



# THE ISLAND HOME NEIGHBOR

December 2009

The Island Home Park Neighborhood Association

## A Perfect Day for a Perfect Party!



By Taryn McLean

On Sunday, October 25, Island Home Neighborhood enjoyed fabulous weather and a diverse and scrumptious potluck at our annual Halloween party in the park. This year, Gina Brace did an amazing job of pulling together a fun party for all ages. We had a great turnout of about sixty neighbors. The kids were dressed as all sorts of creative characters from ladybugs to firefighters, Star Wars Jedis to Dracula, princesses to crabs, and even Oliver Twist made an appearance.

As usual IHPNA provided some refreshments, while our neighbors brought various kinds of

chili, mac and cheese, mini-Cuban sandwiches, bagel pizzas, and different kinds of breads—including nacho-flavored!

The games & activities were also a huge hit. They included cookie decorating, pumpkin decorating, catch the apple on a string, & finally an ooey-goey game of mad scientist laboratory where the kids were blindfolded as they touched various foods & other substances to guess what they were. Other folks enjoyed roasting marshmallows while chatting & passing babies around to be held.

Thanks are due to our social chair, Gina Brace, for another successful party!



## The President's Message

from Greg Congleton

*First I want to thank Katie Hannah for her hard work and dedication as the Association President for the last 2 years. Katie did an outstanding job of keeping the Association going.*

*I was elected in September for a two-year term. I asked the nominating committee to find another person who was willing to be president but no one could be found. This was disappointing to me as I believe a contested election is more interesting and more informative. Having two candidates for the First District City Council seat made it a more thoughtful and educational process for the electorate and the candidates. Because there were two candidates, people were given the opportunity to consider what they wanted the First District to be in the future and who could best represent their interests. I hope in the future we will see similar civil dialogue within the neighborhood. My congratulations to Nick Pavlis on his win. I know he will be a good advocate for our district.*

*As you will read elsewhere in the newsletter our Association continues to focus on social events that bring neighbors together. Also board members and other neighbors are actively involved in issues that will affect our neighborhood in the future such as traffic calming, south waterfront plans, the annual marathon and the closing of the Henley Street Bridge. Most of the real work of the Association is done by committees—some short-term ad hoc committees such as traffic and some ongoing ones like the social committee. We have listed these committees on the IHPNA web site. I urge you to help out with one or more of them. You may have some ideas or resources to help. Many hands make light work.*

*We each have our own level of affection and dedication to the neighborhood. In my twenty-five years in the neighborhood I have seen it change through the addition of the greenway, new houses being built and new babies being born. The essential character of the neighborhood has remained the same. Many people have moved in because what we have is beautiful, safe, and family friendly. Those who have deep roots here are to be thanked for preserving it and those who are relatively new are to be thanked for seeing what a jewel it is. Together we can keep it vibrant and preserve it for future generations to cherish as we do.*

# Annual Holiday Party set for December 5th



Get ready for a great night of fun with your neighbors at the annual Island Home Holiday progressive party, this Saturday, December 5. As usual, we'll begin the party at 5:00 at the children's Christmas tree at the top of the park. We'll proceed from there to the Staubs' home at 2128 Spence Place. After a few refreshments, we'll head for the big tree at the front of the neighborhood for a good story and a couple of carols. Finally, we'll cap off the night at the home of Casey Hennefin and Chris Field at 2121 Island Home Boulevard.

Chloe Chitwood and Normalee Neubauer will once again direct the decorating of the children's tree. Children are welcome to come and help make and hang animal-friendly ornaments this Wednesday at 3:30.

Be sure to mark your calendars for December 5 for this wonderful annual tradition!

## Tailgate Party Dampened by Rain

By Jim Staub

September 26, 2009 is a date that will go down in infamy. The place was the Island Home Park neighborhood. The event was going to be the first Neighborhood tailgate party. The UT vs. Ohio University was the scheduled football game. Laura Barton designed a flyer with a poem to entice everyone to join the fun.

The basis for the party was to have an event that targeted the mature adults of the neighborhood. There seemed to be a lot of interest in the event. A locale was chosen to allow imbibing in one's favorite beverage. The planning covered everything but the weather.

