

September 2005

# Geist Landing News

**Special points of interest:**

- Read about and see pictures of the Block Party
- See the neighborhood expenses in the Financial Report
- Learn ways to control household mold problems

**Inside this issue:**

Street Signs	2
Yard of the Month	2
Financial Report	3
Cleanup Day	4
About Village Way	5
Block Party	4
Household Mold Concerns	5
Important Dates	6

Editor : Wes Hamilton

**President's Corner**

Deb Malloy, President

I hope all Geist Landing residents had a fun and safe summer! It certainly was a hot one with lots of opportunities for swimming and enjoying the outdoors.

We have many new neighbors in GL this summer. Please take the time to greet any new faces and get to know them. I know everyone is busy but it is the relationships we form that make our neighborhood a great place to call home!

A reminder now that kids are back in school. Please drive carefully as there are children waiting for buses. And although it's cooling off, there will still be kids outside playing and riding bikes. I know the speed limit is 30 mph but when children are around, even that can be too fast.

Parents of young drivers, please talk to your youth

about driving responsibly. Let's make our streets safe!

Also, we have had several reports of garages being broken into and items being stolen. The police have been notified by some of our residents, but there is not a whole lot they seem able to do. If your cars are parked outside please keep the doors locked and keep your garage doors closed as much as possible. The break-ins have occurred during both day and night. Keep an eye out for each other and report any suspicious people.

I would also like to remind people that dogs must be kept on a leash or within control of the owner. Please keep your dog out of other people's yards and pick up your dog's droppings. It's a dirty job, so please don't make your neighbor do it. Thanks!

Geist Landing's Annual Meeting is November 10, 7:30 pm at Lawrence North High School. Please consider coming to the meeting and getting involved. We always have need for new board members. If that doesn't interest you, you could still help with the planning of the annual block party or neighborhood clean-up day. The more people, the more ideas, the better it will be! It would be great to have monthly social activities. So come with your ideas and help make Geist Landing an even better community!

I'd like to end by thanking all of our board members for doing an awesome job this year. It has been a fun group of people to work with. A lot has been accomplished (read on in the newsletter) and I appreciate each one of them!

**2005 GLNA Board Members**

President	Deb Malloy	578-3024	Director	Josh Malcak	578-0626
Vice President	Heather Kistler	915-9172	Director	Veronica Millan	679-1337
Secretary	Katyann DiSalvo	842-3262	Director	Michel Pascal	842-9940
Treasurer	Barbara Schauland	570-0308	Director	Andrea Preston	570-1054
Director	Linda Hanson	841-0741	Director	Peter Schauland	570-0308
Director	Wes Hamilton	845-4293	Director	Niclas Scher	679-1337
Director	Mike Kistler	915-9172			

## New Street Signs

Village Way & E. 96th St.

Champton Dr. & Hadway Dr.

Applehorn Lane & Hadway Dr.

Appleby Lane & Champton Dr.

Applewood Lane & Champton Dr.

Ginnylock Dr. & Powderhorn Lane

Helmsdale Dr. & Brunson Run

Powderhorn Way & Helmsdale Dr.

Burwick Dr. & Helmsdale Dr.

Falkirk Dr. & E. 96th St.

Appleby Lane & Powderhorn Lane

Champton Dr. & Applehorn Lane

Monte Lane & Powderhorn Way

## Yard of the Month

### Winners:

8902 Burwick Drive  
9304 Champton Drive  
8862 Powderhorn Way  
9302 Hadway Drive

### Additional Nominees:

9302 Helmsdale Drive  
9507 Haddington Drive W.  
8556 Applehorn Lane  
8830 Appleby Lane  
9463 Helmsdale Drive  
9006 Ginnylock Drive  
8711 Ginnylock Drive  
9434 Hadway Drive

## Street Signs

Mike and Heather Kistler

Many Geist Landing residents probably noticed earlier in the year that a few of our street signs were in need of replacement.

