

the Columns

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

december 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



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10
Luminary Set Up

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24
Luminary Display

Forest Hills Luminaries Brighten the Neighborhood

One of the best Forest Hills traditions is lighting luminary candles on our curbs at dusk on Christmas Eve. This year Lisa Brown and Katie Leising have generously offered to coordinate the luminary assembly and distribution. This event will take place at the Brown's and Leising's adjacent homes at 5683 and 5681 Guilford Avenue, **Sunday, December 10 at 3:00 pm**. Contact Lisa at lbrown4@indy.rr.com with questions.

Volunteers, especially those with trucks or SUV's, are always needed, both to put together the kits and deliver them to your homes. Extra volunteers are always encouraged. It's a fun event, a good way to get to know new neighbors, and with enough hands, doesn't take long to complete. School-age kids are especially helpful in running the luminary kits from the delivery vehicles to front porches.

Your job, after they're delivered, is to assemble the luminaries (instruction included), place them on your curbs and light them at dusk on Christmas Eve. We do have a few vacant houses in the neighborhood, and we know that some of you will be out of town for the holidays, perhaps even before the luminaries are delivered. If you will be unable to set out your own luminaries, please make arrangements with a neighbor; and if a neighboring house is vacant please consider setting out those luminaries. You'll find their luminary kit on their front doorstep.

Christmas Eve luminaries is a decades-old tradition in Forest Hills. It is a beautiful sight on a special night for both residents and the visitors it attracts to our neighborhood, but it comes off best if all of our curbs are covered. Thank you all for helping to make this another spectacular Forest Hills event!

Halloween Party Brings Chilly Fun



The Forest Hills Halloween Party was held at the 5700 block of Wildwood on October 28th. Despite the chilly weather, we welcomed nearly 250 neighbors to the reformatted party, which included pizza from the new Broad Ripple location of Goodfella's

Pizza, hot chocolate, beer and warm cider. Again this year we enjoyed live music from neighbor Rob de las Alas's band, The Porchmen.

Party Chair Becky Morrison thanks Dan Neal for helping to chair this event. The neighborhood also thanks all who helped with set-up and tear down, donated cupcakes, volunteered at the cupcake walk, the hayrides, and the scream contest. Lastly, a big thank you to David Barta of Dubina Landscaping who donated his services and time to give our neighborhood hayrides once again.

We didn't get last names for the scream contest winners, although there's a pretty good chance that the parents of these anything-but-angelic noisemakers know them well and encourage them to rest their voices for next year's contest. Johnny and Henry won the 5-and-under contest. Chloe, Georgia, and Kellen were winners in the ages 5-7 group, and Daisy and Madi in the 8-and-up group. Neighbors of these winners should know that parents of these champions weren't committing child abuse in the weeks leading up to the party; their kids were just practicing.

Notes from the Leaf Pile

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As this issue of the Columns is being written, Forest Hills is deluged with falling leaves. The city-wide leaf pickup will end on Friday, December 1, but it appears that because of the relatively warm fall weather there may still be leaves left to dispose of after that date. As always, please remember to keep the gutters and storm drains in front of your home as free of leaves, debris and dirt as possible to allow rain water to drain properly – and to help prevent weeds from filling the curbs in the spring. Your neighbors will thank you!

This winter season, Dubina Landscaping will again provide snow removal on the interior streets of Forest Hills when we receive 4" or more of snowfall. Snow removal is just one of the services provided by our FHNA dues. Please assist the snow removal vehicles by parking off street if possible when snow is forecast – it's hard for the snow plow drivers to do a decent job if there are cars parked on the street after a storm. Dubina will plow the streets only and not the entrances to our driveways, so we're on our own to shovel those.

Many of our neighbors will be traveling this holiday season, which means many empty houses. If you are planning to be away from home, please be sure to let your neighbors know so they can pick up papers, mail and packages, and keep an eye out for any suspicious activity.

A big "Thank You" to Jill de las Alas, who recently assumed responsibility from Lindsay Rust for layout and editing of the Columns. We appreciate your assistance, Jill, in keeping our neighbors informed of news and activities in Forest Hills.

Annual FH Dues

Attached to this final 2017 issue of the Columns you will find a dues envelope. 2018 Forest Hills Neighborhood Association dues are payable as of January 1 for the 2018 calendar year.

As noted on the envelope, dues are \$30, plus \$15 for snow removal (residents on College and Kessler don't have to pay snow removal). We welcome contributions above and beyond the call of duty to help fund our neighborhood activities. Your dues fund the Annual Meeting in June, the Summer Picnic, the Halloween Party, Christmas Eve Lunaries (see article in this issue), the annual garage sale, Community Day (which also includes the temporary placement of dumpsters in the neighborhood for residents' use), the Columns newsletter, FHNA website, directory, snow removal and the other great stuff our neighborhood association does (hopefully with your help). All of these events and services are made possible by prompt payment of your dues.

You can pay by check by mailing in the dues envelope, or online at the FHNA website (www.foresthillsindy.org). You can also drop off payments to your block captain, any member of the board, or at our Treasurer's house (the address on the envelope).

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