

May 2013

Fairfields-Sylvan News & Views

FSNA Calendar

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

- **May 15**

Guest Speaker is Michelle Lanosga, JSS Landscaping

- **Jun - Aug**

School is out, so no FSNA meetings

- **June 29**

Independence Parade & Pitch-In Saturday, 11:00 am

\$25 Annual Dues per family. Send to FSNA Treasurer PO Box 20070 Indy, IN46220-0070

Email: comments @ fsnaindy.org

Important Phone Numbers:

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
cscales_2000@ yahoo.com

**Gregory A. Ballard
Mayor**
2501 City-County Building, 200 East Washington Street
Indpls, IN 46204
CofS: Ryan.Vaughn@Indy.gov

DEDICATION OF EAST 62ND STREET TRAIL – MAYOR BALLARD ATTENDED!
March 16, 11:00 am, at John Strange School, 3660 East 62nd St.

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; upcoming events; and so on.

Being There at a local Historic Event

In all probability for the first time, a Mayor of Indianapolis personally addressed a gathering of Fairfields-Sylvan directors and neighbors. This special occasion was the dedication of East 62nd Street Trail linking residents from Binford Boulevard to Glendale Town Center to Broad Ripple and Monon Trail, benefiting FSNA, Eastwood, and many other neighborhoods. The event paid tribute to individuals who were involved in the Trail, starting with Mayor Ballard and Councilor Christine Scales to the construction workers who labored during the torrid drought of last summer. Director Ted Hudnut presented our Memorial Marker honoring "JD" Smith to his wife, Connie.

Community Service Project - Fire Hydrants Painting, May 18th, 9:00 am

Due to cold, windy weather on Saturday, April 13, this project was rescheduled to Saturday, May 18. Volunteers are needed to restore FSNA hydrants by scraping, wiping, and painting lasting about three hours. Citizens Water provides the paint. **Contact jgoeller@fsnaindy.org.**

Mayor Greg Ballard, Representative Christina Hale, and Ted Hudnut spoke at Dedication.



John Strange PTO Landscaping - by Tom Sturmer

Michelle Lanosga, PTO liaison and project organizer, will speak at our May 15th Annual Meeting about this project once the election of officers has taken place. Michelle will bring drawings showing the proposed planting plan for both the school's front entrance and around the monument sign near East 62nd Street. She will also discuss opportunities to help with the plant installations once these activities have been scheduled.

The old 1960/1970's era landscaping has already been removed at the school entrance, and new planting is ready to go! We, as a neighborhood organization, could decide to focus our volunteer efforts on the area around the monument sign, while school families concentrate on the front entrance. *Please contact Michelle at 255-8714, if you are interested in helping.*

This project was funded by a \$4,985 grant from the Lowe's Toolbox for Education program, a gift of \$500 from FSNA, with more fundraising being conducted at John Strange. Once completed, a plant installation day(s) will be scheduled.

If you wish to comment or suggest other local community projects, please contact our Board, www.fsnaindy.org, or Mayor Ballard and/or Councilor Scales. ...*See contact information on first page.* For news regarding FSNA's umbrella organization, *Greater Allisonville Community Council (GACC)*, see website at www.greaterallisonville.org.

FSNA Drainage Problem Mapping Project – by Tom Sturmer

Thank you all who have provided feedback so far on this project. Approximately 40 survey responses have been returned to FSNA as of May 1st, with varying amounts of information. Some responses have just noted a drainage problem area on the map provided on the back side of the survey form. Some responses are very detailed with written narratives, drawings, and photos of the problems. All responses are valued!

We are in the process of compiling the information we have with the goal of making a preliminary presentation at the May 15th Annual Meeting. All of the problem locations will be assembled on a map, which will be coupled with a spreadsheet that provides summary information for each location. Our plan is to post this initial information on our website this summer, while continuing to solicit input.

The map and spreadsheet will be completed this Fall, with the goal of setting up meetings with agencies that can potentially help to address the problems. So far, the Department of Public Works (DPW), Citizens Energy Group, and the Marion County Soil and Water Conservation District have been identified as stakeholders. We will further work with our City-County Councilor, Christine Scales, to focus attention on our neighborhood.

