

Sept. 2006

Geist Landing News

Check out our
new website:

www.geistlanding.net

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President's Corner

Wes Hamilton, President

It seems another summer has slipped by. It is hard to believe that it is time for school already. It has been an eventful summer for the city of Indianapolis as well as our neighborhood. Unfortunately, the city has seen a disturbing rise in crime. Many of the crimes that you may have heard or read about in the news have happened much closer to downtown, but our neighborhood has also seen a disturbing increase in "minor" crimes, such as petty theft and vandalism. Many neighbors have contacted us about this and we are keeping a close watch. To combat these crimes, we have hired an off-duty officer to patrol the neighborhood on random weekend nights. We cannot afford to hire security for every night, so we try to increase the presence of security at differ-

ent times. To learn more about this, there is an article on page 2.

Also, to decrease crime, we are attempting to install more street lights. It is well documented that good lighting will discourage petty theft. However, we have had some difficulty in convincing neighbors to allow us to install lights. We must obtain signed permission from the property owner on which the light is to be installed. Although it is not necessarily required, the GLNA board has decided it will also get the permission of any adjoining property near the light. Please consider this decision carefully if you are asked permission to install a light. These lights are a special, aesthetically pleasing street lamp that we lease from IPL. They are maintained by the light company, so they should always be in good

working order. Also, some insurance companies may have a slight discount for a nearby street lamp (similar to the discount for fire hydrants). Although we have tried to install lights near the street corners in the past, we are now trying to put lights in the middle of the longer blocks. The reason for this is two-fold. First, the lights are less expensive to install if they are near one of the transformers or power pedestals you may see in some yards. We pay for installation of the light and the charges are based on the length of power cable that has to be run underground. Second, several of the longer streets have a gentle curve which blocks the view of the corner.

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact me or any of the board members.

2006 GLNA Board Members

President	Wes Hamilton	845-4293	Director	Mike Kistler	915-9172
Vice President	Deb Malloy	578-3024	Director	Heather Kistler	915-9172
Secretary	Katyann DiSalvo	842-3262	Director	Josh Malcak	578-0626
Treasurer	Barbara Schauland	570-0308	Director	Michel Pascal	842-9940
Director	Adrian Calin	842-8437	Director	Andrea Preston	570-1054
Director	Bogdan Calin	845-4336	Director	Lorraine Snider	849-4016
Director	Leah Calin	845-4336			



Don't Eat the Fish!!!

Our Association has been asked by the city to send this reminder to you: do NOT eat the fish from the ponds in our neighborhood! Most local waterways and ponds have a high level of mercury. Yikes! For the same reason, be sure to wash after any contact with the water.

Yards of the Month

Andrea Preston

Again this summer, board members have been scouting the neighborhood, looking for those extra special yards. We have awarded "Yard of the Month" honors to 4 households so far this season. In case you missed seeing the sign, those households included:

- 8847 Ginnylock Drive
- 8830 Appleby Lane
- 9434 Hadway Drive
- 8872 Powderhorn Way

The owners at 9434 Hadway Drive had some significant yard repairs to do when a water main burst in their front yard, spraying water well over their rooftop and leaving significant damage to the front yard. The yard is back in top form already. Thanks for your extra efforts this year!

Additional nominees for the award were:

- 9463 Helmsdale Drive
- 9233 Champton Drive

- 8730 Powderhorn Way
- 9132 Applewood Lane
- 8737 Powderhorn Way
- 8843 Haddington Drive N.

Congratulations to each one. As always, we cannot honor all of the deserving homeowners during any given summer. Please know how much your work is appreciated even if you haven't made the list yet. Your work benefits Geist Landing as a whole and we don't take your work for granted.

