

Smoke Signals

Welcome Mat

The following folks recently moved into Indian Hills. Please take a moment to add them to your IHRA Directory.

Bryan Lau, 5951 Tulip Hill

Rob Watts & Daniel Konkus, 5924 Litchfield



Welcome- we're glad you chose our community to make your home. If you have any questions about the neighborhood, just ask your neighbors or contact any of the Executive Board (see last page for contact information.)

Ghouls & Ghosts Make an Appearance

The weather cooperated once again this year for the Annual Halloween Party held October 30 down by the pool. Take a peak at some of the fun...

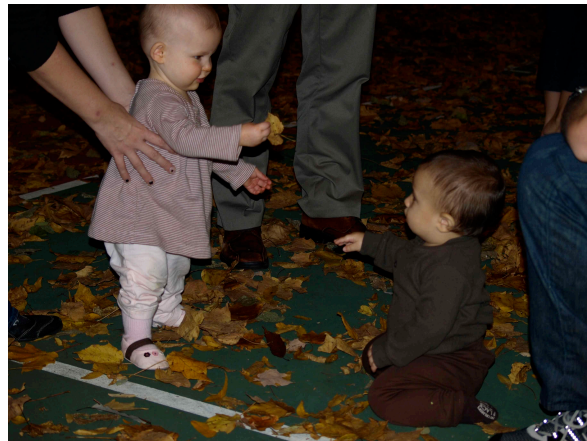
Elizabeth Rieser sports her witches' hat in style



Jacob Zerkle concentrates on the donut eating contest while Thea Obergefell and Zoe Coleman (far right) pose for the camera



Emma Benadum (above) gets her palm read while Eloise Gerlach and Isaac Bergman (far right) make each other's acquaintance



Andrew Hinkle (left) takes part in the mummy contest.



Kids (right) enjoy the caterpillar race.

(All photos by Bob Jacobsen)

Holiday Decorations Dazzle the Neighborhood

The winners of the 2009 Indian Hills decorating contest have been announced. "The neighborhood looked very festive and we had a difficult time choosing!", stated **Kristen Zerkle**, Activities Committee Chair. The committee tried something a little different this year. Instead of having 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners, it selected winners in different categories.

The "**Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree**" and overall top award (which is no surprise to anyone I am sure!) went to the **Tieman** family at 5879 Olentangy River Road. The lights which coordinated with the music were so outstanding it was not unusual to see cars parked in front of the house or a small crowd of neighbors admiring them from the street!



The "**Best Decorations for both Day and Night**" went to the **Keltner** family at 5950 Litchfield. All of those huge, beautiful wooden ornaments are hand made!

The "**Family Cheer**" awards went to the **Williams** (6118 Sedgwick) and **Sexton** (5934 Rocky Rill) families. These two families are not only related (parents and their son and daughter in law) but they both love decorating for Christmas - those LED lights looked great!!



The "**Reason for the Season**" award went to the **Grove** family at 891 Lynbrook. This family has been one of the winners every year - and every year it just gets better!



The "**Winter Wonderland**" award went to the **Magora** family at 5574 Linworth. This family entertained Linworth Road with their flashing lights display!

Lastly, an honorable mention award was given to the **Owens** family at 999 Stoney Creek for "**Best Use of a Fire Hydrant**". The judges were impressed that they didn't even ignore the fire hydrant in their front yard when putting up all those Christmas lights!



Thanks to everyone for making this the most festive year yet in the Indian Hills Decorating contest!! Thanks also go out to **Kristen Zerkle** and her committee members - **Jane Matyac** and **Ann Carroll** for judging and distributing the awards. *(Photos by Kristen Zerkle)*

Indian Hills Resident Wows Columbus with Benefit Concert

If you, by chance, attended the December 27 Honor Flight benefit Holiday Concert on the Otterbein College campus you were treated to one of the best shows of the season. Hosted by Cabot Rea, Channel 4 news anchor, who also sang several songs, the packed house was entertained by the Continental Band, the Swing Columbus dancers, Cassie Rea and

Gavin George, a six year old piano prodigy. The highlight of the show, however, was the performance by **Otoniel “Tony” Gonzaga**, our Lynbrook Road neighbor. A famous tenor, Tony has graced the opera stages in this country, and virtually every country in Europe, Israel, Japan and China. For those of us who probably won't get to Europe the concert provided a small glimpse of the power and grace of this world-famous performer. If you missed the concert Tony has made several CDs. There is even a YouTube video you'll definitely want to listen to.



