

# 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

### Watchful Neighbors Keep Our Neighborhood Safe

On August 2nd, some of our residents on South Drive and Winona had mail stolen from their mailboxes. Empty envelopes were found on the ground, down the street from affected mailboxes.

The thief only removed items that looked potentially valuable such as gift cards, credit cards, birthday envelopes and packages. One resident found an opened package with a shirt, apparently not in the thief's size. Another had a paycheck stolen. We didn't know if the culprit was on foot, bike or in a car.

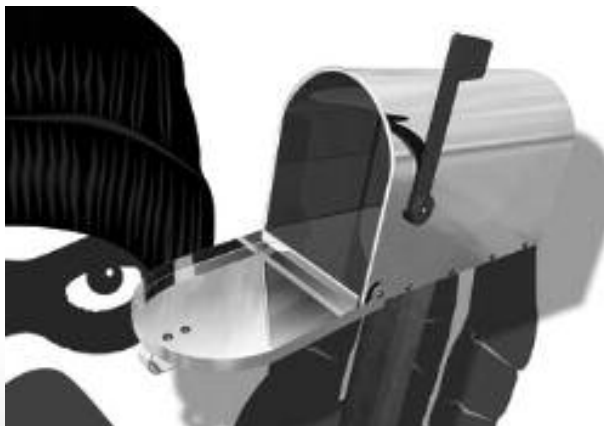
An email alert was immediately sent to Indian Lake residents, notifying them to be on the lookout for suspicious activity. (If you're not on the email list and want to be, let me know.)

The very next day, an observant resident spotted a young male on bike, going through a cluster of mailboxes on South Drive. She watched him ride to the next mailbox down the street and open it too. She got in her car and followed the suspect at a distance, picking up another Indian Lake resident along the way. They continued to follow the suspect down Winona and called 911. By the time the police arrived at the scene, the suspect had fled on foot, following a confrontation. The police combed Watson Farms, eventually apprehending the culprit, who was identified by our residents.

We later found out that the thief lives in a trailer park on Pendleton Pike. A friend would drop him and his bike off in residential areas. Because he was just short of eighteen years old, the prosecutor was reluctant to pursue the case, but many Indian Lake residents followed up with Lawrence PD and the US Postal Service. Ultimately, the US Postal Inspector JJ De St.

Jean intervened, and charges were planned to be filed at the state level.

Sincere thanks goes out to our watchful and willing-to-get-involved Indian Lake neighbors. Only through their efforts was the thief caught!



### tips

Remove your mail from your mailbox shortly after delivery

Watch for anyone other than the owner opening mailboxes or hovering near mailboxes

Don't put important outgoing items in your mailbox the night before with the flag up

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

## 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 - Jeff VanTreese	823-6690
Bylaws and Rules - RJ Russell	281-0024
Civic Committee - Ruth Norrington	460-8576
Property Maintenance - RJ Russell	281-0024
Security - Jeff VanTreese	823-6690
Smoke Signal - Lori Rumreich	823-3897

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Rumreich (president)	823-3897
Jeff VanTreese (vp)	823-6690
Lynn Osborn (secretary/treasurer)	826-1505
Ed French	823-4431
Ron Gillum	250-1125
Mike Hurd	823-0313
RJ Russell	281-0024
Ben Slocum	989-4718
Andy VanTreese	627-0737
Chad Worland	987-4354

## Upcoming Events

### **Tuesday, January 15th, 7:30 pm**

Civic Committee Meeting, Ruth Norrington's

### **Monday, January 21st, 7:00 pm**

ILIA Annual Meeting, Jenn Park

### **Tuesday, March 19th, 7:30 pm**

Civic Committee Meeting, Ruth Norrington's

## Indian Lake Window Decals?

If you ever park your vehicle at North or South Beach, be sure you have an Indian Lake decal in your back window. This lets residents know it's not a trespasser. If you need a decal, they're available from Lynn Osborn.



## Sports Gear

The Indian Lake Civic Committee was the recipient of sports gear from the Indiana Sports Corp. This summer we received tennis rackets, soccer balls, baseballs and bats and basketballs. These were kept at the park. We took them in for winter and will return them next spring.

We have also received hockey skates in various children's sizes. If you would like a pair of skates, please contact Ruth at [rapnjava@aol.com](mailto:rapnjava@aol.com) or 460-8576.



# Trunk or Treat!

Kids and adults enjoyed Trunk or Treat at the park





# Meet The Neighbor

by Kimberly Hunt

Meet Steve Sweeney. Steve is a second-generation member of the Indian Lake community. He lives on the north side of the lake with his wife and children, in the same house in which his parents, Jack and Carol Sweeney, raised him and his three siblings.

