

# Indian Lake Smoke Signal

• I N D I A N L A K E I M P R O V E M E N T A S S O C I A T I O N •

## President's Message

by Mark Rumreich

### **Indian Creek Lift Station and the Next Mayor of Lawrence**

In fifteen years of writing the President's Message, I've intentionally avoided badmouthing or endorsing any political candidates. Today, I'm breaking that rule, I've seen too much to remain quiet.

The proposed Indian Creek lift station continues to be a major controversy between the City and nearby residents. This is an important issue to our neighborhood and adjoining neighborhoods, but the significance of this controversy goes way beyond the lift station itself. The current administration's handling of this issue is the real problem.

The problem is more than just a lack of transparency. The Jessup administration has gone out of its way to make obtaining accurate information difficult. We've had to resort to using the Freedom of Information Act to obtain documents, and even then, some of those requests have gone unanswered. This administration has done what it can to impede public forums for information exchange. Most disturbing of all is that important decisions are made based on incomplete information or bad assumptions. It now appears that the \$56 million upgrade charge for Lift Station 402, used to justify the need for the Indian Creek lift station, may be fictitious.

Mayoral candidate Steve Collier has gone on record opposing the Indian Creek lift station. More importantly, he has a track record of working closely and transparently with neighbors and neighborhoods to solve problems. If the \$56 million upgrade charge claimed by the current administration proves to be fictitious, taking the lift station off the table not only makes sense from the standpoint of environmentalists, it saves the utility ratepayers (us!) millions of dollars.

The next mayor of Lawrence will strongly affect the future of our neighborhood as a solution to the aging pipe under the lake is identified and the stormwater utility interlocal agreement with Marion County is established. Whether that mayor is Dean Jessup or Steve Collier is up to you at the ballot box. Please vote on Tuesday November 3rd, and support your neighborhood with a vote for Steve Collier.

*These are my views, not necessarily those of the Indian Lake board or anyone else.*

### **Revised Stormwater Fee**

In the past, you may have noticed the \$13.50 stormwater fee on your 6 month property tax statements. This fee has been in place since around 2000, and funds stormwater projects in Marion County.

Earlier this year, Marion County decided to restructure the fee from a flat rate to a formula based on impervious area of your property. Impervious area means the square footage of structures that block rain from soaking directly into the soil. It includes roof area, driveways, decks, patios, garages, sheds and paths. Compacted gravel is considered impervious. For most Indian Lake residents, this means an increase from \$27 a year to about \$80 a year. A number of residents will pay upwards of \$300 a year.

The City of Lawrence sets its own rate structure, but recently opted to follow the Marion County formula. I recommended to the Lawrence Council that the old rate structure be kept until such time that Lawrence starts getting its fair share of stormwater projects, but that's not how it worked out.

*President's message continued on back page...*

## When You Need To Call



### KEEP THIS WITH YOUR INDIAN LAKE PHONE DIRECTORY

|                                       |          |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Assessments - Lynn Osborn             | 670-3933 |
| Beach Reservations - any board member |          |
| Boat Slip Rentals - Jeff VanTreese    | 823-6690 |
| Bylaws and Rules - Paul Odenwelder    | 823-4848 |
| Civic Committee - Ruth Norrington     | 460-8576 |
| Property Maintenance - Jeff VanTreese | 823-6690 |
| Security - Jeff VanTreese             | 823-6690 |
| Smoke Signal - Mark Rumreich          | 823-3897 |

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Mark Rumreich (president)         | 823-3897 |
| Jeff VanTreese (vp)               | 823-6690 |
| Lynn Osborn (secretary/treasurer) | 670-3933 |
| Rob Connors                       | 903-6292 |
| Ed French                         | 823-4431 |
| Kyle Hurd                         | 416-7982 |
| Phil Marble                       | 702-5715 |
| Paul Odenwelder                   | 823-4848 |
| Ben Slocum                        | 989-4718 |
| Andy VanTreese                    | 627-0737 |

## New Winter Boat Storage Program

To keep the beach area clear for winter fun, the board asks that the sandy area at North Beach be kept clear of stored boats this winter.

Boats may still be stored on the gravel areas at North Beach, the usual areas at South Beach, and at the east end. To make sure there's enough space for those who want North Beach storage, there's a one large boat limit for North Beach storage per household.

November 7 and 8 is the suggested boat removal weekend. The Association will make trailers available for transporting boats to the east end.

