

INDIAN LAKE

# SMOKE SIGNAL

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October \* 1983 No. 6 Indian Lake Improvement Association Indianapolis, Indiana 46236

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Residents of Indian Lake:

If you will recall the first "Smoke Signal" of the year, I listed three major projects on which the Board would concentrate during the year. These were community appearance, dam rehabilitation, and lake pollution. We are nearly through the year, and I believe a status report on these projects is appropriate.

Community Appearance: The reaction of residents to the BFI landfill proposal has been somewhat enlightening. To most people, the BFI proposal is the most serious threat ever to confront our community. To be certain, it is a serious threat, but it is by no means the most serious threat to the continuation of our community as we know it. For the last several years our community has faced a much more potentially devastating threat - landowner apathy.

Those of you who have lived at Indian Lake for several years need only walk a few of the roads around the lake and compare the esthetics of the neighborhood today to that of ten or even five years ago. There is an alarming increase in the amount of homes and lots allowed to become unsightly in appearance. There seems to be a growing number of homes needing painting, visible structural repair or just basic upkeep. Junk piles and junk cars seem to crop up overnight. Our community appearance is suffering.

Our community is facing a critical challenge. If we allow apathy to continue, we will see a gradual end to the reputation of an exclusive, high value community we now enjoy. We will slide into the stigma of an older, deteriorating community.

Your Board has begun to cautiously and painfully meet this challenge head-on during the past year. It is taking straight-forward and seemingly hard action from the Board to begin getting the job done. We have only begun to begin solving the problem.

As for getting the job of upgrading our community appearance done, if you sit back and show no support for this effort, the job will not get done. The Board can successfully lead a program to upgrade community appearance and put our community back on top, but it can complete the job only with your active, enthusiastic and persistent support.

Stop and think for a moment of how difficult it would be for you to write a letter to someone who may be a friend and tell that person their residence or grounds are an eyesore and the situation must be corrected. Feelings are hurt and friendships are lost. It takes painful decision making for your Board to vote on this type of action. The Board simply is not going to have the conviction to keep doing this type of distasteful action without the strong verbal support of the membership.

The Board has adopted a procedure that will be followed when problems of community appearance are encountered. When the Board learns of an unsightly situation, a committee of Board members will personally contact the concerned landowner and assess the



magnitude of the problem. The committee will communicate with the landowner in an effort to have the situation corrected. The Board will assist the landowner in whatever way possible. Only as a last resort will the Board turn to legal action; however, legal action will be taken if all other efforts fail.

With our lake, hills, trees and wildlife, we live in one of the most unique and desirable areas in Marion and surrounding counties. I am confident that with the combined effort of our membership, we can insure the continued integrity of our community. To date, 22 landowners have been contacted and asked to correct various unsightly aspects of their property. Most have reacted in a positive manner. Ninety percent of those contacted have corrected or are correcting the problems. Everyone should be appreciative of their community spirit. The Board is especially appreciative of their efforts.

Dam Rehabilitation: The dam work is proceeding as planned. Trees and shrubs have been cut from the dam. This is needed because their roots weaken the earthen dam and create tunnels as they die and deteriorate.

A recent U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report stated that several low spots and wet areas on our dam needed correcting. This is the reason for the stone rip-rap being placed on the dam. It will ensure that our dam can withstand severe flooding, such as we experienced during the summer of 1979.

Rip-rap has been completed on the North side of the dam. The rip-rap will be placed on the South side as soon as a survey is completed to establish the Association's property line at the South side of the dam. A secondary benefit of the rip-rap is that it will eliminate the need for mowing of the dam and will help keep trees and brush from becoming established.

Lake Pollution: As you are all aware, last summer's water samples collected from Indian Lake and analyzed by the Marion County Board of Health indicated high amounts of human waste pollution of our lake. Since then, we have been in close contact with the Board of Health in an attempt to identify the sources of pollution.

This spring, we made arrangements with a private environmental consulting firm, Water Chemists, Inc., to analyze water samples of Indian Creek and locate the sources of pollution. To everyone's surprise, all water samples taken this spring and during this summer have had very low pollution readings. As a result, we have not needed to engage the services of Water Chemists, Inc.

We are attempting to take weekly samples at the North Beach, which are being analyzed by the Marion County Board of Health. So far, all these sample test results have been below the maximum level for safe swimming.

Why has our water quality improved so dramatically this summer? We do not have the answer, but here are some possible explanations:

1. Perhaps the sources of our pollution became aware of our concern and efforts to identify them.
2. Perhaps the new Lawrence sewer system is solving our problem.

We are confident that the low levels of pollution, levels below the maximum for safe swimming, originate from septic systems not yet connected to the Lawrence sewer. This would account for the slight increases in pollution after heavy rains.

We are strongly encouraging Lawrence to set and enforce hook-up deadlines for everyone within the watershed of Indian Lake. This may completely eliminate all pollution of our lake.

We will continue to monitor water sample test results. If high pollution readings are ever again obtained, we will engage the services of Water Chemists, Inc. to locate the sources.

Sincerely,

Tom Lyons



## TASTING PARTY TICKETS

### GOING FAST!

The annual tasting party, a much looked-forward-to event, will be held at the home of Flo Peck, Tuesday, October 18, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Indian Lake Women's Committee cooks, and they're mighty good ones, have planned a full course dinner menu, from hors d'oeuvres to dessert. Wine is included with the beverages.

