

Columns

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

December 2009

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LUMINARIES FOR 2009

Contact Lara @ 251-0446 to Volunteer

If you have had the pleasure to drive, or better yet stroll, through Forest Hills on Christmas Eve you have witnessed our neighborhood in all its holiday glory. Forest Hills' shining display of luminaries highlights our meandering avenues and lanes creating a picture that is truly stunning. We encourage you to continue the tradition and join your neighbors by placing luminaries along the street at dusk on Christmas Eve. Please look for assembled luminaries to be delivered to your door the Saturday before Christmas. When everyone participates the effect is truly breathtaking.

“When everyone participates the effect is truly breathtaking.”

We are grateful to Luke Habig for again volunteering to manage luminary assembly and delivery. We are looking for twenty volunteers to help assemble and distribute luminary kits. Of the twenty, at least eight volunteers with SUV's or trucks would be ideal for delivery. Kit assembly begins at 10:00 a.m., Saturday December 19 in the Habig's garage at 5750 Carrollton Avenue and ends with the last completed delivery around noon. Luke always has a fire to warm your hands by and Forest Hills will provide coffee and donuts. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Lara Knitter at lknitter@sbcglobal.net or by phone at 251-0446. Thanks for your participation!

HOLIDAY CHARITABLE GIVING

Wishing a happy and safe holiday to you and yours. From Victor

Lost in the grim economic news of today is the plight of charitable organizations, whose reliance on the year-end generosity of donors is forecasted to drop more than 9%. No doubt, the recession has hindered Americans' ability to support their favorite charities resulting in the biggest drop in charitable giving in the last 50 years. And this is exactly why your donation is even more important this holiday season.

Indianapolis is home to nearly 200 charitable organizations, from Meals on Wheels to the Humane Society to the Young Actors Theatre. Certainly amidst this broad spectrum of organizations, there lies a favorite cause of yours, whether it's feeding the poor, supporting the arts or funding medical research. In addition, you and your family can choose to devote time to these causes, serving food or wrapping donated gifts for needy children. It's a great example to set for your own kids, and one they will remember for holidays to come.

The size of the gift is important, but it's also the thought that counts even more. So whether it's the giving of your time or money, please, take a moment to consider helping out those less fortunate this holiday season.

ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARTY

A Spooky Success! by Jim Garrettson

A crowd of over 100 neighbors, friends, former neighbors, relatives and grandchildren attended this year's Forest Hills Halloween Party under clear skies and balmy temperatures. Our children feasted on the many dessert treats furnished by neighbors, pizza supplied by FHNA and cider and caramel apples graciously donated by Matt Caito. They also enjoyed the 19th year of Jim Garrettson's politically incorrect Haunted Garage. The party blended seamlessly into Halloween trick-or-treating, which wound down about 9:30 when the last busload of visitors from other neighborhoods departed, securing our place as the best costumed food bank in the city.



Jim would like to thank Mark Lanza and the Moellers for supplying bodies for the courtyard, and especially thanks Adam Lair and Brian Auer, two college age neighbors who made the trip home to supply the live effects in the garage. Special thanks also to Justin Moeller for taking his Sunday morning to help dismantle Halloween at the Garrettson house. Thanks also to Jim Clark (& wife) for once again appearing as the haunted tree - trees are especially scary around leaf raking season. Thanks to the Forest Hills Board for helping out with food distribution and clean-up.

Forest Hills' Halloween Party is the oldest continuous neighborhood event in Indianapolis, and while it may not be as big as some other neighborhood Halloween festivities, the support of so many

of our neighbors still makes it the best of the bunch.

BEER TASTING

“A fine beer may be judged with only one sip, but it's better to be thoroughly sure.”
Czech Proverb



Do you have an interest in expanding your awareness of beers? Would you like to try various styles from around the world, while learning more about the craft? I'd like to see how many FH residents would like to form an informal type of beer tasting club, one which would meet periodically, rotating the location among the homes of the clubs' members. If you have an interest in this, please send an email to Mark Lanza at lanzamark@gmail.com.

WEBSITE

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.

BRINKMAN AD

KEEP INDIANAPOLIS BEAUTIFUL

Please visit www.KIBI.org for more information



keep
Indianapolis
beautiful INC.

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc. (KIB) unites people to build community and transform public spaces through aesthetic and environmental improvement. Each year, KIB supports an average of 500 community improvement projects with 30,000 volunteers. Since 1995, KIB has helped its neighbors plant more than 14,000 trees (including some in Forest Hills). Keep Indianapolis Beautiful is largely funded by donations from people like you!

Trees are beneficial to neighborhoods in many different ways. Trees benefit neighborhoods by:

- Providing shade, which helps reduce the energy needed to cool houses in the summer
- Improving air quality by lowering the amount of pollutants and allergens in the air
- Increasing property values
- Creating a more welcoming atmosphere

Thank you to everyone who attended the neighborhood event on September 2nd, graciously hosted by Steve and Lara Knitter.

A special thank you to neighbors who contributed to KIB in support of its NeighborWoods program.