Most of the original styles (white background with black writing) were faded so badly that they were no longer legible.

There were even some of the newer styles (green background with white writing) in need of repair. Some of the residents brought this to the Board's attention. This issue quickly became one of the goals for the Neighborhood Association in 2005. A couple of board members toured the area streets, compiling a list of bad signs. Once the list was completed, it was forwarded to the City of Indianapolis. Within a few

weeks, all the worn out street signs had been replaced with shiny new ones. The list of street signs that were recently replaced is shown in the sidebar.

I am sure most of you have noticed the new street signs by now. The new signs make it so much easier for visitors and potential homeowners to locate streets throughout the neighborhood. They also help police officers and firemen to respond to emergencies quicker, which could save lives sometime in the future. The Geist Landing Neighborhood Association would like to extend a big thank you to the City of Indianapolis for helping our community to be more attractive to both current and future residents.

## Yard of the Month

Andrea Preston

Each summer, many of you spend both time and money to maintain and enhance your lawn and landscaping. As a Board, we want to thank you for your efforts. We have kept our eyes open for those extra special efforts and have awarded "Yard of the Month" honors to 4 households so far this year. In case you missed seeing the sign, the winners and nominees are listed in the side bar.

Congratulations to all the winners and nominees. In

such a large subdivision, we obviously could not honor all of the deserving homeowners. Please know how much your work is appreciated even if you didn't make the list quite yet. Your work benefits Geist Landing as a whole and we salute you.

By the way, we know that property maintenance can be time consuming, physically challenging and, in some cases, expensive. If you need the help of some willing neighbors, please check out our article on the Neighbor-

hood Clean-Up Day in October. The Board members and other volunteers will be sprucing up some of the common areas of the neighborhood (weeding and edging along the streets, for instance). If you could use some assistance with a project on your property, this might be a good time to request help. Please do not hesitate to let us know of your need. Some of us have needed help ourselves in the past. We will gladly do what we can to arrange help for you!



## Financial Report

Barbara Schauland

As always, financial issues are important agenda items at each monthly board meeting. Below is an explanation of income and expenses. It should answer the question we get - why do I need to pay the dues?

### 2005 Financial Report

For the 2005 fiscal year to date, dues totaling \$10,435.00 have been received from 209 homeowners. This represents

just 58% paid membership but it is the highest participation in 3 years. Thank you! Expenditures year to date total \$7743.00 plus approximately \$3248.00 to year end not including snow removal. These funds have to last until our 2006 fund drive starts. We are still talking to homeowners for permission to place 5 more streetlights at additional cost of \$1,000 per year. As of 8-29 the GLNA bank account has a balance of \$10628.00. The chart below shows further

breakdown. At this time we are considering spending \$\$\$ on landscaping at both entrances, including tree removal and treatment of infected trees. This won't be cheap, those who have not paid the annual dues of \$50.00, please consider payment now, to Geist Landing Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 501765, Indy, 46250. Attractive looking entrances make a good impression for our neighborhood!