Proceeds from the concert will provide local World War II veterans a chance to fly to Washington, D.C. to see the World War II memorial built in their honor.

In Remembrance

We recently learned that **Marjorie Zielke**, Rocky Hill, died December 16 at Select Specialty Hospital. She was preceded in death by her husband, Clarence. The IHRA Executive Board offer their sincere condolences to her son, Mike (Lynette) Miller and step children Clarence (Sharon) Zielke, Jr., and Linda (Robert) Scholl.

Crime Alert

Usually we report on car break-ins which occur in the Antrim park parking lot, but this one is too close for comfort. A *Stoney Creek* resident reported someone broke into his vehicle while it was parked at his home between 8 p.m. December 2 and 7 a.m. December 8. Nearly \$40 in cash was reported stolen.

A resident on *Greenridge* reported someone broke into his vehicle and stole items while parked at his residence between 12 and 5 a.m. December 3. A window was broken and a \$400 iPod, a \$175 bottle of cologne and a \$100 stopwatch were taken.

A man reported someone broke into his vehicle while it was parked in the 700 block of *Greenridge* between 2:15 p.m. and 2:40 p.m. November 4.

He had parked his vehicle and gone for a walk. When he returned he saw a passenger side window had been broken and a \$199 GPS along with a \$99 digital camera that had been hidden under a seat were stolen,

The officers who responded offer the following recommendations:
Park your vehicle in your garage and close the door. If parking in the driveway, remove *all* valuables and lock your car. Turn on your porch lights or other outside lights and *leave them on all night*. The cost of electricity is far less than the cost of damage and/or theft and the hassle that results. If you see any suspicious activity call the police at 645-4545.

A man reported someone pried open the passenger side door and broke a window in his vehicle while it was parked at *Antrim Lake* between 9 and 9:30 a.m. November 18. A \$100 GPS system was stolen and the incident caused nearly \$800 in damages.

A woman reported she saw someone breaking into her car while parked at *Antrim Park* on November 27 at 5 p.m. According to the report, the woman observed a navy blue minivan parked close to her own car. When she approached she saw a man hanging out of the minivan window with his upper body in her car. She yelled at the suspect who then sped off. The suspect had broken the front driver's side window of the victim's car causing \$100 in damages and stole a \$90 leather jacket.

Recent Home Sales

5951 Tulip Hill - \$228,500

5924 Litchfield - \$226,000

Kudos to.....

Janet & George Korpi, Spring Grove, **Rosemarie Lisko**, Stoney Creek, **Joan & Jerry Defenbaugh**, Rocky Rill, **Kathy Resor**, Winstead and **Carol Zimmerman**, Winstead who braved the winter weather to help deliver the January newsletter. Please take a moment to thank them.

These folks make our community a better place to live!



Homes for Sale



We don't like to see our neighbors move, but you may want to tell your friends and relatives about these opportunities to buy into the best neighborhood in Columbus!

5905 Rocky Rill, diane.Koontz@Kingthompson.com

5996 Rocky Rill, tom.hughes@realliving.com

5616 Linworth, jane.coughlin@Kingthompson.com

6100 Sedgwick, ColumbusOhiorealtor@gmail.com

Annual Meeting Addresses Residents' Concerns

Although sparsely attended, the Indian Hills Residents Association's Annual Meeting was jam-packed with information and business. Held on October 28, the following folks were in attendance: **Ed Geraghty, Tony Latona, George Rittel, Bob & Kathy Jacobsen, Tim Carroll, Tim Matyac, Rosemarie Lisko, Carol & Jack Conner, Vickie & Steve Crim, Emily Bull, Tammie & Laura Dondero, John Hoffman** and **Elizabeth Aino**. Highlights of the meeting follow.



The Treasurer's Report and the Proposed Operating Budget were approved as distributed to the members in the last issue of *Smoke Signals*.



Tammie Dondero reported that pool memberships were down this year (49 versus 61 last year) 9 of whom were non-residents. However, the daycare and snack bar incomes were up. There were continuous events held at the pool throughout the summer, including three movie nights, two cornhole tournaments, a 4th of July celebration and one Pups at the Pool event. Ideas to increase membership were discussed.



Tennis membership numbered 16, an increase of three, as reported by **John Hoffman**. The tennis program made money this past year.



The work of **Lynn Moore** and **Sandy Hindall** on the three entrances was acknowledged and complimented. The entrances have never looked so good!