Due to the possibility of flooding, anchor boats stored at the beaches at two points, using cement blocks, posts or trees. Take measures to discourage tampering, such as removing valuables, using motor locks or removing the motor and battery.

In the spring, watercraft must be removed from Association winter storage areas by April 22 of each year.

If this program works well, we'll adopt the practice for future winters.



# Blast From The Past

South Beach turns fifty in 2016.

In 1966, South Side Beach, as it was called, was mostly undeveloped. A decision was made to fill the low lying land to beach level. Adjacent property owners were asked their permission to do this, since their properties could be affected. The letter shows Alice Dafoff, then owner of lots 162, 163, 177 and 185, granting her permission to the Association.

## Indian LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

3-28-66

Dear Member;-

Development of the South Side Beach is planned for this year.

This will mean the use of the Southside Beach area as a settling basin. Since you own property adjacent to the Beach, it is possible that some of your adjacent low land may be filled by this procedure.

Your Association is desirous of your permission, in the event there is encroachment, to fill your adjacent low land to beach level.

Permission is hereby granted by me to the Association for use as described above.

Signed Alice F. Dafoff

Lot Nos. 177, 162, 163, 185

Donald W. Brodie, M.D. Secy.-Treas.

Indian Lake Improvement Association

THANKS

Sign and return in Stamped Envelope.

# Indian Lake's 23rd Annual Bob Nicholas Memorial Bass Fishing Tournament

We had a great turn out and a perfect day on Indian Lake for the 23rd annual Bass Fishing Tournament. A total of eleven contestants rose early for the 6am start and were greeted to one of prettiest sunrises I've ever seen on Indian lake.

This year marked a new record for the heaviest winning weight, a total of five fish weighing in at 14lbs, 8oz caught by Andy Clifton and his partner Rusty Fields. Andy and Rusty had a fantastic fishing day, catching a total of twelve keeper-size bass, their total weight consisted of their best 5 fish, netting them \$90 for their efforts. It's always nice to get paid to go fishing!!

Second Place went to the team of Greg Taylor and Eric Zainey, with a total of five fish weighing 11lbs, 10ozs, winning \$54.

Third place and Big Fish went to Fred Zainey with 3 fish weighing a total of 9lbs even, winning \$36 for 3rd and \$60 for his big bass weighing in at 3lbs, 10ozs.

Thanks to all the contestants participating in the tournament, hope to see you all next year.

This year's participants:

Greg Taylor and Eric Zainey, (also known as the TZ Fish Patrol)

Andy Clifton and Rusty Fields

Brian Beechler and Chris Connelly

Rob and DJ Conners

Kerry Brown and his daughter Mailan

Fred Zainey

I want to say a special "THANK YOU" to Suzy McDaniel for Bob's Favorite Oatmeal Cookies. She has made these for us every year of the tournament. Most of the contestants say they don't come for the great fishing, they come for the Cookies!! That includes me, Suzy!!

Fred Zainey



# Keith Rea Concert

On September 6, Phil Marble hosted the 3rd annual Keith Rea concert at Indian Lake. The concert was open to all Indian Lake residents. The event was a huge success with over 60 people attending, including many people from the lake that listened to the concert from pontoon boats and kayaks.

Keith Rea is a singer/songwriter and instrumentalist. He brings a wealth of experience to the stage as well as a variety of styles and genres. From love songs to train songs, Keith's lyrics conjure stories of people, places, and situations that feel both familiar and yet somehow fresh.

His instrumental stylings cover the landscape from finger picked ballads to raucous twelve bar blues.

The event started at 2pm and included a cookout with brats, sides and hamburgers. Keith played from 4-6pm. During his break, Kyle Hurd from the Indian Lake community played a few songs as well.

The first concert that Keith performed, two years ago, raised money for college mentors. Some information on Keith, if you would like to follow him are below:

Website: <http://www.keithrea.com>

YouTube channel: <http://www.youtube.com/MrKEithRea>



# Meet The Neighbor: Janet Valasek

by Paul Legge

Janet Valasek has been on a journey that has brought her full circle. Last year she returned to the house her father, Carl Bordenkecher, bought when she was twelve years old. Janet's fond memories of the neighborhood, childhood friends, and a close family never faded. When Carl moved from his house on Cherokee Drive to be closer to his other daughter on Rainbow Lane, Janet had her opportunity to return to Indian Lake.