- Craig & Diana Caldwell
- William & Barbara Clouse
- Andrea & Stephen Cranfill
- Mark & Nancy Gargula
- Adam & Kathie Gibson
- Mel & Judy Goldstein
- Kristi Kimberlin
- Stephen & Lara Knitter
- Mark Lanza
- Keith & Kathryn Lerch
- Jennifer Levett
- Douglas & Trinda Metzger
- Angela Roberts
- Thomas & Teresa Vahey

Paying your annual FHNA dues is easy and helps to support many of the things that make this neighborhood a great place to live. Payment envelopes will be in the February edition of the Columns, but we encourage you to pay the easy way—online. Simply log on to the FHNA website at www.foresthillsindy.org.

If you have not previously registered on the website, just click “Sign Up” from the home page. Then click on Neighbors Only > Pay Dues. The voluntary annual association dues are \$35.00 per household from January 1 to December 31. The dues help fund the Garage Sale, Summer Picnic, Halloween Party, Christmas Eve Luminaries, the Columns newsletter and many larger neighborhood projects.

Included in your dues is \$10.00 for the snow removal fund. If you need to get to work on a snow day, you’ll appreciate the snow removal fund! Please exclude \$10 if you live on Kessler Blvd. or College Ave, as our private plows don’t cover these streets. Thank you for supporting our neighborhood!

BOARD

Members

Board Officers

President: Mark Lanza, 317.695.4777, lanzamark@gmail.com

Vice President: Adam Gibson, 317.465.9003, adam@adamgibson.com

Secretary: Kathy Davis, liquidstudioinc@earthlink.net

Treasurer: Keith Lerch, 317.251.8661, Keith.W.Lerch@hud.gov

Board Members

Chris Warner, 317.253.0766, christopher.warner@wellsfargo.com

Justin & Julie Moeller, 317.253.7463, moellerjc@yahoo.com

Rodney Dowling & Kenneth Siegman, 317.847.3683, dowlingrr@hotmail.com

Andrea Cranfill, 317.413.8162, andrea.davis@mac.com

Lara Knitter, 317.251.0446, lknitter@sbcglobal.net



WELCOME NEW RESIDENTE!

Let's all give a warm welcome to our new neighbors!

Mike and Sarah Ferguson, 5858 Forest Lane. Mike and Sarah moved with their child, Colin – 16 months, and their dog, Gracie – 9 years old, from the northwest side of Indianapolis. They are still unpacking boxes and trying to get situated but hope to get out and meet all of their neighbors. Sarah grew up around 59th & New Jersey (her parents still live there and her sister lives at 51st & Delaware). They attend Immaculate Heart and belong to the Rivi so it only made sense for them to move to the area. Mike is completing his pediatric residency at Riley Hospital and starts his fellowship in pediatric oncology at IU in June. Sarah is the Director of Development for the Alzheimer's Association. Besides working and keeping up with a 16 month old, they love walking, running, cooking and traveling.

Marilyn Williams, 5882 Forest Lane.

Amy DeBaillie and Jeremy Merritt, 5732 Winthrop Ave. Amy and Jeremy relocated to Indianapolis for their careers. They are currently both

employed at Eli Lilly in Chemical Process Research and Development. Amy is originally from the Quad-City Area in IL. and Jeremy is originally from the Corning/Elmira Area in NY. They are UNC alumni and are very excited that Tyler Hansbrough was drafted by the Indiana Pacers. They currently reside at 5732 Winthrop Ave. with their cat, Sasha.

They enjoyed meeting Their new neighbors at the Halloween party!

SNOW?

Suppose to Snow?

Please do not park on the street! Nobody likes shoveling the snow bank from their driveway after the plow blocks us in, but we all suffer when it plows around parked cars. The narrow lanes this creates are a hazard, not to mention unsightly. FYI, the city doesn't plow secondary streets like ours, but we are often cleared before the surrounding areas. It's part of our dues - a Forest Hills exclusive! If you can't roll out your driveway, call Mark Lanza. He'll be glad to shovel you out!

BANNER ADS

advertise@foresthillsindy.org

Our web site is paid for by banner ads. We allow two, which appear at the bottom of every page, each for \$300/year. Forest Hills residents receive a 10% discount on advertising in all our publications (Columns, directory, web site). If interested, please contact advertise@foresthillsindy.org.

CURBSIDE RECYCLING

Republic Waste Services of Indiana



So, you've seen those big blue bins out on trash day and just have to have one! Good news; the City of Indianapolis offers curbside recycling to all Indianapolis residents. It is on a subscription basis and has a fee of \$6 a month. When you subscribe to this service you receive a 96-gallon cart for your recyclable materials. The accepted materials are glass, #1 & #2

plastics, aluminum, tin, and steel beverage and food cans, newspapers, cardboard and magazines. If you are interested in participating in this program please contact:

Republic Waste Services of Indiana
832 Langsdale Avenue
Indianapolis, IN 46202
Phone: (317) 917-7300

Annual Events

visit www.foresthillsindy.org for dates and information:

FH Luminaires	Dec 09
FHNA Dues	Jan 10
MKNA Dues	Jan 10
FH Garage Sale	May 10
FH Annual Meeting	Jun 10
FH Summer Picnic	Jun 10
FH Halloween Party	Oct 10

*FH=Forest Hills Events

*MKNA=Meridian Kessler Events