Since Steve returned to Indian Lake in 2003, there have been strange occurrences at 9903 Indian Lake Blvd. N. Dr. If you are an Indian Lake "North Sider," you may have occasionally caught glimpses of a man lurking behind trees at night, or crouching in ditches, or sprinting through the dark woods being chased by a howling throng of teenagers. Or maybe you have spied the flickering forms of a shadowy mob through the flames of an enormous bonfire and wondered what clandestine meeting or mysterious ritual was taking place. Well, put your mind at ease. There is a simple explanation to these nocturnal goings-on at this neighborhood address. Steve Sweeney is a minister.

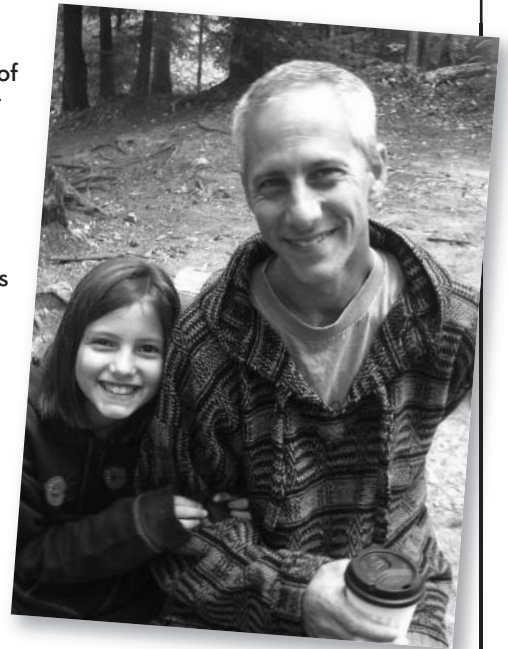
That makes it stranger still, you say? Why would an ordained minister of the Christian Church be roaming the woods around his house like a wildling? Well, because Steve Sweeney has spent nearly 25 years ministering to youth and young adults, and sometimes a rousing game of Capture the Flag and the consumption of mass quantities of hot dogs and s'mores around a bonfire is just part of a day's (or night's) work.

Steve's mom, Carol, said Steve always wanted to be a minister of the gospel, even when he was a small boy. She laughed as she shared that one year he even wanted to be Jesus for Halloween. What Mrs. Sweeney may not know, is that a gift given to her youngest son when he was just 5 years old almost sent him down a very different career path altogether.

After listening to Steve pound on pots & pans and trashcans he had appropriated and assembled in his bedroom, his grandparents bought him his first drum set. It was years later, after the fall of his freshman year at IU, when Steve pondered running off to the Big Apple to make his living as a musician. He remembers he also had a back-up plan to play for one of the musical groups at Kings Island. Although Steve still loves playing the drums and has played for church worship services and in local bands over the years, his dream of making music his full-time career was short-lived, and he enrolled in Cincinnati Bible College as a English Bible major instead.

Since graduating CBC in 1990, Steve has been a youth sponsor for Youth for Christ, a youth minister for Oaklandon Christian Church, and now he is the part-time Associate Pastor at Living Streams Community Church. His current part-time status means that on weekdays you will find Steve and his "Mac-Mobile" at the downtown Indianapolis location of the locally owned, MacExperience, where he also works as an outside sales representative.

Steve met his wife, Lisa, when he was fresh out of college and working as a youth minister at a start-up church near Portland, Oregon. Lisa's grandparents were founding members of the church and kept finding ways of putting them together at church events until they both finally got the hint. Lisa Sweeney is a native of Oregon, but found herself being lured away from the West Coast by young love and the promise of living the lifestyle of the rich and famous as a Mid West minister's wife, and so followed Steve back to his hometown.



*Steve and his daughter, Grace*

Now, Steve and Lisa live in Steve's childhood home where they are raising up a new generation of Sweeney's. Their youngest son Jackson, age eight, has already stated that when he grows up, he, too, wants to live at 9903 N. Indian Lake N. Dr. Don't worry about another generation of nightly nonsense, however. Jackson does not plan to go into ministry. He plans to be a stay-at-home dad.

# Across the Fence

Welcome to our new neighbors, **Jon and Emily Butler and their son, Sam**. They have moved into the former Nelson's home on Winona. Sam is eight and a student at the Fortune Academy.

**Kyle Hurd** will be the new resident at the Jones home on Winona Drive. **Johanna Jones** moved to Michigan to be closer to her son. Kyle has been doing extensive work on the house. It looks great.