Crime in the Neighborhood

Heather Kistler

This year in Geist Landing, there have been 8 reports of Larceny from a Vehicle and 1 Vehicle Theft. In 8 of those cases, the vehicles had been left unlocked over night and had valuables left inside. There were also 2 reports of Burglary in the neighborhood. One of these cases, the door had been left unlocked, and the other one, a window had been broken to gain entry. Although we live in a relatively safe neighborhood, crime can still occur if there is an increase in opportunity. There

are a few things you can do to help protect yourself and your property. Before you go to bed at night, remember to lock all doors and turn on your porch lights. Also, make sure to remember to lock all vehicles that remain outside and keep the windows rolled up. The neighborhood association is in the process of adding several new lights to the neighborhood. However, the reality is we cannot afford to add a light in every yard. By turning on your porch light, you are giving potential thieves no place to hide. Also, if you ever do

become a victim of a crime, make sure you report it to the police. Police cannot act on something they know nothing about. Even if you think there is nothing they can do, you might not be the only person in the neighborhood who was victimized, so a pattern could be established. Also, please remember to watch out for your neighbors. If something looks suspicious at your neighbor's house, please report it. Remember, by working together, we can make our neighborhood a safer place to live.

Neighborhood Security Patrols

Mike Kistler

For the past couple of years, the Geist Landing Neighborhood Association has contracted Marion County Sheriff's deputies to patrol our streets on a part-time basis. This year we have Corporal Kevin Kendall assisting the neighborhood. Kevin is a 12 year veteran of the Marion County Sheriff's Department. During his tenure as a Sheriff's Deputy, Kevin has been a

member of the S.W.A.T. Team and a K-9 officer. His current position on the Sheriff's department includes motorcycle and radar patrols. Kevin works day-shift on the Sheriff's Department in the Castleton area. He will be working on a part-time basis for GLNA throughout the summer. If you notice a patrol vehicle driving through the neighborhood, it is quite possibly Kevin. If you are out and see him, please welcome him.



Budget Report

Barbara Schauland

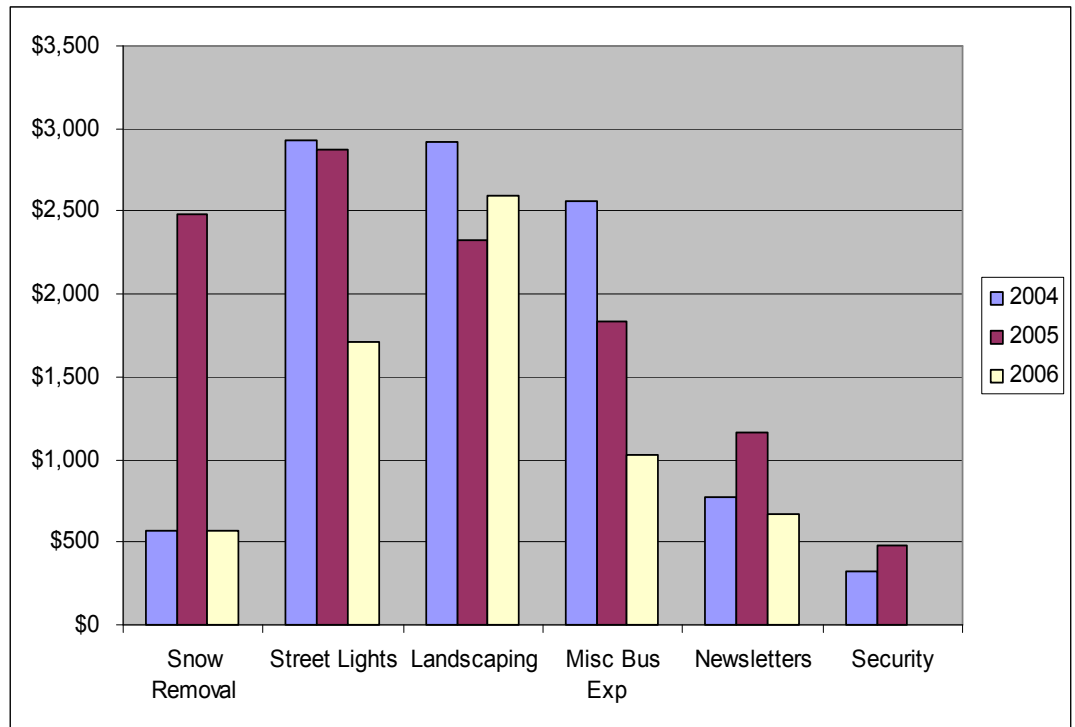
As always, financial issues are important agenda items at each monthly board meeting. Your GLNA board works hard to spend your dues money most efficiently and to the benefit of all homeowners. Financial information is included in each newsletter to keep you informed of the budget. We hope that periodic financial updates will encourage more homeowner membership and involvement.

