

April
2008

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood News

Date book

April 16, 2008

7:00 p.m.
FSNA
neighborhood
meeting at John
Strange School
IPL to speak on
pruning

May 21, 2008

FSNA Annual
Meeting
7:00 p.m. John
Strange School
Chris Turner will
speak on spring
planting

Neighborhood

Clean-up

June 8

1-4:00 p.m.

Important Phone Numbers:

North District
327-6100

Mayors Action
Center to report:

Potholes
Street signs
Dead animals
Drainage problems
Abandoned
vehicles
Illegal dumping

327-4622

FSNA Website and E-mail

We are starting the transition to a new e-mail address and website. The email address is fsna@gmail.com. You will start receiving email from this address soon. If you haven't already. The website will be announced in one of those emails when it's ready for prime time

April brings Earth Day and Arbor Day

April is jam-packed with things you can do to make a difference. Here are just a few offerings from Keep Indianapolis Beautiful:

Plant a Tree! Get a free Tree to celebrate Arbor Day

On Friday, April 25th, from noon until supplies last, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc. along with Indianapolis Power and Light Company and Wayne Zink, CEO of Endangered Species Chocolate, will celebrate Arbor Day by giving away 1,000 oak trees as part of the Indy Free Tree program. The event will take place downtown on the Southeast quadrant of Monument Circle.

Participants will receive one of 1000 free 2 ft. oak trees with a retail value of \$25.00, a coupon for \$20.00 off of the purchase of a tree at participating retailers.

Get Free Trees for the neighborhood.

Through Keep Indianapolis Beautiful's NEIGHBORWOODS program, FSNA can receive 20+ free trees to plant along residential streets or in neighborhood common areas.

Trees make good neighbors! Trees help reduce crime and foster safer, more sociable neighborhoods. Properly placed shade trees can save an average

household up to \$250 annually in energy costs.

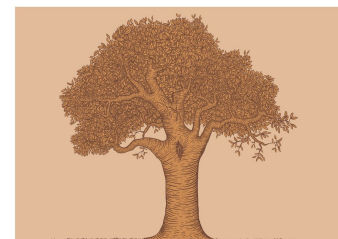
The trees are 8-15 feet tall. KIB will provide the support and resources to help organize the planting but neighbors must help plant the trees and provide them with water for three years.

Please let us know if you are interested and we can assist with the application.

Attend the Earth Day Festival

On Saturday, April 26th, join thousands of Hoosiers and head to downtown Indianapolis to attend the **Earth Day Indiana Festival-Live Green and Prosper.**

The festival runs from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the American Legion Mall (at North Street between N. Meridian and N. Pennsylvania Streets). There will be numerous environmental and conservation



We are still looking for Volunteer Crime Watch Block Captains

F-SNA is looking for a few good volunteers willing to serve as Crime Watch Block Captains. Ideally we are looking for a representative for each street.

The job of a block captain is to act as an intermediary between the neighborhood Crime Watch coordinator and families on your street. Block Captains will be responsible for the following:

- Go door-to-door to meet and obtain contact information from neighbors on your immediate block. (a form will be provided). This information will not be distributed beyond the block captains.
- Distribute information as necessary to the neighbors in their immediate area regarding crime activity and other neighborhood information.-Each captain will be responsible for approximately 20 homes.

If you are interested in becoming a crime watch block captain please contact Terry Dobson by e-mail at: Tdobson@ameritech.net or home phone: 253-4929.

Neighborhood Liaisons

Your city government continues to reach out to neighborhoods, community groups and businesses across Indianapolis through the Mayor's Neighborhood Liaisons. Previously referred to as Township Administrators, Neighborhood Liaisons are your direct link to Mayor Ballard's office, as well as any city department and service. The new name of Neighborhood Liaison better reflects their service to the community and their role in city government and it will also alleviate any confusion as to their connection with township government.