There is a limited amount of tickets, so give a call to a committee member right away so so don't miss out! Don't forget, men as well as the women are very welcome. Tickets are \$3.00 - and a bargain for all the goodies.



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ONE OF OUR INDIAN LAKE FAMILIES is setting the pace for participation in fitness events. The Crouch family, Tom, Marge, daughter Jill, and son, Andy, are all runners and entrants in a number of running events among which was the Mini Marathon during the 500 Festival. You'll see them keeping in shape pedalling around the lake in a paddle boat, paddling a canoe or a kayak. Andy plays soccer, and Jill is a championship swimmer. One event this summer, tho, is outstanding and will live long in their memories: a six-week trip of over 3,300 miles travelled on bicycle! The Crouch family, along with a group of bicycle enthusiasts pedalled from Oregon to Delaware: Tom and Andy on a two-seater, and Marge and Jill each on their own bikes. Even with practice bicycling trips of 100 miles prior to their odyssey, they suffered aches of legs and posterior during the first part of their tour. Marge says their bodies adjusted to the mode of transportation and they thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to see the beauty of America. Andy, when asked if he were glad the trip was over, replied, "I'd like to do it again"!

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TO HEAR THE LATEST LANDFILL NEWS, be sure to attend the meeting of the Lawrence Township Citizens, Tuesday, October 11, at the Lawrence Municipal Building. It starts at 8 p.m. David Kingsbury and Shelley Huerkamp represent Indian Lake people on the committee. They urge all ILIA people to attend and to support the work of the committee. It will take all of us working together to defeat the landfill proposal.

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YOUR IDEAS CAN GO TO WASHINGTON if you'll just travel to Oaklandon, Friday, October 28. That's the day the Congressman Dan Burton will station his mobile office man at the Fire Department there. He writes that he's interested in hearing your thoughts on the "great problems facing America". Here's your opportunity to tell 'em how to run the country.

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\*Where, or where did August and September go?

We'll try to do better next time. Please give a call with news,

Your editor, Jane Quirk - 823-4184





## ACROSS THE FENCE By Maureen Wagner

Approximately 120 miles from Indianapolis there is a museum that is well worth the drive to visit. The United States Air Force Museum covers the entire history of heavier than air flight, from its very beginning to the present day space program. On two visits recently I have spent a total of 12 hours and still have not covered the museum thoroughly. Perhaps I have more interest since some of the old planes there figure quite prominently in my life for a few years. I am old enough to remember the Blitz (the bombing) of air raids on my home. I also remember the arrival of the first American troops and the Army Air Corp to Grt. Britain during WW II. I have been able to spend the time at the Museum lately because Bob is on temporary duty with the Air Force at Wright Patterson Air Base, Dayton, Ohio. We have been there for the past two months and it looks like we will be for another two months.

We would like to extend a very warm Indian Lake welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Lanning Carr, our new neighbors on Winona Dr. Lanny is from Washington state, and Diane from the beautiful state of Maine. Miss Karen Carr, 13, is in the 7th grade, and sister, Lynn, 11, is in 6th grade at Heritage Christian School; both are much into sports.

We also want that warm welcome to go to Mr. Danny Noonan who has purchased the former Schaney home. We have not had the pleasure of meeting Dan yet but hope that can be rectified before the next Smoke Signal. We heard that the Workman home has also been sold, and to a single gentleman, too. We are truly sorry to see Mr. and Mrs. Workman (long, long time residents here) leave our community, but we wish them all the best in their new home.

And, just as warm a welcome to the Flack family now in their new home on the south side of the lake. We've watched Mr Flack and his progress on the home over the past couple of years. What a fantastic feeling of accomplishment to move into a home that

you built entirely by yourself. Our congratulations to John and Audrey.

Some of our folk have been travelling near and far: Rob and Linda Parker have been to Bermuda; Ross and Lisel Walker to the Eastern seaboard, primarily Maine; and, Will and Flo Peck have recently returned from their cottage on the St. Lawrence, also at home now after a leisurely drive to California are Ed and Mary Hamilton.

Carol Sweeney has been busy this week making arrangements for an open house in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Wells. Carol's sister is flying in from California to attend the party this Sunday, and there will be a houseful if all in the family attend; there are five children, 17 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren all-told.

Sorry to hear that Joe Rohrman has had to spend some time in traction at Community Hospital. He's now at home. Hope you'll soon be able to move around again. Goodness grief, Joe, you're too young to have aches and pains.

We're happy to report that Mildred French is on the mend and now out and around again; and happy, too, that Dolores Serra is well after a siege in St. Vincent's.

I wonder does anyone else ever think they would like to find a little cave in the Rockies, climb in and close the door on all the world's problems. In light of the recent disaster with the shooting down of the Korean plane, the Marines in Lebanon, and the nightly news, it's surely enough to scare anyone. When I think how very brief our little life really is, and how the years have flown, it makes me look for a solid foundation, a rock, an anchor that doesn't drift. Certainly being at the air base this past few months really makes me take a good hard look at world conditions. In spite of all this, I still have a joy that seeps through and brightens my life every day. Have you ever thought "What will you do with Jesus,

Neutral you cannot be.

Someday your heart will be asking,  
'What will He do with me'."

He, my dear friends, is the source of my joy. Until the next Smoke Signal, God Bless and Keep You All,

Maureen