For the 2006 fiscal year, dues totaling \$9,950 were received from 199 homeowners. This represents 13 fewer paid memberships than in 2005 but there are higher expenses due to more planned street lights and an additional \$1,400 for sprucing up at both entrances. Expenditures to date total \$6,573. The bank balance is \$10,800. The \$50.00 dues are not mandatory but are absolutely essential since we have to pay for all street lighting (new lights and monthly utili-

ties), landscaping at both entrances, snow/ice removal, newsletter/printing/ mailing and various other expenses shown in the graph below. Business expenses include copying, supplies (mailing labels, envelopes), postage, printing, renting of the PO Box, bank fees, ads for the annual garage sale, block party costs, and Secretary of State filing fees.

Number of Paid Homeowners

2002	180
2003	207
2004	204
2005	212
2006 to date	199



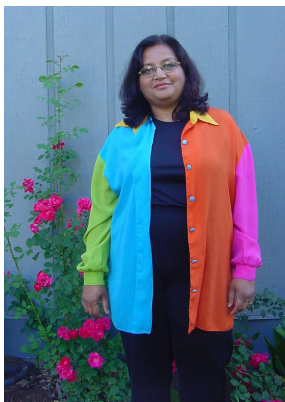
Comments/Suggestions Needed!

Your board welcomes you to attend the November annual meeting and monthly meetings on each 2nd Thursday. Please call any board member for time and location.

Paying Dues Early Pays Off!

Congratulations to Tasnim Samoris of 8841 Burwick Dr. She is the lucky winner of the \$100.00 Simon Mall gift certificate. Her name was randomly drawn from all dues that were paid prior to February 28th.

Thank you Tasnim Samoris and to all who have paid their dues.



HVAC Knowledge to Keep You Cool

Becky Pascal, APM Real Estate
317-414-4402

I hope that you all had a wonderful summer! I spent half of the summer studying in Quebec City, Quebec in Canada. It was a fast-paced and educational experience. I imagine that most of us are looking forward to some cooler weather coming into this fall season.

I always attempt to write about topics that are relevant to the residents of Geist Landing. The neighborhood is reaching the ripe old age of 20 years, and I imagine that some of us will begin to be faced with decisions of replacing our air conditioners and furnaces, depending on our maintenance and usage habits.

I have a friend, Bill Troublefield, in Rock Hill, NC who owns a HVAC company that was established by his father in 1945. He was gracious enough to answer a few questions for me.

First off, I asked Bill what a prospective buyer should know when choosing a new unit. According to Bill, *“One thing that your fellow homeowners need to know is when they need a replacement AC or heatpump system, both the indoor coil and heatpump air handler must be replaced. The 13 SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating) minimum efficiency mandate by the Department of Energy*

(DOE) put into effect January 23, 2006, required all manufacturers of residential air conditioners and heatpumps to manufacture these as the lowest efficiency available. It would be unwise to have a 13 SEER or higher efficiency outdoor unit installed on an older 9, 10, 11 or 12 SEER indoor ac coil or heatpump air handler.”

“The new 13 SEER efficiency outdoor units have a larger coil volume and the indoor refrigerant coil must match in order to operate efficiently and economically. This is especially true on heatpumps because they use the refrigerant for both summer and winter operation. There are some companies that may tell their customers that they can achieve the job without changing the indoor unit (coil or air handler with coil).”