- ☼ In the absence of a Blockwatch Chair, we're relying more and more on e-mails to get the word out about potential problems in the neighborhood,
- ☼ Speaking of e-mail, there are 307 properties in Indian Hills and 188 have joined the e-mail network.
- ☼ Indian Hills had a number of activities this past year, starting with the Christmas decoration contest, the Easter Egg Hunt, a 4th of July parade and the Halloween party.
- ☼ There was no Old Business
- ☼ An update was provided, courtesy of **Rosemarie Lisko**, on the OSU Airport runway expansion.
- ☼ The issue of drivers speeding through the neighborhood was discussed along with potential ways to curb this offense.
- ☼ The problem of dogs barking excessively was also discussed.
- ☼ Snow removal will be privately contracted again this year.

Officers Elected at Annual Meeting







The following officers were elected for the FY'10 year (10/1/09 - 9/30/10)

President:	Ed Geraghty
Vice President:	Tim Matyac
Treasurer:	Bob Jacobsen
Secretary:	Tim Carroll
Asst. Secretary:	Elizabeth Aino
Trustee:	George Rittel
(Five year term expiring 10/31/14)	

Changes to Website

The National Neighborhood Link has made some enhancements to its free community website. As a result, the Indian Hills website address has changed slightly. The old address will still get you to our page for a little while, but you may want to make note of our new address. It is: http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Indian_Hills_-_Columbus/home. This site includes archived *Smoke Signals*, our Code of Regulations & Deed Restrictions (see "About Our Association"), financial statements, neighborhood discussion and links to other useful sites.

Friendly Neighbor Reminders

-  Sign up for an electronic copy of the **newsletter** if you haven't already. Not only will you get the newsletter by e-mail but you will also receive valuable information throughout the year. In the past the e-mail alert system has been timely in alerting residents of car break-ins, missing pets, and other matters that arise between newsletter publications. Send your e-mail address to Bob Jacobsen : jake_43235@yahoo.com.
-  Need a **pet sitter, a baby sitter or snow removed**? Be sure to check out the 2010 IHRA Directory which lists families that provide these services. Let's spread the wealth around Indian Hills and support our budding entrepreneurs.
-  Please do not keep your dog outside if he/she **barks** insistently. We're not talking about a little yip or two - you know the bark your dog makes when he says: *"Hey, I'm finished out here and I want to come back in now"* or *"Watch out - there's a diabolical intruder on the street but I'll save you with my ferocious bark"* or *"An errant leaf just fluttered into the yard but I'll make sure it doesn't attack the family"*. Nope, we're talking about an unhappy dog that is put outside and just barks and barks because he/she is in a tizzy about being separated from its owner. Perhaps you need the Dog Whisperer, or maybe the Dog Shouter, or at the very least you may need to work with your vet to correct the problem and turn your sad puppy into a smiling, tail-wagging dog. Your dog will be happier and so will your neighbors.
-  Keep your **speed** to 25 miles per hour on all Indian Hills streets.
-  Residents are reminded that they should not be raking **leaves** into the gutter. Leaves that manage to arrive in the gutter on their own are to be considered trespassers and should be raked up immediately. In addition to being unsightly, leaves in the gutter can easily migrate to storm sewers and clog them up. Sooo, why not plan a leaf removal day when your friends and family can join you for some outdoor fun. Hey, who knows they may even help take down those Christmas decorations.
-  If you haven't already received it, watch your mailbox for the 2010 Indian Hills **Directory**. It should be out by mid January, if not before. You'll want

to keep this handy reference close at hand and update it throughout the year.

Have You Noticed?

The entrances are looking quite festive this year with the garland and Christmas balls. Kudos to **Lynn Moore**, Entrance Chair, for her hard work and to **Bob Jacobsen** who devised brackets to hang the garlands. But, there is a mystery afoot. Have you noticed that the flags are conspicuously absent? That's because they keep disappearing - not just the flags but also the flag holders! If anyone, by chance, is holding on to the flags for safe-keeping, or if you have a clue as to where they might be please contact Lynn at 430-3854.

What's Missing in the Neighborhood?

Jill Drake reports that city workers were on Rocky Rill (6006) early in November to cut down a pine tree to be used as the city's Christmas tree at City Hall. According to Jill, who talked to the workers, who probably got the story from their mother's cousin, twice removed on their father's side, this is the third tree from the neighborhood which has served as the *official* city Christmas tree.

For Barter or Worse Sell, Swap, Trade or Give Away

Have something you want to sell or give away? Use this space to advertise your stuff. You never know when your neighbor two streets away is looking for your now unused possessions. Contact the Editor to include items in the Spring newsletter. The deadline is *March 28*.

