lives. SafeTown also lets law enforcement, fire and EMS agencies post alerts such as traffic accidents, crimes, and/or severe weather.

Annual Independence Parade & Pitch-In, Saturday, June 28th, 11:00 am
In the depths of a record cold winter, this is a reminder that we will celebrate a warm weather summer picnic and festivities in not-too-distant future. Mark your calendars!



This newsletter can also be found on our website.

President's Report, March 2013 - 2014 by Joe Goeller

Dear Neighbors, here are some highlights of our association and residents activities during the past year:

1. After construction of the East 62nd Street Trail, a Dedication Ceremony was held on Saturday, March 16, with Mayor Greg Ballard, State Representative Christina Hale, Director Ted Hudnut, and Joe Goeller as speakers at John Strange School's (JSS) entrance. Ted presented FSNA's Memorial Marker honoring long-time Trail Advocate John David "JD" Smith to his wife, Connie.
 2. At our March 20th Association meeting, Natalie Derrickson, Outreach Coordinator, delivered a Dept of Public Works review on East 62nd Trail contractor activities during the prior 15 months.
 3. Our "Annual Neighborhood Clean-up" was completed on Saturday, April 13, 2013. Due to early Easter and Spring Break last year, there was no Spring Egg Hunt. For our April 17th Association meeting, Guest Speaker was Joseph Jarzen of Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Inc./Adopt-A-Block.
 4. On May 15th, our Guest Speaker was Michelle Lanosga, JSS Landscape Project. FSNA gave \$500.00 to promote this PTO planting beautification effort on John Strange School grounds. On Friday, May 31st, FSNA distributed flowers to families volunteering for our "Annual Clean-up".
 5. We had a spike in Crime Watch incidents last year, including home invasions. With passage of "Cash for Gold" defined business regulations sponsored by State Representative Christina Hale, District 87, Fairfields-Sylvan residents had fewer crime incidents during last half of the year.
 6. Our 21st Independence Parade & Pitch-In outing was conducted on Saturday, June 29, on the John Strange School grounds, with Fire Engine 21 leading the parade. City-County Councilor Christine Scales was our Grand Marshall once more, staying afterward for our picnic. Engine 21 firefighters conducted an inspection of their truck and equipment for families and children.
 7. After a summer off, we again met as an Association on September 18, with Neighborhood Liaison Gary Loveless as Guest Speaker. He is our "go-to person" for any issues needing City attention. Other Guest Speakers were: October 16 – Diana Vanarsdall, City 9-1-1 Advisor; November 20 – Gerardo Becerra, IMPD Coordinator "Home Invasions"; January 15 – Katy Brett, Renew Indy.
 8. In cooperation with Greater Allisonville Community Council and FSNA volunteers, including Joie Woods and myself, painting of 41 fire hydrants was scheduled for April 13, May 18, and October 26, but canceled each time due to adverse weather. When feasible, 21 hydrants were painted on an individual basis, being over 50% of goal. Completion by volunteers is expected in spring 2014.
 9. On Saturday, October 11, Fairfields-Sylvan was recognized as one of five association finalists by Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center's (INRC) "Collaborative Spirit Award"! This annual award involves partnerships among neighbors, schools, businesses, and/or other organizations.
- 62nd St Trail Volunteers:** Gayle & Michael Stahl; Bill & Amy Boggs; John & Carolyn Peck; Kevin & Liz Sowinski family; T. Ray Phillips family; Dave & Sue Combs; and Lori & Blake Schlabach.

FSNA Annual Cleanup/Possible Spring Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 19 - Meet at JSS - Olney Street Entrance - Neighborhood Cleanup

In cooperation with Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Inc, we will have our annual Neighborhood cleanup along all Fairfields-Sylvan streets from **10:00 am to 12:00 Noon**. Gloves, trash bags, and water will be provided. Please attend and sign up for your block. Participating families will be eligible for a drawing of flower baskets or flats.

We have decorations and games as to a possible Spring Egg Hunt for parents and children, but need volunteers to organize and run it. If interested, please contact jgoeller@fsnaindy.org by Tuesday, March 18 for more details.

