

January
2009

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood News

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association

WHAT'S NEW ?

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association now has its' own web-site!

Visit FSNA at: <http://fsnaindy.googlepages.com>

F-SNA thanks all of those who have contributed their time and efforts to provide articles for another successful Newsletter!!!!

F-SNA Date Book

F-SNA neighborhood meetings are held at John Strange School at 7:00 p.m.

- **Jan. 21**
Speaker: Best Buys rep regarding HD TV setup
- **Feb. 18-TBA**
- **Mar. 18**
Speaker: Randy Caster of Hilltop Tree Farms-Trees, landscaping for spring!

Directory and Crime Watch sheets:
Send to: Ken Ingle
6454 Dean Road
Indpls, IN 46220

Important Phone Numbers:

IMPD North District
327-6100

Mayors Action Center to report:
Potholes
Street signs
Dead animals
Drainage problems
Abandoned vehicles
Illegal dumping
327-4622

City County Councilor –
Christine Scales
317-578-8901
cscales_2000@vahoo.com

Dear Neighbors,
As proposed in our last newsletter, **F-SNA** is continuing to gathering information to produce another **Neighborhood Directory**. The information to appear in the directory regarding your specific address will be completely within your control. This directory will be produced and distributed only within our neighborhood. We request your cooperation in completing the information on the Directory Information Sheet.

In addition to the directory, we are also forming a network of **Crime Watch Block Captains**. This person should have your specific contact information (see enclosed Crime Watch form) that will **only** be used by the Block Captain to communicate with his/her block neighbors. The Block Captain is responsible for sharing and distributing crime watch information. This may be something like identifying a lost dog or making neighbors aware of a new crime "scam" in the area. Neighbors may also contact the Block Captain to let them

know when they might be out of town to alert them to be aware of any questionable activity on the property. You may be contacted by your Crime Watch Block Captain to obtain information.

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association works to provide the 400+ neighbors with a means to protect the integrity of the area. We hope you will choose to participate in our efforts to continually keep Fairfields-Sylvan a neighborhood of choice for many years to come!

QUESTIONS????

E-MAIL US:
fsnaindy@gmail.com

Block Captains Save the Date!

Two meeting dates/times will be offered for the Block Captains' initial meeting: Wednesday, February 4th at 7:00pm OR

Christine Scales, Our City County Councilor

Dear Fairfield-Sylvan Neighbors:

On behalf of the Indianapolis City-County Council, I bring you greetings. Your neighborhood association leaders have generously offered me this forum to deliver inside news and information concerning municipal goings-on. It is my hope that events or issues covered in this space become opportunities for you to learn more about the inside workings of city government, what I, as your Council representative, can do for you and how you can become a more informed and involved citizen. It is my desire that you will be inspired to, in turn, communicate your opinions and suggestions about local issues to me.

This past year, my first on the Council, was an exciting and challenging one. The two areas that are of greatest concern to me, in terms of quality of life issues impacting our community, are public safety and public works related undertakings.

With the goal that active participation would lead to affecting more positive outcomes, I sought and received assignments to both the Public Safety and Public Works Committees. I will continue to serve on those two committees in 2009. The foundation of knowledge accumulated about these two departments in 2008 lays the groundwork for me to better assist District 4 residents in these matters which I know affect you greatly. In the Public Works area, this means working more aggressively to resolve drainage and sewer issues, road and sidewalk repairs, and perhaps (pardon the pun), help pave the way for the possibility of sidewalks along 62nd Street.

Keeping crime from affecting you, individually, is of course also a major concern. With your help, which will come in the form of reporting all suspicious activity as well as filing crime reports for what might even be considered trivial incidents of vandalism or theft, the neighborhood may qualify for additional, more intense police patrols. I can advocate for added/and or special undercover task force patrols, but if IMPD isn't aware of stepped up criminal activity in a particular area, they will allocate major resources elsewhere.

As significant proposals come before Council, I will seek to provide the "pros and cons" of each issue. I will also rely on your input to lend a different perspective.

It is a privilege to represent and serve you. Please allow me to be your personal Mayor's Action Center-don't call them, call me – (317) 578-8901

Crime Watch Update – Daytime Crime

There have been an increased number of reports of daytime break-ins. Please be aware of any suspicious vehicles or persons in your area. Most reports have been similar in nature with someone knocking at the door and when there is no answer the break-in is attempted. We have been told by IMPD that by having our "No Soliciting" signs displayed we, as an F-SNA resident, can report any suspicious activity to IMPD. IMPD then has the authority to stop this person and ask for identification, question their presence in the neighborhood, and request they leave the area.

