

February  
2012

# Fairfields-Sylvan News & Views

*Meet City-County Councilor Christine Scales! Marsh \$10 Gift certificate drawing!*  
February 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm, at John Strange School, 3660 E. 62<sup>nd</sup> Street

*Please visit our website*

[www.fsnaindy.org](http://www.fsnaindy.org)

Neighbors for the 400 + households in our area are invited to view updated local news. These include Facebook; online opinions about Neighbor Priorities; Republic Recycling calendar; a DMD map showing your street and lot; Hot Topics like East 62<sup>nd</sup> Street Trail graphics, and Meeting agendas; Independence Parade and Picnic; upcoming activities.

## New Year – New Neighbors?

Did you attend Joie Woods “Giant Tree Trimming Party” on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, with Dearborn Street neighbors, or see the Photo Show on our Events/Hot Topics website page? Per Joie, this Block Party may even become an annual event and example for other parties.

Families and friends on Dearborn Street, Oakland Avenue, and north side of 65<sup>th</sup> Street from Allisonville Road to Tuxedo Street may wish to express their interests in joining Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association (FSNA). This could add some 70 households to the 400+ within the existing FSNA area, with the association being a great way to meet neighbors.

Residents have a strong, collective voice when communicating with municipality project managers, developers, and City government. Councilor Christine Scales has attended the FSNA meetings, and our district re-elected her in November 2011. She has worked with us on resurfacing East 62<sup>nd</sup> and 61<sup>st</sup> Streets, new 61<sup>st</sup> Street sidewalks, and the pending 62<sup>nd</sup> Street Multi-Use Trail with construction projected to start in March 2012.

Of further note, real estate statistics show that neighborhoods with voluntary associations have a higher rate of resale, and homes for sale spend less time on the market.

FSNA does not have covenants, and \$25 dues are voluntary. Its Directors will vote this Spring on possible expansion, so make your voice heard if you are interested, contacting -

Gayle Stahl [gmstahl@aol.com](mailto:gmstahl@aol.com); or Joie Woods [jdub1995@gmail.com](mailto:jdub1995@gmail.com), phone 727-9962; or Brian Carey on Oakland Avenue, [pressed4time441@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pressed4time441@sbcglobal.net).

### FSNA Calendar

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

- **Feb. 15**  
DPW – 62<sup>nd</sup> Trail
- **Mar. 21**  
KIB Beautification
- **Apr. 18**  
IMPD Liaison
- **May 16**  
Annual Meeting

**\$25 Annual Dues due in March 2012:**  
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

### Looking Backward

Resurfaced 61<sup>st</sup> Street from Oakland to Chester Avenue

Replaced or repaired the sidewalks on East 61<sup>st</sup> Street

Resurfaced 62<sup>nd</sup> Street from Keystone to Allisonville Road

### Looking Forward

Multi-Use Trail along the South side of 62<sup>nd</sup> Street, with work to begin in March 2012

DPW graphic of this Trail can be seen on our website - Upcoming Events/Hot Topics

If you wish to comment or express your gratitude regarding the completed projects or projected 2012 projects, please contact the Fairfields-Sylvan Board, or Christine Scales, and/or Mayor Ballard. ... See *contact information on first page*. For news on FSNA's umbrella organization, Greater Allisonville Community Council, see [www.greaterallisonville.org](http://www.greaterallisonville.org).

## ***Preliminary Neighborhood Priorities Results*** - by Tom Sturmer

Here is a brief summary of 25 survey returns. If you wish, please complete the insert form. More about this project will be posted during 2012.

1. The average respondent has lived in our neighborhood for 25 years. Younger families may have been too busy to respond.
2. Of respondents, 84% are Fairfields-Sylvan (FSNA) Association members, which involve paying \$25 annual dues in March.
3. Most-liked about our neighborhood: convenient location, trees, large lots, general beauty, nice neighbors, well-kept homes and lots.
4. Respondents believed FSNA should: (a) Maintain Neighborhood Crime Watch – 100%; (b) Provide news on relevant local issues – 96%; (c) Advocate for drainage improvements – 88%; (d) Advocate for roadway improvements – 84%; (e) Advocate for sidewalk improvements and installations – 80%.

All other topics, including advocating for sanitary sewer improvements (60%), received less than 65% support. Unfortunately, the survey version distributed was not the final version, omitting questions about mass transit (bus/other) and bikeway improvements. The final version including these topics can be submitted using our homepage survey version on scrollbar moving line, at [www.fsnaindy.org](http://www.fsnaindy.org).

5. About 25% of respondents have attended an FSNA meeting in the past and would do so if held on a different day or time. Monday through Thursday was equally preferred by respondents, but Fridays and weekends were not considered as being suitable.
6. The communication methods that respondents liked were: (a) E-mail – 76%; (b) Hardcopy newsletter – 56%; (c) Website - 24%.
7. Of respondents, 84% believed that our Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association provides real value for their households.

