

# Indian Lake Smoke Signal

• INDIAN LAKE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION •

## President's Message

by Mark Rumreich

### Auxiliary Spillway Project

In the Spring Smoke Signal, the auxiliary spillway project was introduced as our top infrastructure priority.

As a result of the Bidder's conference organized by Phil Marble and hosted by Joe Dayan, we received preliminary quote and project information from two of the three firms who attended. But there were some fundamental differences in the approaches of the two submitting firms.

Commonwealth Engineers takes a conservative approach, and would design a labyrinth structure that would fully comply with the 50% PMP requirement of the IDNR. (See the Spring Smoke Signal for a more detailed explanation.) The total cost of engineering and construction would be on the order of 1.9 million dollars.

Christopher Burke Engineering suggests a design approach that would provide less than 50% PMP protection. In all of our communications with IDNR top officials, they have indicated a high level of receptiveness to this approach. This could allow us to reduce the cost to about half.

Even with the second approach, our infrastructure savings fall well short of being able to fund the project without

outside help. The board is entering into a conversation with the City of Lawrence to see whether Stormwater Utility money might be available for this project.

### Stop Sign Installed at Hidden Oak Entrance

The Hidden Oak subdivision exit directly tees into Indian Lake Road just east of our neighborhood, and no stop sign was installed at the intersection when the subdivision was built. As a result, drivers exiting Hidden Oak often didn't stop or even yield to traffic on Indian Lake Road. There have been many "near misses" reported to me over the years, this was an accident waiting to happen.

In 2016, I asked our Lawrence district Councilor, Tom Shevlot, to look into having a stop sign installed on Hidden Oak Lane. Unfortunately nothing ever came of it. Then last summer, I mentioned the problem to Lawrence Councilor-at-large Becky Parker. She agreed it was a problem and said she'd propose an ordinance to have a stop sign installed. In July, the Lawrence Council approved the ordinance and a sign was installed shortly thereafter. Thanks to Councilor Becky Parker for helping to make our neighborhood a safer place!



## When You Need To Call



### KEEP THIS WITH YOUR INDIAN LAKE PHONE DIRECTORY

Assessments - Lynn Osborn	826-1505
Beach reservations - any board member	
Boat slip rentals - Kyle Hurd	416-7982
Bylaws and rules - Bob Gundaker	855-1349
Civic Committee - Carla Rosebrock	379-0244
Communications - Alyssa Alexander	670-7559

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Rumreich (president)	823-3897
Alyssa Alexander (vp)	670-7559
Lynn Osborn (secretary/treasurer)	826-1505
Joe Dayan	910-7751
Bob Gundaker	855-1349
Kyle Hurd	416-7982
Scott Kelley	919-7231
Phil Marble	702-5715
RJ Russell	281-0024
Andy Van Treese	627-0737

## Annual Fishing Tournament

Indian Lake's annual fishing tournament was held on September 23rd. There were only four boats fishing this year, I believe because I didn't pass out flyers. For those of you who missed it, I'm sorry for the lack of information, next year there will be flyers.

They weren't biting great, but three boats had a limit of five fish each, for a grand total of 34.1 pounds, very good weight for Indian Lake.

The winners and the prizes are:

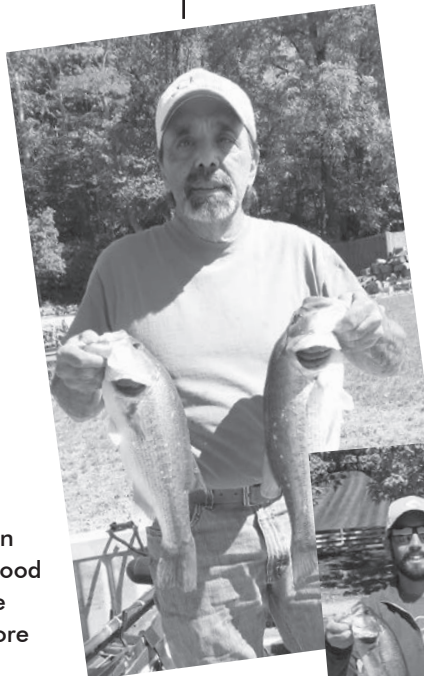
- > Fred Zainey, 1st place and big bass, 1st paid \$60, big bass paid \$40 at 3.4 pounds, 5 bass total of 12.1 pounds.
- > Ben Slocum and Rob Conners came in 2nd with a 5 bass total of 11 pounds even
- > Greg Taylor and Eric Zainey came in 3rd with a 5 bass total of 10.1 pounds
- > James and Jaye Mills caught lots of fish, but no keeper-sized to weigh. For the record, they beat us real bad a few years ago, it just wasn't in the cards for them this year.

