

the Columns

A NEWSLETTER FOR RESIDENTS, NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS OF THE FOREST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD

APRIL
CALENDAR_2010

UPCOMING EVENTS
May 21_ GARAGE SALE
June 12_ FHNA
ANNUAL MEETING

FOREST HILLS WEB SITE

www.foresthillsindy.org

Be sure to check out the FHNA website regularly for upcoming events, back issues of the Columns newsletter, neighbor forums, resources and links, our neighborhood's history, and to sign up to receive email updates on important news and announcements.

Forest Hills GARAGE SALE 5.21

MAY 21 IS THE ANNUAL FOREST HILLS GARAGE SALE.

Participating in the annual sale is a great way to clear out your house and allow others to reuse things you may no longer need while earning some cash to refill that newly empty space. **Official sale hours will be 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Houses that register will be included on a neighborhood map distributed to shoppers – the FHNA provides these maps as well as neighborhood sale signage and classified ads. There is no cost to participate – this is one of the benefits provided by our annual FHNA dues. If you would like to participate register online at www.foresthillsindy.org., contact Lara Knitter (251-0446) or Beau King (beauking100@yahoo.com) if you would like to help or have any questions. Happy selling!



FH HOUSE FEATURED

IN 2011 MERIDIAN-KESSLER HOME AND GARDEN TOUR
"REAL HOMES. REAL NEIGHBORS. REAL IDEAS."

The 38th annual MKNA Home and Garden Tour is Saturday and Sunday, June 18-19, 11:00-5:00. The tour is one of the oldest tours of vintage homes in Indiana, created in the 1970's to promote the history, beauty and unique architecture of the neighborhood. Visit FH's contribution to the Tour at **the Moreman/McClure home at 5825 Carrollton**.

The theme for this year's tour honors the authentic character of the historic Meridian-Kessler neighborhood. "Real Homes" features how people actually live.

"Real Neighbors" emphasizes the personal connectedness neighbors enjoy in Meridian-Kessler. "Real Ideas" highlights one or two original ideas featured in each home to inspire similar creativity in attendees' homes.

Tour tickets can be purchased the day of the event for \$15 at any tour home. More info and pre-sale tickets are available for \$12 online at www.mkhometour.com, where you can also purchase tickets for the Twilight Tour and Silent Auction to be held at Immaculate Heart of Mary on Friday, June 17.

CHRISTMAS WRAP

DESPITE THE SNOWIEST DECEMBER since I moved here in the 80's, Forest Hills passed another Christmas without any major catastrophes. Since we only plow our streets when there's more than four inches of snow, and the first couple of snows were only two inches, with four plowings, streets buffed down to an icy glaze, but Broad Ripple must have been shut down for repairs, as there were no major accidents, even as cars slid merrily through our stop signs. Even after the New Years' meltdown, no stragglers from **Rabinowich's Christmas Party** were found buried in the drifts. There were some power tools left from construction projects on our points as local kids auditioned for the job of designing the long awaited clock tower on **Castle Gibson**.

As noted in the last issue, there won't be any awards handed out this year for Christmas lights. There were more lights out this year than in previous years, probably explaining the absence of any holiday burglaries. Special note does have to be made for the fabulous igloo at the **Adkins' on 58th Street**.

With the exception of a few homes on Kessler and College, we had near perfect representation for the Christmas Eve luminaries. Even Northview was completely lit. A special thanks for helping our absent or elderly neighbors in making Forest Hills a Christmas Eve wonderland once again.

Being a dog walker, and more specifically, an elderly dog walker of an elderly dog, we probably ought to do a better job on our sidewalks. It's not hard to walk through three or four inches of snow, but after a week of folks walking through that three or four inches, it packs down into a bumpy ice sheet, and since we keep adding lawyers around here, some should be thankful that **Dave Jose**, now walking around with his arm in a sling, doesn't do slip and fall cases.

