

September  
2011

# Fairfields-Sylvan News & Views

**PLEASE JOIN US!!! Kroger Gift Certificate drawing for attendees!!!!  
September 21st AT 7:00pm**

**Please visit our website**  
[www.fsnaindy.org](http://www.fsnaindy.org)

We have launched a fresh website to better serve more interests of 400+ households in our area. These include electronic Membership Form which can be printed or emailed, use of PayPal, Renewing Dues Online, an ability to submit your comments online, FSNA Directors and Block Captains information, Neighborhood Crime Watch Reports, Events page featuring audio/video of our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and Picnic, plus upcoming activities

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**F-SNA Annual Independence Day Parade!!!!**  
**Special Thanks to All Those Who Participated!!!!**



*\*This newsletter can also be viewed on the F-SNA website*

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

- **Sept 21**  
New topics and updates!
- **Oct 19**  
Stay tuned for agenda!
- **Nov 16**  
Stay tuned for agenda!

\* No Meeting in Dec  
**Annual Dues due in March 2012**  
Send to: FSNA Treasurer  
PO Box 20070  
Indy, IN46220-0070

**Email:** comments @ fsnaindy.org

**Important Phone Numbers:**

**Indy North Police**  
327-6100

**Mayors Action Center to report:**  
Potholes

Abandoned vehicles  
Illegal dumping, etc.  
327-4622

**Christine Scales County Councilor**  
317-578-8901  
cscales\_2000@ yahoo.com

**Gregory A. Ballard Mayor**

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

## Fairfields-Sylvan Infrastructure Update!

- 62<sup>nd</sup> Street Multi-Use Path: Based on information received in July from the Indianapolis Department of Public Works, the path construction should begin in late summer and be complete by July, 2012 (see DPW project sheet). Additional information is being requested at this time and will be shared at upcoming F-SNA meetings.
- Allisonville Road Bridge over I-465: Scheduled to be CLOSED no more than five months beginning no later than March 1, 2012. The holiday shopping season will not be impacted, according to Indiana Department of Transportation representatives (see attached notice + <http://www.465-69northeast.in.gov/AllisonI465.html>)
- Keystone Avenue interchange with I-465: Traffic patterns have changed resulting in increased congestion at this interchange. The interchange construction is expected to be complete in November, 2011. (<http://www.465-69northeast.in.gov/KeystoneAve465.html>)

### **Private Funds May Kickstart Rail Plan.....read more**

"An innovative private financing deal struck last year to expand Denver's rail transit system could be used to expedite construction of the first line in central Indiana.

Local transit proponents have been approached by private investor groups about the potential for similar financing schemes here, starting with a Downtown-to-Hamilton County route.

Ehren Bingaman, executive director of the Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority, said he wouldn't rule out the concept of a private partnership. 'I think the short of it is, we'd be open to it,' said Bingaman, whose group lately has been engaged in an environmental impact study required for the planned northeast-side route, which would use the former Nickel Plate Railroad right-of-way. . . .

But are the taxpayers in Marion and surrounding counties willing to pay for the system? One idea floated has been a regional sales tax. Indy Connect previously estimated that a \$2.5 billion system could cost each taxpayer the equivalent of \$15 a month per household.

There's also the matter of well-to-do Hamilton County receiving the most perceived benefit. The first leg - the northeast line - would be a boon for commuters from that area who work downtown. . . .

'Ultimately', said Bingaman, 'you still have to demonstrate you have local commitment to fund some part of this. . . . Denver made it work because the private equity partner understood there is a long-term commitment of the municipality.'

*Excerpt from Indianapolis Business Journal, August 22-28, 2011 by Chris O'Malley*

## Trains...editorial by Joe Goeller

On Friday evening, August 12<sup>th</sup>, Sandy and I attended a Block Party on resurfaced East 64th Street east of Allisonville. This is an attractive, wooded, middle class area of deep property lots. We met nice people with many children playing on the newly-paved asphalt street - bicycles, skateboards, roller skates, mothers pushing babies in strollers.

While we were there conversing with them, "Fair Trains" rumbled through with excessive vibrations several times, and blowing their loud whistles. These neighbors are very concerned that mass transit trains passing by their back yards every 30 to 60 minutes daily will severely degrade the quality of their lives and values of their homes.

Such frequent trains will also affect Fairfields-Sylvan, in view of our similar Nickel Plate RR situation at East 61st Street and North Chester Avenue, as well as the homes along Kessler Ridge Road. At this time, it is unclear as to the size of mass transit trains being considered."

