# the Columns

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

#### CALENDAR October 2013

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

December 21 Luminary set-up and distribution

#### 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 neighbor-hood's history, and to sign up to receive email updates on important news and announcements.

## FOREST HILLS HALLOWEEN PARTY

THE FOREST HILLS HALLOWEEN PARTY, THE OLDEST CONTINUOUS NEIGHBORHOOD event in Indianapolis, will be held Saturday, October 26th (rain date Sunday the 27th, same time), from 4 p.m. until dark at 5733 Guilford Avenue. For the 23rd straight year the party will feature Jim Garrettson's politically incorrect Haunted Garage, but since, wonder of wonders, this isn't an election year, new victims will be insulted.

Our Halloween Party usually draws a great crowd, including relatives and friends of current residents, as well as Forest Hills alumni. If for some odd reason you gave your child a sword, or any other weapon of mass destruction, as part of their costume and plan to send them into a garage with inanimate objects and electrical devices, please understand that you will be alone in missing them.

This year we are expanding our Halloween event with some new additions. Last year was our first "Spooky House decorating contest" which we will repeat again this year. After some great feedback, we are moving the house competition date to correspond with Halloween. Remember you are playing for "Pride" not "Prize"! Last years spookiest house winner was the French home on 58th street. This year sometime prior to Halloween, take a stroll around the Hills and let Fernow, Lisa, Karin & Mike know your vote. Jenny is returning with the scream contest, so tell your kids to be quiet for a week before the party to save their vocal chords.

A great way to "take a stroll" will be to join the parade! At 3:45 we will do a little 15 minute parade of costumes - kids and adults alike are welcome to Haunt the Hills. Parade will begin, and end at Jim Garrettson's house where we will raise the dead.

continued on back page

## RFCYCI F

#### 1st Annual MKNA/Recycleforce Electronics Recycling Event

On Sunday, October 20th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., MKNA and Recycleforce will be holding a free electronics recycling event at the College Avenue Library parking lot (42nd & College).

Recycleforce provides a convenient location for neighbors and friends to discard their outdated and/or non-functional electronics in an environmentally safe way. Recycle Force will staff and facilitate the entire recycling effort. The parking lot south of the library will be walled off so that the drop off is established. Recycle Force will also assist in picking up electronics for those unable to bring them to event. They do accept financial donations for the work but not mandatory.

## NOTICES

#### 2013

Forest Hills would like to start, or more likely, resume, posting, birth announcements, new neighbor announcements, and unfortunately the occasional death announcement, in the Columns. We hope all new neighbors will register at the FH website: foresthillsindy.org, and post this information there but if you'd also send something to sjudge@aol.com, we'll try to get the announcements in print. We'll try to keep up the practice of publishing Obits on line, but it also helps to know one is out there.

## 2013

#### DIRECTORY

We are beginning the process of updating the Forest Hills Directory. We're asking our Block Captains to update information from each of you, since even though there will be inevitable errors, we'd really like to minimize them. We're also going to try to collect as many e-mail addresses as possible. We will not publish them in the paper directory, but we would like to get as many of you as possible signed up to use the neighborhood website

**foresthillsindy.org** since it's a lot faster to contact you that way than to use The Columns.

The paper directory is financed by advertisers. It's also one of our few profit centers when we sell enough ads. If you know of a business that

may be interested, please let us know whom to contact at advertise@foresthillsindy.org or 345.1311. Advertising rates for the directory, The Columns and the website can be found at foresthillsindy.org/Advertise and below. Forest Hills residents receive a 10% discount!

#### **Biennial Directory**

**Size**: 5.5"h x 8.5"w

**Cover**: Full page, 4-color fold-out cardstock (total 5 ads) \$500/yr

**Interior Full page**: grayscale (total 20 ads) \$100/yr

**Interior Half page**: gray scale (total 20 ads) \$75/yr

**Deadline** for 2014-15 directory is December 1, 2013.

**240 copies are distributed** (one per household)

## **BOARD** 2013\_2014

#### **OFFICERS**

Adam Gibson President 317-465-9003 adam@adamgibson.com

Meghan Martin Vice-President 317-753-9183 meghan\_m\_martin@ hotmail.com

Gavin + Kelli McNamara Secretary 317-525-5042 ks4pu@sbcglobal.net

Keith Lerch Treasurer 317-251-8661 keith.w.lerch@hud.gov

#### **MEMBERS**

**Bes and Dan Neal** bshowers5@hotmail.com 317-627-3937

Karin + Mike Sherman 317-748-9279 ksbeymer@gmail.com

Tom Quinn 317-294-3712 tquinn56@sbcglobal.net

> Fernow McClure 317-979-5398 fernowm@gmail.com

**Lisa Brown** 317-475-0576 brown4@indy.rr.com

Halloween: continued from front page

We cant let the kids have all the fun so this year we are going to add a horrifying food and drink competition. Get your scary chef hat on and create a ghoulish dish and/or creepy beverage, bring it to the party and enter to win. Food and drink judging starts when the last food arrives.

