# Neighborhood Crime Watch

## **NEIGHBORS LOOKING OUT FOR NEIGHBORS**

Crime Watch is a self-help cooperative effort to reduce crime and the fear of crime in neighborhoods. Participants learn crime prevention techniques that can help lower their risk of becoming victims. A proactive approach against crime is taken through communication and cooperation of citizens, law enforcement, and local government. In healthy neighborhoods, police and citizens partner together to create a safe, crime-free environment.

The basic emphasis is on citizens and law enforcement working closely together to reduce criminal opportunity, learning to be observant, becoming crime aware "eyes and ears" for the Lawrence Police Dept.

The idea of neighbors caring about and for each other is an old "American way of life." The approach is to help neighbors understand how to be more pro-active with their own safety, to communicate with one another and to live without fear or indifference. The neighborhood watch program is a community based action plan to lower crime, violence, and drug abuse by bringing residents together in partnership with our Lawrence police department to reduce the fear of crime. It increases the ability of residents to resolve issues that affect public safety and the quality of life. Concerned residents and a strong police department help to make a safe neighborhood.

### Some Ideas for reducing Crime Opportunities:

- Watch out for all vehicles, not just vans and trucks; Passenger cars, expensive, and inexpensive are also used by thieves. Be prepared with the license number of the car. Write down a general description of the car.
- Tell your neighbors when you are having work done, or when you are going to be away from home, even for a short trip. Become familiar with your neighbors' cars. Any cars that you do not recognize should be considered suspect.
- Do not give out any information about your home or family over the phone.
- Do not advertise that you are living alone.
- Do not open your doors to strangers. Demand proper identification.
- Burglars know all the hiding places. Do not leave, or hide house keys outside of your house, or give keys to a repairman.
- Install double cylinder dead bold locks. Sliding glass doors should always be secured with a pin-type locking device or a "charlie bar."
- Keep garage doors closed and locked. Lock up any tools that can be used for entering your home.
- When you leave make your home look occupied.
- A barking dog is one of the most effective burglar alarms.
- Get Involved!

If you have questions about Lawrence's Crime Watch Program, contact Diana Cridge-Price, Lawrence Police Crime Prevention Director at 545-6191.

"A good neighbor is one of the most effective crime prevention tools ever invented."

# Mark Your Calendars!

### **UPCOMING DATES**

**April 4th,** Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting - Indian Lake Country Club

**April 7th,** Saturday, 2:00 p.m. Easter Egg Hunt - Indian Lake Park

May 2nd, Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Board Meeting - Indian Lake Country Club
May 5th, Saturday, 8:00 a.m.
Beach Clean-Up - North & South Beaches
May 19th, Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Civic Committee - Jane Ann Kopitzki's

July 4th, Wednesday 4th of July Celebration on Indian Lake July 9th, Monday, 7:30 p.m. Civic Committee Meeting

**July 15th,** Sunday Annual Picnic

# When You Need To Call

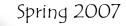


KEEP THIS WITH YOUR
INDIAN LAKE PHONE DIRECTORY

Assessments - Gary Keithley	823-6561
Beach reservations - any board member	
Boat slip rentals - Jeff VanTreese	823-6690
Bylaws and rules – Bob Karnak	826-1505
Civic Committee - Sherry Wallace	823-1579
Property maintenance - Fred Lee	823-4687
Security - Jeff VanTreese	823-6690
Smoke Signal - Lori Rumreich	823-3897

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Mark Rumreich (president)	823-3897
Bob Karnak (vp)	826-8952
Gary Keithley (secretary/treasurer)	823-6561
Ed French	823-4431
Jim Hoskins	826-4944
Mike Hurd	823-0313
Fred Lee	823-4687
Paul Legge	823-7133
Andy VanTreese	823-8990
Jeff VanTreese	823-6690





# \*INDIAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION\*

# President□s Message

by Mark Rumreich

#### **SPILLWAY REPAIR**

Work to repair the deteriorated concrete wingwalls of the spillway was completed in November, at a cost of \$55,000. We're very pleased with the quality of the job.

During the repair, the contractor noted that the sluice gate tunnel showed some signs of deterioration, but the weather was getting too cold to perform any repair work. The tunnel will be professionally inspected this spring, and if appropriate, repairs will be performed at a cost of about \$5,000.

#### M/I HOMES - WOODS AT INDIAN LAKE

Now that spring is here, so are the spring rains. We have requested that M/I use temporary seeding to reduce the erosion near the entrance and in other sloped areas. The erosion control contractor, Wade Amos, has promised that temporary seeding would happen in the next few weeks.

Andy VanTreese is our Indian Lake point man for erosion control issues at this project, so residents should contact him with questions or comments.