Infrastructure Improvements/Involved Neighbors

FSNA was incorporated July 20, 1999 at a time East 62nd Street was in pitiful repair, and East 61st Street was crumbling as well as its sidewalks. Councilor Christine Scales had no sooner been elected for her first term, when she was visited by Fairfield-Sylvan neighbors John “JD” Smith and Dr. Robert Lehnen. “JD” was known as an avid 10-speed bicycle rider. They proposed plans for a multi-use pedestrian trail along 62nd Street connecting Binford Boulevard to Broad Ripple Park and Village, a distance of 3 miles.

The FSNA Board conducted a survey of neighbors finding support for Trail, while an audio-visual slideshow in July 2009 depicted the deplorable “third world” condition of East 61st Street. With Mayor Ballard’s election, the City began moving efficiently on fixing potholes and renewing infrastructure. Both streets were resurfaced during 2010, and new sidewalks installed on East 61st Street.

Planning for an East 62nd Street Trail picked up in 2011 as Department of Public Works held communication meetings with groups of citizens, displaying photos and graphics of proposed plans. Construction began in 2012, being slowed by torrid drought during summer but nearing completion by year-end. The Trail was dedicated on March 16, 2013, with trees being planted in the spring.

During 2012, FSNA expanded its boundaries to include neighbors on Dearborn Street, Oakland Avenue, and on the north side of 65th Street from Allisonville Road to Tuxedo Street, adding some 75 homes for a total of nearly 500 households and families.

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association

FSNA E-MAIL:

COMMENTS@FSNAINDY.ORG

F-SNA BOARD

PRESIDENT

Joe Goeller

VICE PRESIDENT

Tom Sturmer

MEMBER SECRETARY

Ken Ingle

RECORDING SECRETARY

Kathie Church

TREASURER

Sherry Seiwert

DIRECTORS

Jim Aelick

Bill Hazel

Ted Hudnut

Crime Watch – Terry Dobson
News Editor – Joe Goeller

Neighborhood Drainage-Problem Survey

Dear Neighbor,

In order to create a map showing the different and many drainage problems we face each year in our neighborhood, please join us in providing input on problems for your home. We intend to show problem areas on a map and provide detailed information on a spreadsheet. We would like to share this information with the City and Citizens Energy Group for the purposes of trying to get some of these problems resolved. If the documented drainage issues overlap with poor sidewalk conditions and lack of sanitary sewers, then such concerns will also be discussed.

Let us know the following for each specific problem identified:

1. The nature of the drainage problem
2. Which properties are affected? List Street number addresses.
3. What time of year, and how often the problem(s) occur?
4. Any contact that you have had with the City of Indianapolis or other organizations to resolve the problem.
5. What was the outcome of these discussions?
6. What you think the solution may be?

Kindly submit your written input no later than Friday, April 11th, 2014.

Please mark up map available on our homepage, www.fsnaindy.org.

Thank you for your participation. Mail information to:

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association
Drainage-Problem Survey
PO Box 20070
Indianapolis, IN 46220-0070

Fairfields-Sylvan is a successful, award-winning neighborhood association. As with any organization, we always need volunteers who are interested in serving as Board Directors, Newsletter Editor, 62nd Street Trail Cleanup Committee, or as Crime Watch Block Captains. FSNA serves residents of the area bounded by Allisonville Road on the East, both sides of 65th Street on the North from Allisonville to Tuxedo; by Tuxedo from 65th to 62nd and Oakland Avenue from 62nd to Kessler Boulevard on the West; and by Kessler Boulevard north side on the South.

FSNA Membership Dues: \$25 per household, paid by March 15. Your Benefits are:

- FSNA website; February Newsletter. *May/Sep issues will be sent only to paid members*
 - Additional important updates by email or flier. *Crime Alert emails only to paid members*
 - Association Meetings; \$10 Attendee Drawing; Advocate of our interests with City leaders
 - Proponent of infrastructure improvements; Supporter of John Strange Elementary School
 - Annual Independence Day Parade and Pitch-In; potential for Block Parties; other events
- “MAKING A GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD EVEN BETTER!”***

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Zipcode _____

Telephone(s) _____

E-mail _____

Membership dues are \$25 per year for a household or business. Membership is good for one year from March 2014 to March 2015.

(Return with check to: FSNA Treasurer, PO Box 20070, Indianapolis, IN 46220-0070)

FSNA Secretary
PO Box 20070
Indianapolis, IN 46220-0070