Thanks again to Suzy McDaniels for Uncle Bob's (& mine too!) Favorite Oatmeal cookies, they sure made our morning!!!

See you all next year, Fred Zainey



An IPL lineman repairs downed power lines on South Drive. Most residents in the neighborhood were without power for twenty four hours due to the Saturday November 21 windstorm. More than 55,000 were affected by outages in the Indianapolis area.



# Who is Liable When a Tree Falls on a Neighbor's Property?

Many people have one or more types of trees on their property. Trees provide shade and complement landscaping nicely, but they can also cause major disputes when they fall over. A tree may fall over if it is not properly maintained and diseased, or it may fall over during a storm. When a tree falls over onto a neighbor's property, a homeowner is often left to wonder if he or she is liable. Most people assume that they are liable since it is their tree. However, this is not always true.

When a tree falls over onto a neighbor's property, that neighbor should submit a claim to his or her insurance company immediately. The insurance company is usually responsible for taking care of the damages. This is true if the tree fell over due to an act of nature. For example, a healthy tree that falls over during a tornado, hurricane, wind storm or winter storm would not be the responsibility of the homeowner. Since the homeowner living on the property where the fallen tree was rooted did not intentionally push the tree over, nature is responsible. This means that the neighbor's insurance policy should cover it under perils.

However, there are some cases where a homeowner could be held liable. If the tree fell on the neighbor's home when the homeowner was trying to cut down the tree without professional help, the damage would be the homeowner's responsibility. Also, if the tree was dying, unstable or diseased and the homeowner knew about it, he or she could be liable if it falls over on its own. He or she could also be liable if it falls over during a very light storm that would not normally knock over a tree. When homeowners know they have dying, diseased or unstable trees, it is their responsibility to take steps to prevent them from causing severe damage.

In the event a homeowner is liable for the damages, his or her personal insurance company will have to pay the damages. The insurer will have to also investigate the claim and defend the homeowner if he or she is sued by the neighbor whose property the tree fell on. If the homeowner being sued loses, his or her insurer will pay up to the policy limit for damages. For any further damages beyond that, the homeowner is financially responsible. Neighbors can also submit liability claims against homeowner policies.

Most cases involve trees falling over due to storms or acts of nature, so many homeowners whose trees fall over do not have to worry about their insurers footing the bill. Also, they do not have to worry about premium increases if they are not found liable for the damages. In some cases, neighbors may still try to sue to recover their deductibles. The best way to avoid this scenario is to prevent it in the first place. Homeowners should check their trees regularly and have them inspected at the first sign of disease or any health issues.

A professional arborist can analyze the tree to see if it needs any special treatments, pruning or complete removal. This may seem like an unnecessary expense, but it is much less expensive than the potential cost of paying for a neighbor's home being destroyed and the legal costs that ensue. For those who plan to stay in their homes for any length of time, it is best to try to keep peace with neighbors, so this is also a good way to prevent quarrels or ongoing problems. To learn more about damage claims from fallen trees, discuss concerns with your insurance agent.

## **Tip: where's the property line?**

The Indygov mapping tool <http://maps.indy.gov/MapIndy/> provides an easy way to help locate property lines. Select the Parcel checkbox under Property under More to highlight property boundaries. The slider under Streets and Aerials lets you adjust the blend between topo map and aerial photo.

Based on experience, the mapping tool boundaries can be off by a few feet, so take that into consideration when using it.