We hope this will prevent undesirable persons from soliciting, casing and vandalizing in the neighborhood. Please use good judgment before placing the call to IMPD, but be pro-active. We can all work to keep our neighbors and neighborhood safe!

Holiday Home Decorating Contest!!!!

The Board of F-SNA will award prizes to neighbors who demonstrated their holiday spirit by decorating their homes and yards. Gift certificates to Lowes hardware store will be given to homeowners in the 6400 block of Dover Road, the 6100 block of N. Chester and the 6100 block of N. Sherman.

A special thanks to all homeowners who made our neighborhood more festive during the holidays!

Congratulations to all Winners!

(You will be receiving your awards soon!!!)



Indianapolis Real Estate Market

By Todd Ferris, F.C. Tucker Company and F-SNA Board Member

With all the turbulence, losses in stocks and bad economic news in the headlines lately, one can easily lose perspective on what's truly going on in our real estate market. So, what is the truth about the market here in Indianapolis?

Overall, sales, year-to-date, are down about 12%, compared to 2007. However, the bright side is that this statistic is much lower than many other parts of the country and the future for the Indianapolis real estate market is looking very promising! In fact, Indianapolis and its surrounding areas have been featured in many real estate publications as an area to watch.

Within the last few months, Indianapolis has been featured in several national publications as one of "The Top 10 Bounce Back Markets to Watch" and "The Most Affordable Market in the Country". One national publication has even predicted a 6% increase in home values by the 3rd quarter of 2009. Indianapolis is getting noticed, and in 2009, is predicted to be a great year for home sales in our area!

More good news can be found in the falling interest rates. Interest rates that hovered around 6.5% for most of 2008 have now plunged in recent weeks to around 5%. Coupled with the values that currently exist in the market this amazing fall in rates creates a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to buy, build or sell and move to a larger home.

Don't rely on the national media for facts that affect your local real estate market. As you can see, Indianapolis is poised to break free of our housing slump. For more information on how specific areas of Indianapolis are doing, avoid the papers and contact your local realtor!!

*****Neighborhood Service Referral List!*****

F-SNA would like to create a referral service for our neighbors. The list would contain businesses that have provided good service to satisfied neighbors. From arborists to lawn care service to contractors, please share your referrals by e-mailing fsnaindy@gmail.com

Fairfields- Sylvan Neighborhood Association

NEW E-MAIL:

FSNAINDY@GMAIL.COM

F-SNA BOARD

PRESIDENT
Sherry Seiwert

VICE PRESIDENT
Terry Dobson

SECRETARY
Ken Ingle

TREASURER
Lynn Schaller

DIRECTORS
Susan Dobson
Joe Goeller
Todd Ferris

MASS TRANSIT STUDY UPDATE

By Joe Goeller – F-SNA Board Member

Our November 19, 2008 meeting guest speaker was Bob Lehman, F-SNA member and Vice President of Greater Allisonville Community Council. Bob has actively participated in the Metropolitan Planning Organization's (MPO) deliberations and research for mass transit. He discussed the need for mass transit, MPO research, creation of the Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA) and the future mass transit plans.

Bob advised the well-attended meeting that current plans envisaged the use of Diesel Multiple Units (DMU) trains along the Hoosier Heritage Port Authority (HHPA) railroad tracks from Noblesville south to Downtown Indianapolis. DMU's were chosen as the most cost-effective rail alternative, being quieter and less polluting than used diesel locomotives and passenger cars, which were no longer available for purchase. MPO/CIRTA plans do provide for a passenger station at Allisonville Road south of 62nd Street, servicing the F-SNA neighborhood with access to the State Fairground, Downtown Indianapolis and other areas.

Funding for mass transit must still be established. According to Mr. Lehman, MPO/CIRTA will seek support from the State Legislature for construction financing and levying a Central Indiana transportation tax as mass transit generally needs to be subsidized. It is possible that federal funds will be available in the future.

For additional information, see www.indympo.org – Northeast Corridor Rapid Transit Alternatives, Analysis Completion Study.

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:

- Newsletter (3-4 times yearly)
- 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 from March 2009 to March 2010.

(return to: F-SNA c/o Ken Ingle, 6454 N. Dean Road, Indpls, IN 46220)

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