**Crime Watch Block Captains Needed!!!!**

We have had some changes recently in our Block Captains. F-SNA wants to ensure that you are receiving email alerts regarding crime, vandalism, scams, lost dog, and so on. A listing of Block Captains is located on the F-SNA website. Your information will NOT be shared with any outside parties and serves to give your Block Captain the means to stay in contact with you regarding crime alert e-mails and other important news.

We currently are looking for Block Captains in the following areas: **Tuxedo – North of 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, Allisonville Road – North of 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, and Kessler Ridge Road.**

If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain in one of these areas, please contact Terry Dobson at [tdobson@fsnaindy.org](mailto:tdobson@fsnaindy.org).

Please remember that, if you are not a dues-paying F-SNA member, you will not receive these emails. Dues are paid annually in March, using the membership form on the back of this newsletter or an online form available on our website, [www.fsnaindy.org](http://www.fsnaindy.org). Fairfield-Sylvan has a low crime rate compared to many surrounding neighborhoods. We believe this is a result of neighbors looking out for one another.

*Join Us – Be Vigilant – And Keep Crime At Bay!*

*Terry Dobson, Crime Watch Coordinator*

**New F-SNA/ John Strange School PTO Committee**

F-SNA Board members Tom Sturmer and Ted Hudnut joined leaders from the John Strange PTO to form a Committee to work on areas of mutual interest. The focus last Spring centered on preparing a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant funding application, which was not endorsed by the grant deadline by the School District. The Committee will reconvene in September to decide on an appropriate course of action and future initiatives.

One of the issues that the SRTS project intended to address was daily traffic congestion at the school during drop off and pick up times, and event parking. The School and District administrations are aware of the neighbor's concerns, and have assigned security guards to the most recent event to address on-street parking. The intention is to have parking occur only on one-side of Olney Street, according to a security guard interviewed at the School's Parent Information Night held on August 25. A letter informing the neighbors of upcoming School events and inviting volunteers to help students was distributed at the beginning of the school year.

*Special thanks to Tom Sturmer for all or his dedication to the F-SNA neighborhood, F-SNA board and spearheading several F-SNA projects!!!!*

**\*\*\*\*\**Neighborhood Preference Survey*\*\*\*\*\***

A survey of neighborhood preferences is planned to be conducted this Fall. This survey is intended to determine the priorities of our neighborhood and what the F-SNA should work on over the next year. For example, one focal point is expected to be the Septic Tank Elimination Program (sewer project) timetable, and if drainage and sidewalk deficiencies can be addressed in conjunction with the sewer project. Other ideas on what the F-SNA should work on are welcome and appreciated!

*Send your comments to:*

***comments@fsnaindy.org***

***Fairfields-  
Sylvan  
Neighborhood  
Association***

***FSNA E-MAIL:***  
***COMMENTS@FSNAINDY.ORG***

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***F-SNA BOARD***

PRESIDENT  
Joe Goeller

VICE PRESIDENT  
Tom Sturmer

SECRETARY  
Ken Ingle

TREASURER  
Sherry Seiwert

DIRECTORS

Kathie Church  
Jim Church  
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Bill Hazel  
Barb Hazel

*Crime Watch – Terry Dobson*



## Support Fairfields-Sylvan Neighbors!

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, by 65<sup>th</sup> Street on the North, by Kessler Boulevard East Drive on the South, and by Tuxedo Street (both sides) on the West. Contributions for neighborhood improvements are welcome, and could include snow removal on East 62<sup>nd</sup> Street multi-modal pathway starting in late 2011.

**Your FSNA Membership is for one year. Dues are \$25 annually, payable in March.**

### Membership Benefits:

- Newsletters - 3 times yearly; Crime Watch Alert emails; FSNA website
- Additional important updates by email or flier. Emails will only be sent to paid members.
- Meeting reminders and news about speakers; Advocate of our interests with City leaders
- Proponent of infrastructure improvements; Supporter of John Strange Elementary School
- Neighborhood events for a network of residents who care about our community -

***“MAKING A GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD EVEN BETTER!”***

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Membership dues are \$25 per year for a household or business. Membership is good for one year from March 2011 to March 2012.</b></p>
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*(Return with check to: FSNA Treasurer, PO Box 20070, Indianapolis, IN 46220-0070)*

FSNA Secretary  
PO Box 20070  
Indianapolis, IN 46220-0070