

# THE ISLAND HOME NEIGHBOR

November 2015

The Island Home Park Neighborhood Association

## Halloween Party a Success Carolyn Williams

Halloween was celebrated early by both young and old residents of the neighborhood on October 24th in the backyards of the host families, the Scotts and the Williams'. Approximately twenty-five young costumed neighborhood children participated. Costumes varied from historical Cleopatra to mythical Athena and on to creative costumes of a red tailed hawk, Dracula, Captain America and Pizza.

Food was plentiful and enjoyed by all.

Grandparents and parents gathered to discuss the kids' latest achievements and funny happenings as the kids themselves played on the tire swing, chased one another around the yards and jumped on the trampoline. A lively game of musical chairs ended the night.

The rain held off until the final few minutes of the party when all were forced to find shelter in drier places.



### Projects Around Island Home Nancy Campbell

The Island Home Avenue closure was extended to November 13, the Director of the Knoxville Office of Redevelopment recently announced. The road may reopen then if the realignment work is completed by Empire Construction, weather permitting. The City has said we will be kept informed.

Tennessee School for the Deaf is beginning an eighteen month project in which two buildings will be demolished and a new high school and a new dining facility will be built. Representatives from the state, the architects, and the contractors attended the September annual meeting. A major concern by neighbors was the traffic plan, which would route all construction traffic north on Fisher Place in route to the front entrance of TSD. Many questions and comments were made. The City engineering

department dictates the traffic plan for projects. The meeting ended with plans to review the traffic plan with the City. November 1 was the start date. The project start date has been postponed and we have not been given any additional information about a traffic plan.

Lori Goerlich, landscape architect with Knoxville Parks Dept, presented her draft plan for upgrades to the Island Home Park at the September annual meeting. A lively discussion ensued about the project. Comments from several neighbors and board members were forwarded to Goerlich. The upgrades will be paid for by the funds from the FAA regulation trimming of trees in the park and along the greenway. We will provide an opportunity for everyone to see and discuss Goerlich's plans in the future.

## **President's Message**



The Island Home Park Neighborhood Association is a remarkable group with a rich history.

A community spirit has been a part of Island Home Park

since the neighborhood was developed. For decades the Island Home Community Club worked on projects to improve and maintain areas in our neighborhood. From our earliest days, Island Home Park residents have united in dealing with encroachments from outside our perimeter. In 1950 The Community Club reported success in preventing a race track from being established on Dickinson Island and keeping a "honkytonk" river boat from tying up indefinitely on the river bank.

The Island Home Community Club eventually moved south to the Island Home Community near Ijams Nature Center.

Although there were efforts to create a neighborhood association early in the 1980's, residents formed the Island Home Park Neighborhood Association in 1989. I moved to Island Home Boulevard that year. A popular series of social events began. The newly formed group also started working to improve the park, negotiate with the airport about flight paths over the neighborhood, and establish an active Neighborhood Watch. For over 25 years IHPNA has continued treasured holiday events and provided forums for debates about important issues within and surrounding our neighborhood. This newsletter is an ongoing vital conduit for sharing information.

IHPNA has thrived through the years because of the participation of scores of neighbors who want Island Home Park to be a vibrant and strong neighborhood. There have been ten presidents of the neighborhood association and I find it notable that all ten still live in Island Home Park. Over the years, many, many neighbors have served as officers, board and committee members. The website, directory, and newsletter exist because of the contributions of time and talent by our neighbors. Our holiday events make memories for us and our children, but they must have our participation to thrive. We need your help to continue the activities that are important to you.

Thank you for electing me as President of IHPNA. We have an active, dedicated executive committee and board of governors. We represent you. Contact us about issues of concern. We, as you, are dedicated to keeping Island Home Park a great place to live.

Photo: April 1947 Knoxville News Sentinel Members of the Island Home Community Club pulled out their shirt tails, rolled up their sleeves and waged an all-out war against long grass and weeds in the Island Home Park [trolley circle1.

#### **IHPNA Garden Club** connie vogt

The Island Home Park Garden Club hopes to give residents an opportunity to share gardening ideas and information. In the short time the group has been active members have outlined both short-term and long-term projects to enhance our neighborhood as well as ideas for individual gardens.

The Garden Club's first neighborhood project is to make and hang Christmas wreaths on the IHP entrance columns. The group will meet on November 29 at 3:30 at Stanley's Greenhouse to construct the wreaths. All are welcome to participate.

The Garden Club is working with IHPNA Board to develop plans for improvements in the Trolley Island at the entrance to the neighborhood. We have met with city officials to facilitate sign consolidation in the Trolley Island and throughout the neighborhood. Cleaning up and painting the railings on the Baker Creek bridges is also under consideration.

Garden Club members have already swapped seeds and plants for fall planting and hope to make informal plant swaps a feature of the Club. The group also plans to make neighbor "garden tours" a regular event.

The IHP Garden Club is an informal group open to all IHP residents, newbies to masters. Meetings are held one Sunday afternoon a month. The next meeting will be Sunday, November 29, 2015 at 3:30 pm at Stanley's Greenhouse.