Janet has been IT Training Manager with the law firm Barnes & Thornburg LLP for 11 years now, but previous jobs included international consulting and world travel. But Janet also spends much of her time serving others and advocating for our community. A breast cancer survivor of twelve years, Janet has worked hard to give back to other survivors as a volunteer and organizer. Her personal experiences led her to help cancer patients with day-to-day tasks while they undergo therapy. Janet is also passionate about educating women about the importance of mammograms and early detection. Here at Indian Lake, she has been involved in our community's effort to redirect plans for a proposed sewage lift station, and she is also hoping to find new ways to help our children appreciate the wildlife that surrounds our neighborhood.

It's been a rewarding return for Janet, who has been able to rekindle old friendships as well as get to know the "new" folks who have come to Indian Lake while she was away. And one of the most important gifts has been living closer to her father Carl, a wonderful man with a rich history here in Indian Lake that extends back to the 1940's.





# South Beach Drive Repaved

After many delays, the South Beach drive has finally been repaved. This project was originally scheduled for last fall, but cold weather arrived before the contractor was able to pave. This year, rains delayed paving by over a month. Finally, on July 24, the contractor was available and conditions were right.

Repaving the drive had been on the board's radar for a few years. The old drive was badly deteriorating and beyond patching. Thanks to falling asphalt prices and an especially attractive bid from one of the three paving companies we considered, the time was right.

Repaving the drive was an extra challenge because of the steepness of the hill. The roller needed to be tethered to a tow truck at the top of the hill to make

sure it didn't lose control. When the roller operator was asked if he was standing up so he could see better, he replied that it was in case he needed to jump off!

In addition to repaving the existing asphalt, the drive was extended toward the lake. A gravel area with extra parking spaces was also added.

Extra thanks to Ed French and Jeff Van Treese for the drainage and gravel work and doing what it took to make sure the paving was done right.



President's message continued...

### Revised Stormwater Fee, continued...

Marion County provides a cool impervious area tool that lets homeowners see the impervious area of their properties. I'd encourage everyone to use the tool to check for errors. I saw from the tool that the city considered about a half-dozen boat docks on Indian Lake to be impervious, and requested corrections. I also saw grassy areas on individual properties that were incorrectly identified as impervious and properties being assessed for impervious areas on neighbors properties. You'll have to request corrections for those errors yourselves.

One thing to know about the formula is that it rounds up to the nearest 1000 square feet. So if you correct a small error, it may or may not change your rate.

To use the tool, go to <http://maps.indy.gov/MapIndy/>. Type your street address into the MapIndy box at the top left. To select the Impervious Area Tool, click on the rightmost icon in the bottom tray. It looks like a white star inside a red circle inside a blue rectangle. This is a very powerful tool, and also lets you look at aerial views going back to 1937, see topographic data, view property lines, measure distance and area, see your property tax record and much more. It takes time to figure out how to use all the features, but it's worth it.

Impervious area questions or correction requests should be sent to [stormwater@indy.gov](mailto:stormwater@indy.gov) or call (317) 327-2015.

### Amended Peddler Ordinance

On August 3rd, the Lawrence Council amended the city's Peddler Permit and Licensing ordinance.

## Magnificent Indian Lake

Falling leaves, crisp mornings, hayrides, bonfires, pumpkins, hot chocolate. Fall is in the air and there is nowhere more beautiful than our magnificent Indian Lake. Take some time for a walk through the woods, a ride on one of the many trails in the area or just sit a bit and enjoy this beautiful time of year. Happy Fall!

Marge Crouch

Previously, if someone suspicious knocked on your door, you had the option to ask them for their City of Lawrence Peddlers Permit. If they failed to produce one, you could ask them to leave the neighborhood or the police would be called to enforce the ordinance. This was a good way to ward off unsavory characters casing homes in our neighborhood for burglary or theft.

The new ordinance exempts "canvassers" from needing a permit. According to the ordinance, canvassers are:

1. Attempting to solicit support for or against a particular religion, philosophy, ideology, political party, issue, or candidate, even if incidental to such purposes the canvasser accepts the donation of money for or against such cause; OR
2. Attempting to obtain a donation to a particular patriotic, philanthropic, social service, welfare, benevolent, educational, civic, fraternal, charitable, political, or religious purpose, even if incidental to such purpose there is the sale of some good or service.

With the new ordinance, all someone casing homes needs to do is say they're a canvasser and there's nothing we can do to stop them.

The new ordinance is a step forward for the convenience of canvassers, but a step backward for the safety of neighborhoods.