Your neighborhood association will provide pizza and drinks (softer variety— you're on your own for anything else). Neighbors are requested to provide cookies or similar treats as Forest Hills' contribution to childhood obesity. Party chairs Lisa Brown (475-0576), Karin & Mike Sherman (748-9279) and Fernow McClure (979-5398) are still seeking volunteers, both for the party, and to help disassemble the Haunted Garage on Sunday morning.

## PICNIC RECAP

**SUMMER 2013** 

THE FOREST HILLS SUMMER PICNIC hosted a crowd of about 100 neighbors on a lovely summer afternoon on July 13th.

While the party did not go off without a hitch (the climbing wall suffered from erectile dysfunction) all who attended were treated to an evening of great food (thanks to Mark Lanza for pick-up), tasty beer (courtesy of Beer God McClure), and wonderful entertainment.

It's impossible to thank all the volunteers who helped make the party a success - we had nearly as many volunteers as attendees, but it's worth taking a shot at some. The Forest Hills Board turned out in mass to help

- even those who were committed to attending a neighborhood wedding scheduled at the same time as the party. All grill shifts were filled, and the set-up crew arrived so early that most of the picnic was ready before the streets were blocked, giving the neighborhood a small preview of how a roundabout might work here. Thanks to Tom Quinn & Tom Kelly, all leftover food was donated to a fsoup kitchen. Nothing was stolen, thanks to the Penninger's amazing job of chaining tables, chairs and the grill to the lamp post. Dick Hamstra came through with a replacement amp after the original nearly caught fire. Andy Marra supplied a recycling bin and tried valiantly to get people to use it. Every neighbor on the point supplied water or electricity. The ladies of Lair, with no prior experience, staffed the busiest face painting table we've ever had. Master grillers Goldstein, d'Avis and Finnegan got the grills up to heat in record fashion and subsequent shifts carried on their noble effort. Almost all of you brought desserts.

Our band, Haley Kempsell's Helm, played an extra long set before leaving for their next appearance. Neighborhood kids staffed the snow cone machine At least three former Presidents helped out with set-up and grilling, and a couple more were seen in attendance Everyone still there at the end helped with packing up. The area was cleaned to spotless before our last volunteer, new President Adam Gibson, left. There was at least one after party that lasted well into the night.

Our summer picnic is just one example of what we can do, working together, as a neighborhood. It's hard to imagine another neighborhood pulling off an event like this for at least 40 years in a row.



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### CURBS THAT TIME OF YEAR

IT IS TIME ONCE AGAIN TO remind you that things have been growing for the past few months.

Included in that growth are tree roots, which by now have probably invaded your sewer lines. A hearty dose of copper sulfate, available at all hardware stores, will at least slow down the invasion, and may help you avoid the expense of a new sewer line for another year.

Also growing are your trees and shrubs, which, due to a rainy summer are occasionally blocking access to those attempting to walk down Forest Hills sidewalks. Since only a few of our Halloween revelers are armed with real chain saws, consider trimming back sprawling bushes and low hanging tree branches. Offended neighbors who are forced to hack their way around the block aren't likely to be as artistic in their trimming as you might be.

Finally, lovely colored leaves are beginning to float down from our trees. A fair portion of them will end up blocking our sewer grates, and that, if you really aren't smarter than a 5th Grader, prevents water from flowing into the drains. When that happens, the streets flood. When the streets flood, basements flood and angry neighbors attack you with chainsaws left over from Halloween. Clean your curbs. The long lasting version of Round-Up will kill your curb weeds, and once they're gone, you can shovel the dirt in the curbs into garden beds, which will make it harder for the next round of weeds to sprout. Keep the sewer drains open. The life you save may be your own.

## THE LOT

#### A NFW HOME

I'M SURE MANY OF THE Forest Hills residents are curious as to the activity at 5867 N. College Avenue and what will become of the last vacant lot in Forest Hills. In June 2013, while assisting their brother with a house search, current Forest Hills residents Matt and Sallv Dunn (5855 N. College), discovered the vacant lot just two doors down. Rather than deal with the hassles of a renovation on their current home. The Dunns quickly decided to pursue the lot and build a home from scratch.

The Dunns, along with their dog Maggie, are extremely excited to be able to build a home in such a wonderful area. The home will be 4 bedrooms, 4 ½ baths, with an open concept main level, finished basement and outdoor area built for entertainment. In addition to the excitement of the new house, the extra space will be welcomed as they are expecting their first child in March.

The Dunns recognize the construction process can be loud, dirty, and sometimes inconvenient for those nearby. They appreciate your patience and understanding during the next few months as their new home is completed. They look forward to meeting more of the neighbors in the near future as it looks like they are here to stay.

## **DUES INFO**

2013

Below is a list of households that have paid their Forest Hills Neighborhood Association dues, as of September 19, 2013. (If Treasurer Keith W. Lerch has not recorded your payment, please let him know at 251-8661.) Approximately 70% of the FHNA households have paid their 2013 dues. A new dues statement, for your 2014 dues, will be attached, along with a mailing envelope.

Dues remain unchanged for 2014 with \$30 regular dues and \$15 for snow removal for all homes not on College or Kessler.

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