Betty Smith-Beecher
Washington Township
blsmith@indygov.org
327-8626

Neighborhood Clean-Up Planned

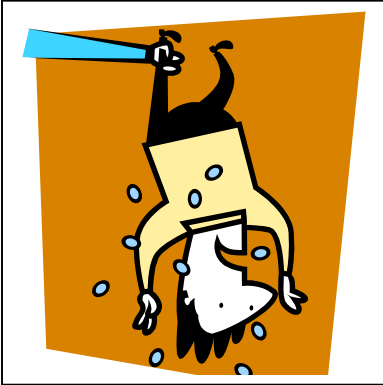
It is that time of year again and it is your chance to participate in the FSNA annual neighborhood clean-up. We need volunteers to help pick-up trash along streets and other specified areas.

The clean-up will be held Sunday June 7th from 1:00 - 4:00 pm rain or shine. There will be a dumpster located in the parking lot behind John Strange School and a volunteer to provide gloves, bags and a map of areas that need to be cleaned-up.

Even though most of our basements and garages need tidying up, please reserve the dumpster for neighborhood clean-up use.

We will have a drawing at the end of the clean-up for one lucky volunteer to receive a gift card to Lowes.

Many Thanks to our February Speaker



We were joined at our February meeting by John Peck, Master Tax Advisor for H & R Block to provide updates for this tax season. Most notably, John told us that effective January 1, 2007, Indiana taxpayers making contributions to CollegeChoice are eligible to receive a 20% state tax credit, up to a maximum of \$1,000, on their contributions. It important to note that this is a tax credit, not a tax deduction offered by most 529 plans.

John can be reached at 253-8989 for additional tax assistance

Consider Getting Involved

FSNA elects board members yearly in May for a two year term. This year we have a couple of board member slots that will be open. A board member has an active role in representing the members in FSNA decisions, attends the monthly meeting, assists in coordinating and attends most FSNA events and, most importantly, has a vision to be involved in keeping our neighborhood safe, beautiful and thriving.

We invite you to volunteer your time and talents OR to nominate someone to fill these member positions. The list will be contacted by the board to ensure the nominated person(s) are willing to serve. Please contact FSNA by e-mail or phone as listed on the front page of the newsletter or you may contact one of the board members directly.

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association

PHONE:
317-328-6227

FAX:
317-328-6227

E-MAIL:
fsnaindy@gmail.com

F-SNA BOARD

PRESIDENT
Sherry Seiwert

VICE PRESIDENT
Terry Dobson

SECRETARY
Ken Ingle

TREASURER
Lynn Schaller

MEMBERS
Susan Dobson

FSNA Membership Notes

Our first newsletter of 2008 told us much about our members and our neighborhood. Here are a few things we heard:

- 52 households returned their newsletter with a membership check
- 20 were new members
- In the sign of the times, 20 newsletters were returned marked "Vacant" by the Post Office.
- The newsletter included a survey which asked members to rank seven issues in order of

importance. Here are the results

- 1) Crime was by far the highest ranked issue.
- 2) Surface Drainage and sewers were next.
- 3) Sidewalks and traffic problems followed
- 4) Support for local businesses was next.
- 5) Illegal dumping came last.

Pavement conditions were a popular write-in issue, especially on 61st Street. We can't promise swift solutions to these issues but it will guide us in finding speakers and guide our future direction.

Did You Know?

Indianapolis Power and Light will install a security light on your main power pole in your backyard. The light and installation are at no charge but you are responsible for the monthly service charge.

Join Your Neighborhood Association!

The Fairfield-Sylvan Neighborhood Association keeps residents informed about neighborhood issues, represents the neighborhood at zoning hearings, presents speakers of interest to residents, and undertakes projects to improve our neighborhood. The F-SNA represents and serves the area from Allisonville Road west to Tuxedo Street and 65th Street south to Kessler Boulevard.

Membership Benefits:

- Quarterly newsletter
- Monthly updates by e-mail or flyer
- Meeting reminders and information about guest speakers
- A network of neighbors who care about our community
- The satisfaction of knowing that you are doing your part to make a great neighborhood even better!

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Membership dues are \$25 per year for a household or business. Membership is good for one year.

Mail this form and a \$25 check payable to F-SNA to:

F-SNA
c/o Ken Ingle
6454 N. Dean Road
Indianapolis, IN 46220