I asked Bill to explain what the future holds concerning the DOE mandate. Bill mentioned, *“By 2010, all R22 refrigerants will cease to be manufactured as a refrigerant for cooling, heating and refrigeration machines. The price will rise for R22 over the next few years (as it is doing now). The current R410A refrigerant that manufacturers are using is at present the only*

refrigerant that all manufacturers will have available in their newer systems, although most are still manufacturing machines for both R-22 and R-410A. R-410A operates at almost double the pressure of R-22 so there are several manufacturers having leak problems with the new refrigerant in their systems.”

“If possible, the customer should have the refrigerant piping (copper) replaced when they switch from an R-22 to an R-410A system as the oils present in both systems are not compatible. I know it’s a bit confusing getting all technical but people should make their buying decisions by first being well informed of their options. R-410A systems are more expensive and presently cost more to install and take much more care during the installation.”

Bill suggested that prospective buyers peruse “Dave’s 7 tips” section at www.Lennox.com for information about selecting a HVAC contractor.

I would like to thank Bill for giving us the scoop on replacement heating and air units. This information has definitely enabled me to be an informed buyer. I will cover the new industry standards as they pertain to gas furnaces in my next article. I hope you all have a fabulous fall season!

Block Party: Fall Festival

Mark your calendars!!! Saturday, September 30, 4:00 PM

(rain date October 14)

Geist Landing will be having a *Fall Festival* on Applehorn Lane!!

Live band (come on out adults)!

Pumpkin patch! Cotton candy! Moon walk! Face painting!

Fun! For all ages!!



New GLNA Website

www.geistlanding.net

Wes Hamilton

The GLNA Board decided to reenter the world wide web with a new website. We had a website in the past, but it had fallen into disrepair and was not really useful any longer. The new site is still in its infancy, but we are trying to tai-

lor it to the needs of our organization to best serve the GLNA members.

Currently, we have links for information about the neighborhood association itself as well as useful numbers and addresses for contacting other Indianapolis organizations, such as the Mayors Ac-

tion Center. Other information will be added as it is requested, so feel free to contact us with suggestions and requests. In the future, we hope to add more interactive features to the site, such as discussion forums, to allow members to discuss challenges facing the neighborhood.

GLNA Recipe: Greek Tortellini Salad

From the Kitchen of Leah Calin

2 (9 ounce) packages cheese tortellini	1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil	6 eggs
1/4 cup lemon juice	1 pound baby spinach leaves
1/4 cup red wine vinegar	1 cup crumbled feta cheese
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley	1/2 cup slivered red onion
1 teaspoon dried oregano	

1. Bring a large pot of lightly salted water to a boil. Add tortellini, and cook for 7 minutes or until al dente; drain.
2. In a large bowl, mix the olive oil, lemon juice, red wine vinegar, parsley, oregano, and salt. Place the cooked tortellini in the bowl, and toss to coat. Cover, and chill at least 2 hours in the refrigerator.
3. Place eggs in a saucepan with enough water to cover, and bring to a boil. Remove from heat, and allow eggs to sit in the hot water for 10 to 12 minutes. Drain, cool, peel, and quarter.
4. Gently mix the spinach, feta cheese, and onion into the bowl with the pasta. Arrange the quartered eggs around the salad to serve.



Important Upcoming Dates



Neighborhood Block Party

Sept. 30, 2006

The Block Party is scheduled for Sept. 30, with a rain date of Oct. 14. A fall party may allow more neighbors to join the fun. The board members welcome your suggestions for adding activities (especially providing interest for adults, such as a band), helping with the planning of the day, and volunteering at the party. Contact any Board Member with your suggestions.

GLNA Annual Meeting

November 9, 2006

The Annual Board Meeting will be held in Lawrence North High School in Room 191 this year, on Thursday, November 9, 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 way to stay involved with your neighborhood association.



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