Support Your Local Economy

Looking for a particular service? Why not call upon your neighbors who own and operate their own businesses and stand ready to help. If you have a service to offer that you wish to include in the Fall issue of *Smoke Signals*, please contact the Editor by the next deadline (see last page).

- * **Avon Sales**, Toni Magora, 888-8833, tmagora@hotmail.com
- * **Clock Repair** (especially antique clocks), Jack Conner, 888-4866.
- * **House Painting** (interior and some exterior), Ron Anderson, 905-2415, ronandjen@me.com.
- * **Floral Designs**, Regina Prange, naturaldesigns@columbus.rr.com, 395-3466
- * **Snow Removal** (driveways and sidewalks), Steve Magora, 893-3635. smagora@hotmail.com

Update on Eye Glass Donations

The April, 2009 issue of *Smoke Signals* put out a call for used eyeglasses and sunglasses. **Tom O'Mahoney**, Greenridge, has been helping the Student Volunteers of Optometric Services to Humanity at the Ohio State University College of Optometry by collecting old glasses and passing them on to be used for folks who cannot afford them. Tom recently reported that he collected more than 40 pairs of eyeglasses. If you still have unwanted glasses lying around the house, give Tom a call at 436-3655. He can fill you in on the program and take those old glasses off your hands.

Does Anyone Know????

If you are you looking for a particular service (e.g. plumber, electrician, etc.) and want to list it in the next issue of *Smoke Signals* contact the Editor. Thanks.

If you've had a good experience with a craftsperson and/or home improvement-type company and would be willing to share their name(s) with other residents, please contact the Editor. We'll publish a list identifying the type of craft involved, e.g. interior painter, plumber, etc. and hook up the folks who need these services with the folks who have used these services. What a deal - eh?

Speaking of deals, **Tom O'Mahoney** can recommend a good *plumber*. So, if you're in the market for this service, contact Tom at 436-3655 to get the scoop.

Also, **Isabelle Gonzaga** can recommend a service that helps home owners find *reputable companies* to do work on their homes - no small feat. The best part is that it is absolutely free to the home owner. Contact Isabelle at 568-7004 and she'll fill you in on what you need to know.

Newsletter Distribution Aides Still Sought

By now you are probably wondering if you are too late to sign up to be a Newsletter Distribution Aide. I'm sure you are thinking that these plum positions all have been snatched up by the early birds.

Well, it's a new year and this presents new opportunities. It just so happens that openings *still* exist for the following streets: Linworth, Sedgwick, Greenridge/Olentangy River Road and Lynbrook.

You'll want to act fast. Newsletter Distribution Aides are looked up to - some may say even envied - by their fellow neighbors. Just ask them. Now **you** can be just like them. So, don't delay. Contact the Editor at 848-3226 to volunteer and start the new year off right! You'll be glad you did (and the Editor will *certainly* be glad you did too!)

Annual Fee Due January 31

The Annual Fee Statements should be in the mail shortly. Watch your mailboxes and be sure to get your check for \$75 back to **Bob Jacobsen** quickly. The fee is due by January 31. I'm sure you'll want to be one of the first (or at the very least, second) on your block to send in your money!

Board

President	Ed Geraghty (985-5110), epgeraghty@aol.com
Vice President	Tim Matyac (846-5888), tim@TLMHOME.com
Treasurer	Bob Jacobsen (848-9913), jake_43235@yahoo.com
Secretary	Tim Carroll (841-3868), tcarroll4641@wowway.com
Asst. Secretary	Elizabeth Aino (848-3226), eaino111@gmail.com
Trustee	George Rittel (846-0206), GCRittel@aol.com
Trustee	Jack Conner (888-4866), jconner@columbus.rr.com
Trustee	Rosemarie Lisko (985-1150), rosemarielisko@sbcglobal.net
Entrance	Lynn Moore (430-3854), lynngenemoore@wowway.com
Pool	Tammie Dondero (505-0342), tnt99d@wowway.com
Tennis	John Hoffman (436-6777), lisahoff6777@yahoo.com
Activities	Kristin Zerkle (505-0123), ZERKLEK@nationwide.com
Blockwatch	Vacant

Editor Elizabeth Aino (848-3226), eaino111@gmail.com

Calendar

January 31 Annual Fee due
March 28 Deadline for Spring issue of *Smoke Signals*

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Columbus, OH 43235