You may have noticed that the new entrance design isn't exactly the way M/I told us it would be. It's a long story, but the City of Lawrence is partially to blame. As part of the resolution to this problem, Lori Kaplan from the City of Lawrence agreed to install 3-way stops at both the South Drive and Winona Drive subdivision entrances and work to provide calming tables (gentler versions of speed humps) on South Drive.

Residents have been asking about the "poor man's speed bump" at the top of the hill near the new entrance. Steve Sherwood from M/I says they plan to fix this in the next few months, when the surface of the road is finished.

#### **INDOT LAWSUIT**

As mentioned in the last Smoke Signal, the board has retained the Indianapolis law firm Plews, Shadley, Racher & Braun to represent us in a lawsuit against INDOT and its contractors, for their negligence in using proper erosion controls in the recent Pendleton Pike highway project. The firm is working on a contingency basis, so there will be no legal costs to Indian Lake if we do not win.

We've also hired an expert witness, who estimated the amount of sediment produced by the Pendleton Pike project. Additionally, we've obtained a formal quote for what it would cost to remove that sediment from Indian Lake. That figure is \$272,000. On top of compensatory damages, we are seeking punitive damages because of gross negligence.

The defendants have been served legal notice, and we are now in the pre-trial discovery phase of the lawsuit. This is where both sides show their hands, to avoid unwanted surprises in the court room. Stay tuned for more updates.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH**

Last month, one of our residents had their home broken into, and valuable items were taken. I asked our neighborhood Crime Watch coordinator, Kathi Cummings, to provide information to help ILIA residents prevent neighborhood crime. See her article in this issue of the Smoke Signal.

Kathi's Crime Watch area only covers the southwest corner of the Indian Lake neighborhood, so residents in other parts of the neighborhood should consider forming their own Crime Watch groups. Northsiders should contact Marge Crouch if interested.



Across the Fence

#### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

Hop on over to Indian Lake Park on Saturday, April 7th from 2-3pm for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Egg Hunt is open to all Indian Lake residents and their families with children age 10 and under. There will be an egg hunt for children 4 and under, a hunt for ages 5-7 and a hunt for ages 8-10. Prizes will be given for the most eggs and for finding the rainbow egg. Cookies and beverages will be available for all to enjoy. Also, look for a visit from the Easter Bunny. The Bunny will be available to greet your child and for photos.

#### **BEACH CLEAN-UP**

Clean-up, Clean-up, everybody do your part... As the words to the children's song go, we need everyone to do their part to help clean-up the beaches and the lake. We will be joining in for this fun activity on Saturday, May 5th beginning at 8am. Please join us at both south and north beaches to get boats back into the lake, clean-up the beaches and get the docks ready for another great summer of fun. Drinks will be available all day and lunch will be provided by the Civic Committee beginning at noon on the north beach. Please bring your own shovel, rake and any other tools that would be helpful.

What, you can't be there on May 5th? Then feel free to take some time to clean-up the trash by the streets of Indian Lake, on the shoreline or in the Park. It really does take the village to keep the lake looking great.

The rain date will be Saturday, May 12th.

#### **INDIAN LAKE LOSS**

We are saddened by the passing of **Elizabeth Walker** in December. Ross and Elizabeth have been residents of Indian Lake for over 30 years. Many of you have seen her swimming the lake every day from south beach to the island. Or you might have seen her walking or bicycling though the neighborhood. She and Ross have always been active. Unfortunately, a tragic skiing accident, a sport that she so enjoyed, took her from this earth. She will be missed. The Indian Lake Civic Committee will have a rose planted in her memory.

#### **NEWS ON THE LAKE**

Take a few minutes to check out our Indian Lake Blog-indianlakeimprovement.blogspot.com. Mark has done a wonderful job of keeping the lake residents informed of news on the lake and with all the development going on around us. Thank you Mark. Also, check out the fabulous photos from our resident, Anne Sharp (some of which appear in this issue). Have you seen all of these animals and birds around us?

# Thanks to all whom contribute! BACKYARD WILDLIFE HABITAT

Would you like to have your home be part of the National Wildlife Habitat? Many of the residents on the lake are already certified as such. If we can have 10 percent of our neighborhood listed, we can have the Indian Lake Neighborhood listed as a Certified National Wildlife Habitat. This promotes conservation and habitat restoration in our area.

To be certified with the National Wildlife Federation as a Backyard Wildlife Habitat, there are four criteria a homeowner must incorporate for wildlife to become certified. These include providing food, water, shelter, and a place to raise young. Of course, our wonderful neighborhood does meet all of these criteria.

To be certified there is a small form to complete and a minimal one time charge of \$20. You will receive a nice plaque to place in your yard.

For more information and an application form, please call Ruth Norrington at 460-8576. Also, if you have already listed, please let me know so that I can account for everyone in order for our neighborhood to become certified.





Photo taken by Anne Sharp.