

the Columns

a newsletter for residents, neighbors and friends of the forest hills neighborhood

october 2017

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.

mark your calendar

OCTOBER 28
Halloween Party

DECEMBER 12
Luminary Set Up

Annual Halloween Party **Saturday, October 28th**

The Forest Hills Halloween Party will be held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on October 28th at the Guilford, Wildwood and 57th Street point.

Halloween Committee Chair Becky Morrison announces that there will be live music and a Halloween costume parade. Contests will include a cupcake walk with scary cupcakes (prize is a cupcake), scariest cupcake baker award, voting for scariest house (if you're new to the neighborhood you are in for a treat), and a scream contest. Volunteers are always needed; sign up online at <http://signup.com/go/YfUCPHD>

Your neighborhood association will provide pizza, drinks, and beer. David Barta of Dubina will graciously donate his time and services to the neighborhood with a hayride. We will also be collecting cash donations for Coburn Place, a local non-profit offering housing and services to survivors of domestic violence. The neighborhood has worked with this organization in the past and they greatly appreciate our support.

The Forest Hills Halloween Party is the oldest continuous neighborhood event in Indianapolis. Come and enjoy what makes our community unique.

Summer Picnic bigger and better than ever

Well over 175 neighbors gathered on August 12th to celebrate the end of summer. As expected after the 2016 rainout, the weather was beautiful, resulting in the best turnout for the Summer Picnic in recent memory. A majority of the neighbors not only showed up for the picnic, they stayed for the evening and enjoyed the taco bar, drinks, ice cream, and entertainment.

This year's event reprised attractions of a large bounce house combo with slide, along with an inflatable toddler obstacle course. The huge water slide was brought back again, providing kids relief from the heat. New attractions to the Summer Picnic included a visit from Indianapolis Fire Department and rides around the neighborhood in the infamous Chicken Limo. Both were a hit! What would a Summer Picnic be without music and alcohol? Neighbor Dr. Rob de las Alas and Chad Mills kept everyone entertained with a three-hour set capped off by Dr. D's classic rendition of *La Bamba*. And for the first time ever, the neighborhood floated two kegs of Mashcraft beer and a case of wine.

Picnic chair, Dan Neal, would like to thank Kirstie Hayward, owner of Tiny House Treats, for donating the ice cream, along with Vine & Table for donating gift bags. Thanks to the Klinzings, Hamstras, and Leenhouts for supplying electricity and to the Laughners for electricity, water, and letting us turn their yard into a shallow pool from the water slide. Thanks to the Hobbs, Neals, Morrisons, Watsons, and Coes for cooking the food and the Leenhouts and Klinzings for letting us use their ovens as warming stations. Thanks to new board member Kristy Garcia for working with IFD and Vine & Table to get the fire truck and gift baskets, securing the wine, and providing the liability waiver. Thanks to Pat Crowell for his new role as beer god.

Lastly, thanks to all the neighbors who helped set up and tear down and to all the new neighbors who showed up. It takes an army to put together the Summer Picnic, and you all served valiantly.

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Community Day fun and productive

Community Day 2017 was a great success. We had roughly 20 volunteers come out to serve our neighborhood. Special thanks to Don Arbogast and Patti Guiley for cutting back numerous trees around stop signs. We cleaned out the storm drains and a few residents are working with the city to have one particular drain, which is completely clogged, cleaned out. Additionally, the dumpsters were a great success. They were available just long enough for our residents to dump their unwanted items, while preventing dumping by individuals outside of the neighborhood. Thank you to all of our volunteers who made this possible.

Notes from the Leaf Pile

• After a very wet spring and a very dry late summer, autumn is here and with it the leaves from Forest Hills' many trees have begun to fall. Unfortunately, FHNA will not have its own curbside leaf pick-up this year, but the City of Indianapolis will sponsor its annual leaf collection (see below). Try to keep your curbs free of leaves and weeds; especially the sewer drains, which can be an ongoing task in the fall. Clogged drains mean more water flows to our lower areas, especially at 58th and Guilford. The city has improved the drainage in Forest Hills in recent years, but water backup can still be a problem.

• Construction of the Red Line is expected to start in January, 2018 and should be largely completed by the end of 2018. Detailed information about the Red Line as well as updates regarding the construction schedule are available at www.indygores.com.

• Construction on the AT&T site on College Avenue should start soon. Appeals against the development are over and the developer is now proceeding.

• MKNA is looking for tour homes for the June 2018 Meridian Kessler Home Tour. If you are interested in participating please contact Jessica Albaugh at jpalbaugh@yahoo.com. We'd love to have Forest Hills represented in the home tour again.

City of Indianapolis Annual Leaf Collection

The Department of Public Works conducts its annual Leaf Collection Program to help citizens dispose of large numbers of leaves each fall. This year the program will run from November 6 – December 1. Please remember the following guidelines:

- Up to 40 bags of leaves per residence per week may be left at curbside for pick-up
- Place leaves in large plastic trash bags and place near your regular trash cart
- Place bags out by 7 a.m. on our regular trash day (Fridays in Forest Hills)
- Keep all bags at least three feet away from the trash cart collection area to ensure that automated trucks can service the carts

If you have additional leaves after the end of the City Leaf Collection Program, the Citizens Transfer Station, located at 2324 S. Belmont Avenue, is open from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays for residents to drop off excess leaves. There is a fee of \$2.00 per car load or \$5.00 per truck load.

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