## Williams Island, Dickinson Island and the Island Home Airport

by Skip Scalf

On December 8, 1795, Grant #1366 was issued to James White for 350 acres of land that included what would become known as Dickinson Island. At the time of the grant, the island was a part of Greene County, North Carolina. The 5200' long by 2150' wide island eventually became a part of Knox County, Tennessee.

James White owned the island for less than a year. On May 1, 1796, some five months after the grant, he sold the island to Morgan Brown for one thousand dollars. Somewhere along the way the island was acquired by John Williams and Rufus McClung and in October of 1870 they sold what was then known as Williams Island to Perez Dickinson for the sum of eleven thousand dollars, a great deal of money for the time. After the sale, Williams Island came to be known as Dickinson Island.

Dickinson Island remained in the family until 1905 when Perez Dickinson Cowan sold the island as a part of the estate of his uncle Perez Dickinson. Frank Maloney and H. H. Galbraith

purchased the property for five thousand dollars. The sale included the island and some 240 acres of land on the south banks of the Tennessee River. Mr. Maloney sold his portion of the property to Mr. Galbraith within ninety days of the initial transaction.

As is true with any transaction that involves Mr. H. H. Galbraith, things got a bit convoluted. The island went into receivership, and Knox County sold the island to E. E. McMillan at public auction in March of 1934.

Somewhere along the way, someone realized that 5200 feet was plenty of room to land a plane and the island was used as a dirt landing strip for airborne mail carriers. After changing hands a few more times and with the addition of paved runways, Dickinson Island became a public aviation facility in 1963. As a public facility, it was owned by the City of Knoxville. In 1978, ownership was transferred to the Metropolitan Knoxville Airport Authority, its current owner and operator.

## **Calendar of Events**

IHP Garden Club
Christmas Tree Decorating
Tree Lighting
TSD Pancake and Sausage Day
IHP Holiday Open Houses
Board Meeting
Board Meeting
IHP Easter Egg Hunt
Dogwood Arts Garden By-way
Board Meeting
TSD Run for the Deaf
IHP Independence Day Picnic
Board Meeting
IHPNA Annual General Meeting

Sunday, November 29, 2015 Sunday, November 29, 2015 Sunday, December 6, 2015 Friday, December 11, 2015 Saturday, December 12, 2015 Monday, January 11, 2016 Monday, March 14, 2016 Saturday, March 26, 2016 April 15 - May 1, 2016 Monday, May 9, 2016 Saturday, May 7, 2016 Monday, July 4, 2016 Monday, July 4, 2016 Monday, August 8, 2016 September 2016

Children's Tree at park, 4:00 pm
Children's Tree at park, 5:00 pm
TSD Dining Hall, 11am
TBA
Akin Gym Health Room, TSD, 7 pm
Akin Gym Health Room, TSD, 7 pm
TBA
Trail throughout Island Home Park
Akin Gym Health Room, TSD, 7 pm
Throughout the neighborhood, 8 am
Boulevard Median, 11 am
Akin Gym Health Room, TSD, 7 pm
TBD

Stanley's Greenhouse, 3:30 pm

#### Memoriam

#### Gary Pimentel,

Maplewood Dr., died September 3. Born in Bermuda, he worked in the Kentucky thoroughbred industry before moving to Knoxville. Several of his family members live in Island Home Park, including his wife, Caron.

John H Humphrey Jr, Spence Place, died January 2. We extend our sympathy to his wife, Johanna

#### Charles "Bud" Ford of

Hillsboro Heights, died on May 6. He was a long-time resident of IHPN. We extend our sympathies to his wife, Polly.

Island Home Park Neighborhood Association will make a donation to the appropriate charities in honor of these neighbors.

#### Directories

Did you get your Island Home Park Neighborhood Association Directory?

Copies of the directory are available. If yours never came your way or if you are a new member who missed distribution, please call or email Nancy, Carolyn or your district governor and a directory will be delivered to you.

We are planning to print an update sheet for the directory in January. Our information is over

a year old now. New neighbors need to be added, phone numbers and email addresses need to be updated and old information needs to be eliminated. Please help us by sending correct information to any officer or give it to your district governor. Contact information for officers and governors is printed in this newsletter.

#### **Notable Neighbors**

Neighbor **Samantha Lane**, a resident of Maplewood Drive, was recently recognized by the Knoxville Chamber of Commerce for her volunteer work in the community. She was representing her place of work, King University.

#### **Births**

Congratulations to **Rebecca** and **Brian Simmons** of Fisher Place, on the birth of their fourth daughter. Esther Kate Simmons made her long-awaited appearance on August 14th. Older sisters are Haiden, Aubrey, and Lydia.

Ryan and Maggie Farley of Island Home Boulevard, welcomed their second daughter, Lucy, on August 20th. Older sister is Corrine.

## Sign up to receive neighborhood emails by sending a request to Greg Congelton at gregleton@comcast.net.

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Board of Governors				
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