### Number of Paid Homeowners

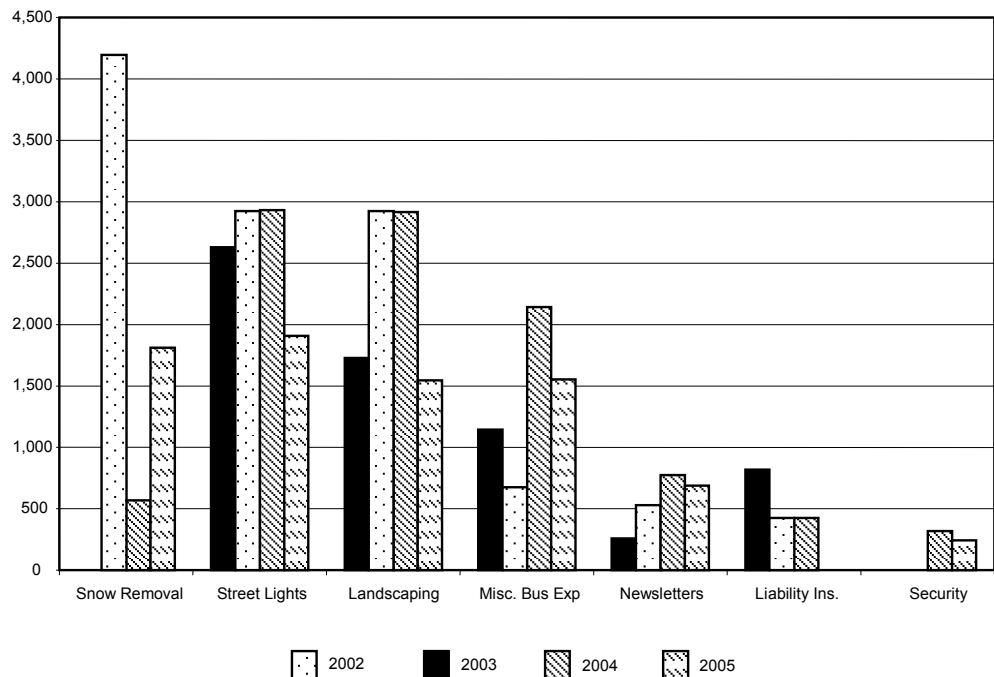
2002	180
2003	207
2004	204
2005 to date	209!

### Quick Fact

Percent of GLNA homeowners who paid their dues this year:

**57%**

Geist Landing Neighborhood Association Expenses 2002 - 2005





## Cleanup Day

Oct. 8, 2005

Help keep our neighborhood beautiful!

For more info call  
570-0308

Rain Day: Oct. 15



## Cleanup Day

Peter Schauland

We, the people of Geist Landing, are the stewards of our environment – and we do have a beautiful environment: mature trees, winding roads, lawns, shrubs and flower gardens that show how much you care for your property. This is a big THANK YOU to all of you who make Geist Landing a beautiful place to live, a better place to raise our children, and a joy to return to after a hectic day at work. Your efforts do a lot to protect the value of our properties. It is in this spirit that we are sponsoring a cleanup day, when we, the GLNA Board, will join you to do some things that fall through the cracks of maintaining individual properties.

1. We will lend a hand to disabled or elderly neighbors as needed – raking leaves, removing bushes, cleaning up flower beds, etc. If you need this help, or if you know a neighbor who needs this help – please call 570-0308 to let us know.

2. The entrances at Falkirk and at Village Way give the first impression of Geist Landing to visitors and potential home buyers. Together, we can remove the dead bushes, and we can save several trees by removing a thick growth of vines that is choking the trees.

3. In some limited areas grass is beginning to take hold on streets, curbs, and sidewalks. Let us clean it up before it gets out of hand. If this is happening in front of your property, please do some cleanup or Roundup or weed-whacking before October 8 so that we have more time for the big jobs.

This work can be done only if you volunteer for it. Thanks to those neighbors who already signed up at the block party. Call any board member to sign up, or call Peter Schauland at 570-0308. Rain-Day is October 15. You can make a real difference when you pitch in.

## Portable Basketball Goals

Message from the  
U.S. Postal Service

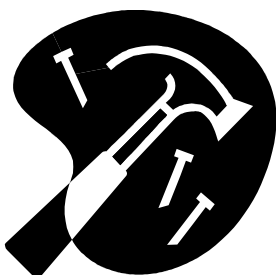
It is that time of year! The kids are out and having a great time! The Postal Service and our letter carriers are asking your assistance with the placement of portable basketball goals out on the street curb. We want to maintain the safest and most efficient delivery of your mail. Postal regulations require cooperation from highway officials and custom-

ers in keeping roads passable and in good repair. The approaches to mounted mail boxes for street curb delivery should be open and clear. The placement of portable basketball goals on the street curb (considered the public right-of-way) is and can cause our carriers to have to back up or swing out in an attempt to deliver your mail. We have requested that our letter carriers not back up their vehicles for safety reasons. Portable basket-

ball goals should be moved to a location that does not interfere with our driver's safe delivery of the mail. Mail service could be suspended to any residence where basketball goals are in the public right-of-way, blocking delivery. Please help us maintain a safe and efficient delivery. Thank you for listening and for your help with portable basketball goal safety! This message is offered as a public safety message by your local Post Office.