# Across the Fence

Condolences to the family of **Jim Hoskins** who passed away in June. He and his family were amongst the first Indian Lake settlers. His family moved to the lake in 1941 when Jim was a baby. There were only a handful of homes here at the time. Old-timers may remember Jim's parents, Dr. Robert and Louise Hoskins. Dr. Hoskins joined the board in 1953, the year the board expanded from five to nine members, and served until 1965. Louise was active with the Civic Committee for many years. In the family tradition, Jim served on the board from 2006 to 2011. Jim was interested in helping monitor erosion and was one of our "watershed watchdogs" out in the field taking photos for us during the development of Westminster Village North, Pendleton Pike expansion, and other projects. His work helped us achieve some of the substantial environmental settlements of the time. Jim and Deanna were always exceptional hosts whenever the opportunity arose, and hosted a number of fondly remembered annual budget meetings and progressive dinners. Jim made our neighborhood a better place to live.

Mike Carter, Becky, David and Rhea would like to thank all their friends and neighbors for your thoughts and prayers during the very difficult time of the death of their grandson Tyler.

Welcome to new neighbors **Jay Albertson** at 10320 Mohawk Drive, **Tom Bartenbach** at 10302 South Drive, and **Josh Betz** at 10346 South Drive. Josh has an extensive remodeling project in the works and hopes to move in with his family when the house is ready.

After receiving a B.S. in electrical engineering from Purdue in May '17, **Marlow Rumreich** went on to grad school at Purdue and received her Master's degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering this past May. She accepted a job with Boeing in Seattle, WA, where she now works as a radar engineer.

## Congratulations to:



**Jordan Van Treese**, one of our summer workers, graduated from Indiana University's prestigious Kelley School of Business in May. There was quite a large contingent of relatives at the downtown Indianapolis commencement.

**Lara Protenic** of Louisville, KY and **Stephan Van Treese** were married in Mexico on July 5th. Fun was had by all in attendance! A pre-wedding shower was held in June at the Van Treese & Associates showroom/warehouse for the happy couple with much food, games, and of course gifts. They now live in Louisville across the street from Lara's parents...sound familiar?!



**Laura Stricker** of New Palestine, IN and **Ryan Van Treese** will be married on November 3rd in Carmel, IN. The wedding party includes Laura's three sisters and Ryan's best man is Rob Malad with groomsmen: Ryan

Allen, Stephan Van Treese, Andy Meek, Brian Schneider and Nick Peppler. Laura's matron of honor is Renee Wickliff and bridesmaids are Judy Hamrock, Rachel Oertel, Darcy Stricker, Gretchen Oskins and Lissa Rector. Amos Oertel and Luke Van Treese are the ring bearers with Annabelle Van Treese, Ava Oertel and Piper Oertel as the flower girls. There are 156 people expected to attend, so party will be ON!

# Meet the Neighbor

By Kimberly Hunt



**Meet Kevin Hunt.** "What are you doing here?" is the first question most people ask when they discover Kevin is a native Californian. He's been answering that question for 23 years, and he's still amused by it. While palm trees and sandy beaches are what most people envision when they think of the Golden State, Kevin, in fact, grew up in a small town of 2,000 people, surrounded by orchards and dairies – not movie stars and Mickey Mouse.

