

THE GRAPEVINE



Valley Creek HOA Newsletter - October, 2006



HALLOWEEN

aka All Hallows Eve, All Saints' Eve

The history of "Trick'O'Treating" can be traced back to the early celebrations of All Soul's Day in Britain. The poor would go begging and the housewives would give them special treats called "soulcakes". This was called "going a-souling" and the "soulers" would promise to say a prayer for the dead. Over time the custom changed and the town's children became the beggars. As they went from house to house, they would be given apples, buns, and money. During the Pioneer days of the American West, the housewives would give the children candy to keep from being tricked. The children would shout "Trick or Treat!".

This year, October 31 is on a Tuesday. Turn your porch light if you want the little goblins to visit you!



1492

Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa, Italy in 1451 to Domenico Columbo, a wool weaver. He worked for his father until he was 22, then set out to follow his own dream to become a sea captain who discovered America. This year Columbus Day is celebrated on October 9.



TURN THE CLOCK BACK

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2AM, Sunday morning, October 29, so set your clocks back one hour.

DUES REMINDER !!

Your annual homeowners association fee is due to Affordable HOA no later than **November 15**.



HOLIDAY RECIPES

Please deliver or mail your favorite family holiday recipes to Melynda Dodds or Larry Green. We'd like to publish them over the next few months to share with our community!!



ENERGY TIP

If you replace the 5 most used light bulbs in your house with Energy Star rated ones, you will save \$60 a year. Compact fluorescent bulbs can save you even more money as they use less than a fourth the energy of conventional bulbs. Some CFLs have a lifetime warranty!!



NATIONAL POPCORN POPPIN' MONTH

October is National Popcorn Poppin' Month. Indiana grew more popcorn last year than any other state (335 million bushels). Indiana has about 200 growers and a dozen processors.

Indiana popcorn is found worldwide. Why, we even have a town named Popcorn! Americans eat 16 billion quarts each year – that's 59 quarts per person! What makes popcorn pop?? Each kernel has a small amount of water stored inside a ring of starch surrounded by a hard shell. When the kernel is heated, the water's pressure on the starch builds and the starch expands bursting the outer shell – pop, it goes!! It is believed popcorn is the original corn from which all others have evolved. It has been known as early as 4000 B.C. by the Mayans. Try this recipe with your family tonight:

Corny Chocolate Crunch

3 quarts popped popcorn

3 cups Corn Chex

3 cups broken corn chips

1 package (11 oz) butterscotch chips

3/4 lb dark chocolate candy coating

In a large bowl, combine popcorn, cereal, & corn chips, set aside. In a saucepan over medium-low heat, melt butterscotch chips & candy coating; stir until smooth. Pour over popcorn mixture & toss to coat. Spread into 2 greased 15x10x1 in. baking pans. When cool, break into pieces. Yields about 5 quarts.



AREA NEWS

We learned at the recent FENA (Far Eastside Neighborhood Association) meeting, that no permits have been issued as of that date for the property at the corner of 21st Street & Cumberland Road where a church community wants to build. No one at the meeting knew if this property has yet been sold to the church or any other purchaser. Other items mentioned were that there have been plans recorded for 5 years to widen 21st Street from Post Road to Mitthoeffer to five lanes. There are also plans to widen Washington Street to the Hancock County line. No dates are set for these changes.



According to local newspaper, Snips, a hair salon at 5612 East Washington in Irvington, has expanded to include retail shops and other services, called The Shops at Snips. They include organic food from Apple Family Farm in Hancock County, premium chocolates from David Love, imported teas and blends from Cuppatea, fresh flowers by Bloomz, Notre Dame Bookshelf (Catholic religious books and gifts), Salutations featuring gifts and cards by local artists and others, a housewares section, and wearable art from Afghan Kashminas (handmade scarves by Afghan women with proceeds going to support women-based businesses in Afghanistan). Also, locally made shrugs, jewelry, and more will be offered by local people. Check them out!!! Support your area businesses!

Other new businesses in the area are Indy TV & Plasma. The Legend restaurant is expanding, and a Starbucks and a bank are to be built at Audubon and Washington Streets.



CAN YA' BELIEVE IT!!

It's time to plan for the Valley Creek Christmas tree decorating at the front entrance. Saturday, November 11 has been selected as the date. (This date is flexible if someone wants to organize this event and wants to change the date.) If you would like to help, please contact Bob Findley via Affordable HOA as he has the decorations. This takes a group of people and we hope to get enough people together to do this. So bring the husband, the kids, your neighbors, grandma, and the dog!!!



It has been noticed that some residents are keeping trash cans and things like buckets, ladders, etc. at the side of the house. This gives your home and the others around you a poor appearance. Let's all help get Valley Creek back to looking good! It would be appreciated if these items would be stored in your garage or mini barn. Thank you!!



Your neighborhood needs you!!

We are in need of a few good residents to step up and participate in the CrimeWatch program. Each person is assigned a list of neighbors to call only when and if there is a crime problem. This makes everyone aware and more careful, and perhaps, to be on the lookout for a specific person or vehicle. It could even save someone's life. There have been several home burglaries and other thefts in the last year. Please take an active role in protecting not only your own home and family, but your larger family – your community. Contact Tom Frantz via Affordable HOA. Your participation is greatly needed and appreciated.

DATES TO REMEMBER	
ToxDrop	10/21/06
ToxDrop	11/04/06
Election Day (midterm)	11/07/06
Holiday Decorating (tentative)	11/11/06
Association Dues must be paid	11/15/06
ToxDrop	11/18/06



TOXDROP

Getting rid of old paint, poisons, fluorescent tubes, batteries, motor oil and other potentially hazardous wastes couldn't be easier! The Indianapolis Department of Public Works has a ToxDrop Station at 10th Street and Post Road. It is open from 9AM to 2PM on the **first** and **third** Saturdays of every month. They will accept just about anything **except** radioactive materials, explosives and bio-medical waste. They don't ask questions or require any paperwork. Just pull up in the drive between the Court building and the cemetery and they will wheel a cart out to your vehicle and unload it for you. More information is on the web at www.indygov.org.



WEBSITE

The Valley Creek website can be found at: www.geocities.com/valleycreekhoa

Although the site experiences some periods of inactivity, it does contain a map of the neighborhood, past newsletters, our Covenants and other neighborhood information.



CONTACT

All Board and Committee Members welcome your input. The Board and the Committees are enthusiastic about implementing some changes in the future that will impact your neighborhood in a positive manner!

Board and Committee members can be contacted through Affordable HOA.

Affordable HOA (Adam Trzynka) 885-7462

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