Please be on the lookout for information posted on our website regarding this important neighborhood project. Thanks again for your input. I can be contacted at tsturmer@fsnaindy.org. *Tom, FSNA Vice-President*

21st Independence Parade & Pitch-In!

Saturday, June 29, 11:00 am. John Strange School – Rally on South Side

Walk, bike, or park vehicle in north school lot. Bring your children, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, friends, and four-footed pals! Led by Engine 8 fire truck, we will parade around the school to patriotic music! Come at 10:30 am to decorate with streamers and balloons we will provide for bikes, trikes, wagons, strollers, or other non-motorized vehicles. A pitch-in lunch will be held. *FSNA provides drinks and sandwiches.*

Pitch-In Food: Last name ending in: **A – H:** Side Dish **I – R:** Salads **S – Z:** Desserts

What will Downtown Indianapolis look like in five years?

The Indianapolis Star for Sunday, May 2, 2013, contained the above-titled column by Reporter Erika D. Smith.

The article regarded Indianapolis Downtown Inc. (IDI) with a new vision of Downtown as a *neighborhood surrounded by other neighborhoods*.

To quote an excerpt by Erika, "Led by IDI, this year-long process with the help of dozens of community, political and business leaders – will come up with a five-year vision for Downtown Indianapolis. Under consideration are ways to drive economic development, make better use of public spaces and parks, improve transportation (yes, including transit), increase housing options, and add more arts and cultural attractions. A public launch is set for Tuesday."

The President of Indianapolis Downtown Inc. is Sherry Seiwert, currently our Fairfield-Sylvan Treasurer.

Congratulations, Sherry!

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association

FSNA E-MAIL:

COMMENTS@FSNAINDY.ORG

F-SNA BOARD

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Sidewalk Maintenance - by Tom Sturmer

No, this isn't an announcement about how the City is going to fix our north/south direction streets, but it is a reminder of how we as neighbors can maintain those that we do have. As more and more people use the sidewalks and the Trail in our neighborhood, here are a few suggestions about how property owners can do their part to promote walking along our streets.

1. Remove sticks and other debris including trash from your sidewalk.
2. Blow cut grass off sidewalk, such as making an extra pass with your lawnmower or by using a blower.
3. Clear away bushes and brush which invades the sidewalk space.
4. Try not to block the sidewalk with your parked vehicle.
5. Dog-Walkers: Pick up your dog's waste.
6. Don't place garbage cans or recycling containers on sidewalk.

As a NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION, let's see what we can accomplish in addressing the major sidewalk issues with City officials and the Department of Public Works (DPW).

As NEIGHBORS, let us all do our part to make Fairfield-Sylvan a desirable place to live!

Editor's Note: Homeowners are encouraged to maintain the infrastructure of our existing sidewalks and curbs, before it becomes necessary for DPW to rebuild them. Destroy invasive plants growing from sidewalks and street gutters with weed-killer sprays, weed whackers and other tools, or even pulling out by hand.

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc. will supply neighbors who sign up to be Adopt-A-Block Coordinators with extra-width shovels for removing leaves and other debris along street curbs and storm sewers. This can further improve FSNA water drainage.

Some articles inside: East 62nd Trail/Being There at a local Historic Event; Community Service-Fire Hydrants; Drainage Mapping; so on -

Located in northeast Indianapolis, FSNA strives to improve and protect the beauty, integrity, and security of our area. It serves residents of the neighborhood 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 on the West; by Kessler Boulevard on the South.

FSNA Membership is for one year. Dues are \$25 per household. 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
- Independence Day Parade and Pitch-In; potential for Block Parties; and other events

“MAKING A GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD EVEN BETTER!”

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Zipcode _____

Telephone(s) _____

E-mail _____

<p>Membership dues are \$25 per year for a household or business. Membership is good for one year from March 2013 to March 2014.</p>

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

FSNA Secretary
PO Box 20070
Indianapolis, IN 46220-0070