In addition to keeping weeds and grass trimmed near the curb, please trim any trees or bushes that may overhang the sidewalk and block the way for pedestrians.



## About Village Way

Peter Schauland

Village Way - with three feet high weeds and trash all over - has been an eyesore for quite some time. Responsibility for the maintenance of Village Way is as follows:

- The City: from curb to curb
- Meijer and Roche: mowing, weeds, and cleanup to the west of the curb.
- The individual Geist Landing property owners: mow-

ing, weeds, and cleanup to the east of the curb.

Recently, three people who do NOT live in the Geist Landing neighborhood could not stand it any longer and took the initiative. A gentleman from Hunters Ridge mowed down the weeds, and two ladies from the Villages spent more than a day picking up trash and spraying Roundup along Village Way. We owe them a big THANK YOU!

The weeds have been cut and sprayed, but the stems are still standing and waiting for removal. The trash has been picked up and will re-accumulate unless cleaned up. The City has been approached. Two “No Dumping” signs, announcing \$2500 penalties, have been promised. Meijer and Roche have been approached. At the time of this writing, Roche looks promising, and Meijer is up in the air. The Board will follow up on

## Neighbors Are You in “The Know?”

**Angie’s List Shares the Real Scoop About Local Contractors with You**

Advertisement

Angie’s List is a collection of local consumer ratings on a variety of service providers ranging from plumbers, roofers and auto mechanics to services like pet care and fitness centers. In 1995, Angie Hicks started Angie’s List as a way to help consumers get good information to help them make their hiring decisions. She knew that the frustrations she and her friends had after getting lousy service from the companies they hired, were not unique.

For so many consumers, looking for a service provider is a game of hit or miss, whether they are opening the phone book or searching the internet. Angie’s List takes a lot of the guesswork out of the decision making process for consumers and puts reliable, unbiased information at their fin-

gertips. Ratings found on Angie’s List are based solely on detailed customer satisfaction reports submitted by members. Businesses can’t put themselves on the list. Only members can put a business on the list by submitting a report.

Angie’s List is now offering the Geist Landing Neighborhood Association a special membership discount. Association Members will receive \$10 off a new monthly or yearly membership to Angie’s List. Just log on to [www.angieslist.com](http://www.angieslist.com) and use the promotional code: GeistLandingNA when signing up or call 317-297-LIST (5478).

Angie’s List

[www.angieslist.com](http://www.angieslist.com)  
Code: GeistLandingNA

317-297-LIST (5478)





**Watch your speed in our neighborhood. While most children are back in school, they are still out waiting for the bus or playing after school.**



**Ideas?**

**Suggestions?**

Got ideas or suggestions for next year's block party? Contact any board member listed on the front page and we will be glad to listen.

## Block Party

Heather Kistler, Photos Courtesy of Katyann DiSalvo

Everyone knows that one of the most important things in a neighborhood is a sense of belonging, and of "community". That is why the Board decided once again to sponsor a block party. This year's event was held on July 17, 2005.

The block party went very well again this year, with over 100 residents in attendance. We blocked Monte Lane and had ice cream, a huge obstacle course for the kids (and even a few adults!), face painting and balloon animals. The Lawrence Township Fire Department also joined in the fun by bringing one of the fire trucks for the kids to sit in and the firemen chatted with the kids



about the truck and fire safety. I think the pictures speak for themselves. If you are interested in helping plan the block party next year, please contact any board member. You don't have to be on the board to help plan, we welcome any suggestions on how to improve the party! We are especially looking for ways to include more adults. Thanks to everyone who planned and participated this year. We hope to see you all again next year!!!