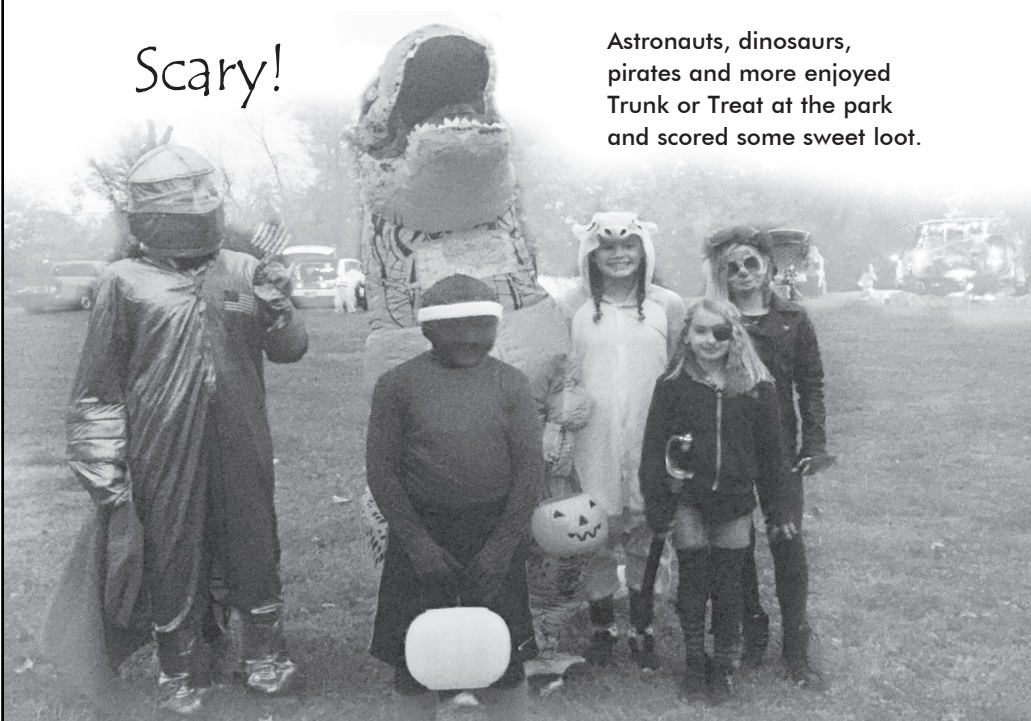
Kevin hadn't expected to leave the Central Valley in which he was born and raised, but when his employer decided to move the company to Indiana, he eagerly accepted the prospect of relocating to the Midwest. To him and his

wife (yours truly) it amounted to an adventure into the great unknown. The farthest from the West Coast either of them had been was Nevada, and neither of them were completely sure where Indiana was on a map. Although Kevin's relationship with his employer ended two short years after he arrived in Indianapolis, his attachment to the people and culture kept him from leaving the place he had quickly come to consider home. "I knew I was a Hoosier my first winter here when I had watched more basketball games on TV in one day than I had watched in my entire life to that point," laughs Kevin. "There was no going back after that."

The economy, not basketball, played the biggest role in the Hunts' emigration to the Hoosier State. The depressed California economy made it difficult for young adults to embark on fulfilling careers or purchase their own home. Once in Indiana however, Kevin was able to follow a winding path of employment opportunities that played to his diverse skill set; purchasing agent, realtor, worship director, musician, computer technician, and operations director. Finally, in 2015, Kevin was able to achieve his boyhood dream of working behind the counter of a music store. The dream is slightly altered now since Kevin owns the music store and doesn't just work behind the counter. He also repairs guitars, runs sound, teaches lessons and rents instruments, gear and rehearsal space. Kevin is content with this variation of what he wanted to do when he grew up. So, if you see him driving around the neighborhood in his Music Depot van with a giant electric guitar on the side, and you stop him to ask, "What are you doing here?" he'll probably just smile and say, "Living the dream."

## Scary!

Astronauts, dinosaurs, pirates and more enjoyed Trunk or Treat at the park and scored some sweet loot.



### FOR SALE:

Charging station for all-electric and plug-in hybrid cars. Was \$1000 new. Asking \$300 (\$250 for ILIA resident.) Call Lynn Osborn at (317)670-3933 or (317)826-1505.





## Smoke Signal Wins Hermes Award

The Smoke Signal received Honorable Mention in the prestigious 2018 Hermes Creative Awards in print media. Three issues of the Smoke Signal were submitted for consideration and the results were announced in May.



Thanks to Kyle Hurd for building a pair of kayak racks for North Beach.

They Look Great!

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## Another Dredging Season Comes to a Close

### THE DREDGE IS TRAIERED FOR THE WINTER

Thanks to our dredge operators and summer help for keeping our lake and common areas well maintained. This season our team comprised Jordan Van Treese, Jason Kersh and Mark York with support from Phil Marble, Andy Van Treese and Jeff Van Treese. Thanks also to Ed French and Emery Harris.