Next time you are on the lake, take a look at the creative use of fallen trees by **Kate Eaton**. Along the shoreline, Kate has used the trees to build benches, tiki torch holders and a wonderful carving. What a great artistic addition.

**Eddie and Margaret Matthews** have been having extensive work done on their home following the summer fire. We look forward to their return to the lake.

Congratulations to **Marlow Rumreich**. Marlow, a senior at Lawrence North, is a National Merit Commended Scholar.

Congratulations to **Will McDaniel** on his graduation from Indiana University with a BA in Spanish and a Certificate in Language Arts and Caribbean Studies.

Congratulations to **Teri and Gary Benjamin** on their thirtieth wedding anniversary on August 22nd.

Condolences to **Becky Lee** on the passing of her son, **Kent Cupp**.

Condolences to **Ruth Norrington** on the passing of her father.

**Stephan Van Treese** is in his Senior year at the University of Louisville. He was injured last December with a torn knee ligament and missed playing the remaining basketball season. We are happy to report with after much hard work and the healing of time, Stephan has returned to playing and will graduate in May. Good Luck this year and Go Cards!



## Not A Turkey

**Jennifer Norrington** spotted this bald eagle roosting in one of their trees during Thanksgiving week.

# Winter Fun Rules

Winter turns our lake into a sixty acre icy playground - that's why we say winter fun rules at Indian Lake!

As winter approaches, it's time to think about our neighborhood seasonal activities, to make sure the fun stays safe and respectful of our neighbors.

First and foremost, the lake rules posted at the beaches and in the directories still apply. Please review them if you have not already.

When using the lake for winter activities please remember to respect individuals properties as well as ILIA property. Please stay off the concrete spillway and the earthen dam. The spillway becomes extremely slippery as the ice forms and can be very dangerous.

Second, please be aware of yellow caution tape around some areas that are of special concern. The board will mark areas that they wish to keep people from treading on or possibly hurting themselves. Keep in mind that just because there is no tape in an area, doesn't mean it's safe or allowed.

Third, please be respectful of the hour. Being that there is no leafy foliage around the lake to dampen the noise, please use consideration as to how much of a ruckus you create at what time of the day.

Last year, residents enjoyed snowmobiling, cross country skiing, and just strolling across the lake with child in tote behind on a bobsled, so there is something for everyone.

If there are any concerns, please call Ben Slocum at 989-4718. Stay safe and stay warm!





# Blast from the Past

This 1940 census map shows the Indian Lake area twelve years after the creation of Indian Lake. The Indian Lake Country Club, Salvation Army Camp, Sunnyside Sanitarium (now Westminster Village North) and Fort Benjamin Harrison are all shown. Geist Reservoir didn't yet exist; it was created in 1943.

Each square dot on the map represents a home - there were only six in the Indian Lake neighborhood back then. Sarah Rohrman and Jim Hoskins were kind enough to provide some additional information about them.

"A" is now the Gillum's house. When I first moved here in 1963, it belonged to the Norman family (Sarah).