Folks, pay your dues — my 3hp blower works on sidewalks, It's not gonna work on streets if we can't pay for our plowing and unless Al Gore suddenly gets it right, it might get ugly here. Last year we collected half of what we spent on plowing, and that's money we can't spend on our other events.
— *Jim Garrettson*

LUMINARIES

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED make our Christmas Eve luminaries a success, especially including all of the volunteers who helped assemble and distribute the luminary kits. A special thanks goes to **Luke and Beth Habig** for their continuing efforts on behalf of this wonderful neighborhood tradition.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT 2011

Hi Neighbors!

I want to thank those who responded so quickly to the request for paying increased dues to help with our snow plowing needs. I feel confident now, that unless we enter an Ice Age, we'll have plowed streets through 2011.

For those of you who have not yet paid, we are enclosing the annual dues envelope. Once again, we request that you consider paying an extra \$20 to assist in recovering shortfall in the budget for snow removal both this winter and last winter (the 2010-2011 snow plow budget of \$1200 was exhausted by January of this year — well before the February ice storm).

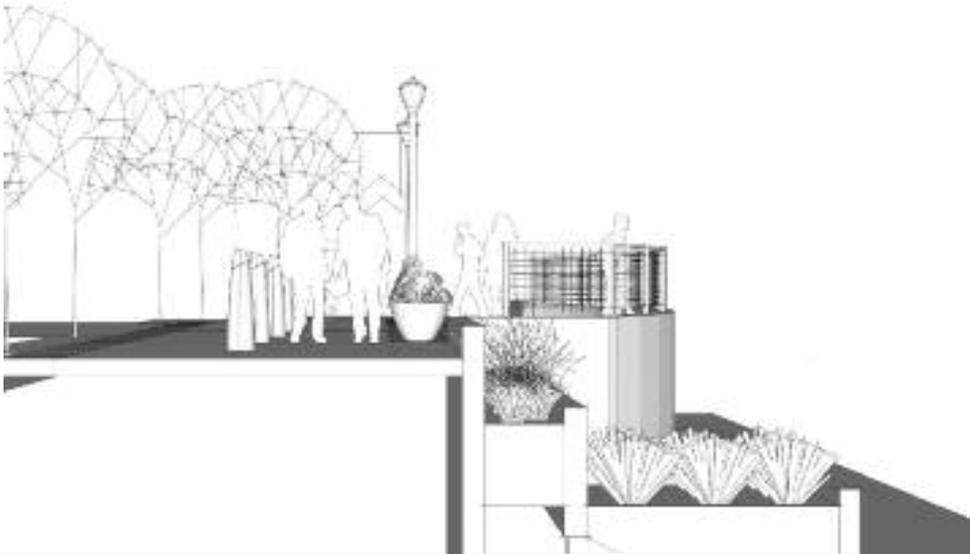
We thought it also might be 'compelling' to share how our neighborhood association dues are used. According to Keith Lerch (FHNA Treasurer for many years), our \$25 + \$10 for snow plow dues have not been raised in 20 years. Dues are used to fund several activities each year, including Christmas Eve luminaries, the annual neighborhood meeting, Summer Picnic, Halloween Party, Block Captain meeting, and printing of the Columns. We will discuss neighborhood dues and the snow removal issue further at the all-neighbor meeting in June. Please support neighborhood activities by paying your dues.

The FHNA Board has been busy putting together pieces for the next Directory to be printed in the coming weeks. We're fortunate to have some true Sales and Marketing talent in on our Board! Several Board members solicited new ads to help fund the Directory, and Kathy Davis will be laying it out. Ken Siegman and Jim Garrettson have offered to work with Block Captains to make neighbor info as accurate as possible, so please help update your info if needed. Contact your block captain or go to www.foresthillsindy.org and register your new or updated information.

Look forward to seeing you this Spring,

Julie Moeller

FHNA President



UPCOMING FHNA ANNUAL MEETING

The FHNA Annual Meeting is scheduled for June 12 at the point by Jim Garrettson's yard. Keep an eye on the FHNA website, www.foresthillsindy.org, for information regarding upcoming social events.