Thanks to the neighbors who responded! We invite all other neighbors to voice your opinions on the included survey form and mail it to Ken Ingle, FSNA Secretary, by Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. These results will be shared with City-County Councilor Christine Scales. We have not received any forms from our website. Let us know if you tried, when mailing the paper copy. Your interest is much appreciated.

## FSNA Annual Cleanup and Spring Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 7 - "BYOB Day" - Bring Your Own Basket! John Strange School

In cooperation with Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc, we will have our annual Neighborhood cleanup along all Fairfield's-Sylvan streets from 10:00 am to 12:00 Noon. Gloves, trash bags, and water will be provided. Please come and sign up for your block. Participating families and members will be eligible for "Hanging Baskets of Flowers" drawing, which Directors will distribute around Memorial Day.

*The Spring Egg Hunt will also be held at John Strange School grounds from 12:30 pm on.*

## Crime Watch News seen by Prying Eyes?

We have had a rash of burglaries and vehicle break-ins in December, January, and start February with possible thwarted burglary. These involve an SUV break-in and stolen radio on Chester Avenue; six burglaries on Sherman, Olney, and Kessler Boulevard near Olney; with incident on North Olney Street detected by a Block Captain and an alert neighbor on the night of February 1st.

This raises a question as to whether some of these lawbreakers may reside in our area. Starting after our dues drive in March is completed, our meeting minutes for Crime Watch will only state, "Please see our Members Only page for Crime Watch reports." The same phrase will be posted on our Neighborhood Watch page, at [www.fsnaindy.org](http://www.fsnaindy.org).

Our meeting minutes will be the official source for Neighborhood Watch information on Members Only page. It will no longer be available to the general public, including possible lawbreakers. Similarly, Crime Alert emails will only be sent to our members.

Neighbors looking out for one another can help to protect us against crime. Report any incidents to your Block Captain and the police. Call IMPD and Fire Emergency – 911. For non-emergency or suspicious activity, call 317-327-3811. Let us know of any ideas for improving security. *Join Us – Be Vigilant – And Keep Crime At Bay! Terry Dobson, Crime Watch Coordinator*

### **Fairfields- Sylvan Neighborhood Association**

#### **FSNA E-MAIL:**

**COMMENTS@FSNAINDY.ORG**

#### **F-SNA BOARD**

PRESIDENT  
Joe Goeller

VICE PRESIDENT  
Tom Sturmer

SECRETARY  
Ken Ingle

TREASURER  
Sherry Seiwert

#### DIRECTORS

Kathie Church  
Jim Church  
Ted Hudnut  
Barb Hazel  
Bill Hazel

*Crime Watch – Terry Dobson  
Newsletter – Susan Dobson*

## Warm up safely

When severe weather causes an outage during the winter, staying warm becomes a primary concern. It is best to have another place to stay, such as the home of a friend or family member, if you are without heat for a time. However, if you choose to heat your home with alternative heat sources, be careful. Alternative heat sources often cause fires or carbon monoxide poisoning.

A few safety tips include:

- Use space heaters wisely. They are temporary, supplemental heating devices; use them only for a limited time each day and never overnight or while sleeping. Never leave them unattended.
- Place space heaters on a level, hard and nonflammable floor; not on rugs, carpets or furniture or near bedding or drapes.
- NEVER try to heat your home with cooking stoves, gas ovens or grills.
- Never leave a fire in the fireplace or wood stove unattended.

[www.ippower.com](http://www.ippower.com)

## **911 Tips from IMPD Liaison, Diana Vanarsdall**

Teaching your children how to use 911 is a valuable lesson that could save your life and the lives of others. Below are some helpful hints:

- ❖ Tell your child to call from a safe place. If a fire emergency occurs, tell them to get outside AND STAY OUT. Teach your child their name and address, and keep information by the phone. Tell your children they can call 911 from any PAY PHONE FOR FREE. If your child has a cell phone, remind them a dispatcher does not know where they are, and they must give their LOCATION or a LANDMARK. Teach your child 911 is for emergencies only, and NEVER CALL 911 as a joke.

**Some articles inside - Possible Neighborhood Expansion; Warming up safely; 911 Tips to teach your children; Spring Egg Hunt; and 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, 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.

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

- FSNA website; February Newsletter. May and September issues only to paid members
- Additional important updates by email or flier. Crime Alert emails only 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
- 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership dues are \$25 per year for a household or business. Membership is good for one year from March 2012 to March 2013.**

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

FSNA Secretary  
PO Box 20070  
Indianapolis, IN 46220-0070