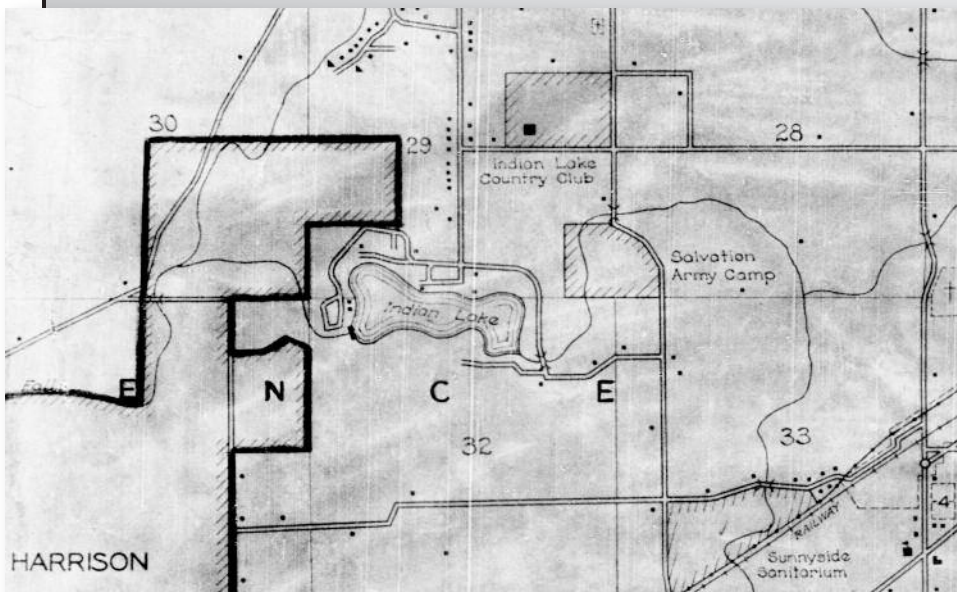
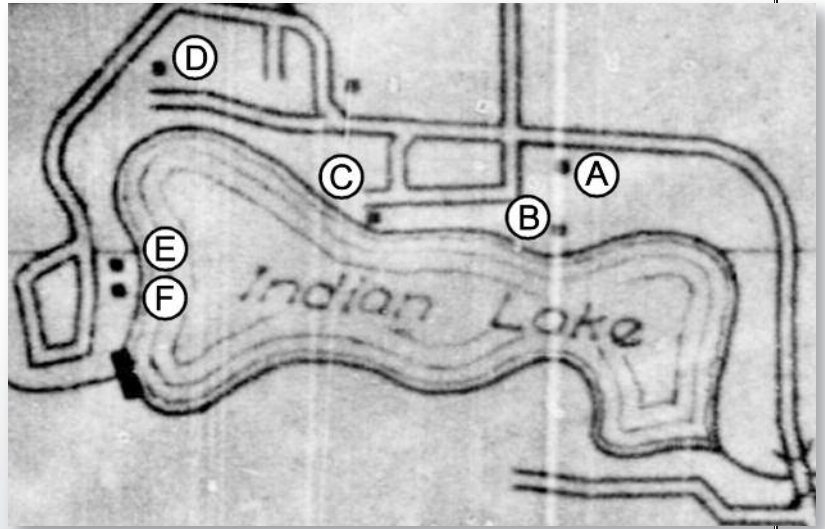
"B" is now Houck's. As far back as I go, I think Paul Butalla owned the home (Sarah). According to the census, Dr. Ted Rhodes and his wife Martha lived there in 1940.

"C" is now the Hoskins' property. The house was built in 1932 by Dr. and Mrs. Evans as an artist's retreat. The Hoskins family moved there in 1941.

"D" is, of course, French's. Before the Frenches, it had the reputation as being a farmhouse that ran a bootleg liquor business (Sarah).

"E" is now Slocum's. According to the census, Tom Reeves lived there in 1940. Ben Slocum says the house was built in 1933.

"F" is our house (Sarah). It started out as a one-room weekend cottage, built shortly after the lake was created. I don't know who was here first, and don't know if the same owners turned it into a small lake house.



The 1940 census also included featherweight boxer Merle Alte, who lived in what's now the Crouch's home, so it's uncertain whether "F" is Rohrman or Crouch.

Alte was active in boxing from 1922 until 1933. His opponents included California Joe Lynch, Doc Snell and Phil O'Dowd. Alte later became the Executive Secretary of the State of Indiana Athletics Commission.

*President's message continued...*

### **Developer Agrees To Pay Impact Fee**

It's been several years since a new development has been proposed in our watershed.

In early November, we received notice that an 18.7 acre strip mall was being planned for the northwest corner of 46th Street and German Church Road. A rezoning hearing was scheduled for December 3, to rezone the property from agricultural to commercial use.

Not only is this property in our watershed, Indian Creek adjoins and drains the property to the west. As a result, virtually all the sediment that would leave this site during the development process would end up deposited in Indian Lake.

We contacted the developer's agent, requesting a \$120 per disturbed acre impact fee. This would reimburse Indian Lake's projected costs of dredging sediment that would result from this development, assuming that the developer complied with Rule 5 erosion control practices.

The developer agreed and provided a written commitment. On December 3, the Lawrence Board of Zoning Appeals approved the rezoning.

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## South Beach Gate Locked for Winter

The South Beach gate will be locked for the winter. The lock will be a combination lock, so the keys for the summer lock won't open it.

If you need access to the South Beach gate this winter, please call Jeff Van Treese at 627-0738 or Mike Hurd at 823-0313.

## The Civic Committee Needs You!

Please join us, as a regular or part time participant, at our bi-monthly meetings. You'll have an opportunity to meet or reacquaint yourself with neighbors, socialize, plan events and drive change within our community.

The Civic Committee plans or provides support for the following events/activities:

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Annual Picnic
- Monte Carlo
- Progressive Holiday Dinner
- Beach Cleanup
- Flowers in community areas
- Playground Equipment

New events/activities/improvements YOU want to support For more information, please contact Ruth Norrington at [rapnjava@aol.com](mailto:rapnjava@aol.com) or 460-8576.