ENVISION BROAD RIPPLE

AT A RECENT BOARD MEETING, FHNA hosted **Tom Healy of Broad Ripple Village Assn. and Harmoni**. (Harmoni is a group that's trying to become an umbrella organization representing Broad Ripple, Meridian Kessler, Butler Tarkington, and some neighborhoods to the south, and branding the combination into what they call 'Midtown'). Over the past couple of years, Harmoni and BRVA have been conducting sessions called **Envision Broad Ripple**. There are similar efforts currently in process involving College Avenue and Maple Road (38th Street).

A lot of the streetscape and canal improvements you've seen in Broad Ripple came about through cooperation with the City and the groups running the envisioning process. Hopefully, much more is on the way. The current push is to increase parking fees in Broad Ripple, and, in turn, to create one or more parking facilities within the village to alleviate the obvious parking problems. This effort, combined with the issuance of parking permits for residential neighborhoods immediately abutting the commercial areas of Broad Ripple, should make it a lot easier for Forest Hills residents to use Broad Ripple as a shopping and dining destination, and the FHNA Board, without taking a position on the sale of the city's parking meters, supports any effort to encourage positive development along the canal, alleviate the parking shortage, and execute a well-planned future for the entire area.

You can learn more about the Midtown concept by visiting the Harmoni website at www.indyharmoni.org and can become an active participant in the envisioning process for Broad Ripple by contacting the BRVA, or for the College Avenue process, by contacting MKNA at www.mkna.org. — *Jim Garrettson*

HAVE A PROBLEM? NEED A SERVICE?

Call the Mayor's Action Center ("MAC"), at 317-327-4622. The MAC deals with specific problems of residents. So, if your trash is not picked up, you notice a sidewalk or curb that needs maintenance, or a sign is suddenly missing, the MAC may be able to help.

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

JUST A FRIENDLY REMINDER TO neighborhood dog owners – **please remember to clean up after your dog.** Although curbs and corners may feel separate to you, homeowners must maintain these areas. If you don't want it in your yard, no one else does, either.

BE AWARE

WINTER WEATHER KEEPS EVERYONE indoors, however, now that spring has sprung, we should all keep personal safety in mind. During the week between Christmas and the New Year, a college freshman home for winter break was mugged in front of his house in the 5600 block of College Avenue. While we all think of Forest Hills as a safe and welcoming neighborhood, it is always worthwhile to be aware of your surroundings and pay attention to those around you.

NEED SPRING COMPOST?

DID YOU KNOW THE CITY COMPOSTS leaves collected curbside throughout the city every fall? This compost is available to any Marion county resident for personal use and is available through **South Side Composting (317-247-6808)**.

NEIGHBOR NEWS

NEW NEIGHBORS

Welcome **Jacob Hollins** at 5759 College.

NEW BABIES

Beth and James Piatt of 5667 Carrollton welcomed **Kellen Christopher** on December 19.

CONDOLENCES

Forest Hills recently lost two neighbors. The Forest Hills community sends our deepest condolences to the family and friends of **Tom Jonas**, 5802 Carrollton Ave. and **Elizabeth Caparo**, 5608 Winthrop Ave. Complete obituaries can be viewed at www.foresthillsindy.org.

board

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ANNUAL DUES

ANNUAL DUES FOR 2011 ARE **\$35** PER HOUSEHOLD
(**\$25** FOR HOMES ON COLLEGE AVENUE AND KESSLER AVENUE).

*To help replenish the snow plow fund and keep our streets plowed, please add **\$20** to your dues for a total of **\$55** in 2011. (College and Kessler residents not included)*

Please pay online at www.foresthillsindy.org or by returning the envelope included with this issue. If you have not already registered on the website, click **Sign Up** from the home page and complete the registration process.

Then click **Neighbors Only>Pay Dues**. Please contact FHNA Treasurer Keith Lerch, keith.w.lerch@hud.gov, with any questions.

Thanks to the following households for their support! (Through March 9, 2011). * — Denotes donation above \$35 recommended dues.

Barlow*
Batt*
Borme
Bowers*
Broady*
Carlsen*
Cento*
Clouse*
Coe
Couch*
Cranfill*
De las Alas*
Duquette
Falk*
Fillenwarth*
Finnegan*

Froment*
Gargula
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Meiring*
Meyer
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Murray*
Neal*
Nedeff*
Oblinger*

O'Connor*
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