## Household Mold Concerns

Becky Pascal

Recently I attended a continuing education class to maintain my real estate license. A great deal of time was devoted to discussing mold issues. The buzzword for this portion of the seminar was “disclosure”. Effective July of 1994, Indiana state law requires that sellers disclose any known defects or concerns affecting their property, whether selling their home through a real estate agent or “for sale by owner” (unless exempt by IN state law.) If you have purchased or sold a property in the past ten years, you are familiar with this thorough Sales Disclosure form. Currently there are several questions on this form pertaining to water issues and/or mold. We were informed that there would soon be additional questions added to the form pertaining to water damage and leaks, regardless of whether or not they have been repaired.

The purpose of this article is not to scare anyone. I just feel that this issue is timely and relevant, so I contacted a local contractor by the name of Tim VanSlyke with All Pro Services, Inc. to get some answers. The company specializes in mold remediation. Tim spoke with me at length regarding various issues concerning water, moisture and mold.

Everyone knows that it is impossible to eliminate all molds from homes, but I wanted to know, “Just what is an ‘acceptable’ level of mold in the average home?” Mr. VanSlyke stated, “There is a lot more unknown than known about mold. And, the mycologists are the first to admit that there is not enough research to accurately assess and determine an acceptable level of mold in the average home. It is widely accepted that any mold growing in the living space is not good.”

According to Mr. VanSlyke, acceptable levels of mold can somewhat be determined by the inhabitants of the home. People possess varying degrees of sensitivities to environmental allergens. Obviously not all molds are bad or toxic to one’s health. Mold is present is cheese, mushrooms and antibiotics.

Mr. VanSlyke reminds us “Mold is the symptom, not the problem.” He suggests the following precautions:

- Ensure proper ventilation in crawl spaces and attics. Many of the existing ventilation systems are unfortunately designed to promote excess moisture in crawl spaces by opening in the summer and closing in the winter. As the hot humid summer air meets the cool surfaces, the

resulting condensation results in a moisture problem. In the winter, dry cool air becomes a moisture sponge as it warms.

- Use a high quality furnace filter to trap and remove existing mold spores in your heating and cooling system. This seems to be more effective than the ultra violet lights that can be installed to kill the mold spores. Apparently, it does not matter whether the spores are living or dead, they act as allergens or (in rare cases) toxins just the same.

- Address any water leak immediately while using highly reputable contractors that understand proper drying techniques for water mitigation.

- As you remodel your homes, insist that the contractors use black felt paper or house wrap on the exterior of the walls. Tim has uncovered many mold breeding grounds where visqueen has been used as a vapor barrier in bathrooms. Remember, mold feeds on organic building materials whenever enough moisture is present to support growth.

All Pro Services, Inc. offers viable solutions to any mold, water, or moisture problem you may be experiencing. If you have a concern, Tim would be happy to answer any questions. Have a fantastic Fall!

*“Mold is the symptom, not the problem.”*



### References:

Becky Pascal  
APM Real Estate  
317-414-4402.

Tim VanSlyke  
All Pro Services, Inc.  
317-240-1002.

## Important Upcoming Dates

Geist Landing Neighborhood Association

Annual Meeting



November 10, 2005 7:30 p.m.

Lawrence North High School Room 191

The Annual Board Meeting will be held in Lawrence North High School in Room 191 this year, on Thursday, November 10, at 7:30 p.m. There will be important news and State of the Neighborhood reports, as well as Board Elections. Refreshments will be provided. We would love for everyone in the neighborhood to join us for the meeting. It's a great way to meet your neighbors, and best of all, it's the easiest and simplest way to stay involved with your neighborhood association.

**GLNA** GEIST LANDING  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION

PO Box 501765  
Indianapolis, IN 46250