The day started out wet and rainy. As the day progressed the rain continued and the thoughts of an outdoor party grew more dismal. The rain continued until game time.

Jim Staub tried a last-minute attempt to salvage the day by opening his garage for a drier place to party. The Hannahs, Keffer, and Staubs partied with the usual neighborhood spirit.

The lesson learned from this attempt to party is to have an alternate event date or location in case of inclement weather. The social committee chairman will plan and schedule the next tailgate party. Rest assured we'll try again!

# Traffic Committee Hopes to Keep Island Home Safe

By Jessica Rodocker

As many of you know, Island Home has experienced its own baby boom in the last few years. This has led to many in the neighborhood feeling increased anxiety about some traffic issues that many have felt have been problems for a long time—most importantly, speeding. Years ago, a child was killed on Spence Place by a car, and once a car actually ran into the front porch of a house on Maplewood near the entrance to the neighborhood. Unsafe driving in our neighborhood affects everyone—not just children but pets, pedestrians, bicyclists, and of course other drivers.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the IHPNA board formed a traffic committee to constructively address these problems. This committee worked with Dave Watson at the East Tennessee Community Design Center to get a preliminary plan together to bring to the whole neighborhood for consideration. What they came up with is a combination of a speed limit reduction down to 25 mph on all streets, rumble strips at the entrances to the neighborhood, and so-called enforcement zones where the police department will be ticketing speeders. This will involve new signage at various places in the neighborhood to alert people of the new speed limit.

## Leaf Collection

The City of Knoxville's leaf collection service is in full swing; it concludes Feb. 1. The Public Service Department crews will visit your neighborhood several times to vacuum your loose leaves.

Please rake your leaves to the edge of the street in an unobstructed area for easy collection. They should be placed in piles at the curb rather than in rows.

Leaves raked to the alley are collected last.

The plastic bags used to hold bagged leaves compromise the mulching process, therefore bagged leaves are collected separately in January. But remember, five bulky items can be placed by your garbage can each week for collection, and this includes bagged leaves.

If you have questions about leaf collection call the Service Department Hotline at 865-215-6000.

Pickup Schedule: The city came through last week to pick up leaves, but the next date has yet to be scheduled. Please call the city's 3-1-1 service to find out the next date.

Rumble strips, such as those found in many locations throughout the city, are designed not to slow people down by themselves, but to grab a person's attention so they'll look up at the speed limit sign and take note that they are in a neighborhood setting and should drive accordingly. Because the strips do not actually slow the vehicle the way a speed bump would, emergency service vehicles that need to get to their location quickly will be able to do so. Also, the committee was told that the rumble strips are safe for bicyclists to go over.

The members of the traffic committee are (in A-Z order): Grant Barton (Maplewood), Gina Brace (Maplewood), Ed Dildine (Spence), David Drews (Spence), Oliver Lang (Tennessee School for the Deaf), Jessica Rodocker (Island Home Blvd.), and Rebecca Simmons-Lamm (Fisher). The airport staff will also be engaged in the process moving forward.

A map detailing the proposed changes will be placed on the neighborhood website ([ihpna.org](http://ihpna.org)) and on each kiosk. If you have any questions or comments about the proposed changes, please contact either Jessica Rodocker (386-3311 or [jessica@knoxvillager.com](mailto:jessica@knoxvillager.com)) or our IHPNA president Greg Congleton (573-5469 or [gregleton@comcast.net](mailto:gregleton@comcast.net)) by December 31. We welcome and appreciate your questions and feedback.

# Neighborhood Receives Park Grant

By Jim Staub

We received notification of preliminary approval for a city matching grant, which will be used to renovate the park entrance and stairs going down to the park from Spence Place.

The project is a reimbursement project. IHPNA will administer, schedule, and pay for the project. The city then

reimburses us for half the cost up to \$2,500. Donations of material and professional services will count as money spent by us.

Several people are willing to help in this project. David Brace got an estimate of \$5500 for a turnkey job.

Since the neighborhood could do a lot of the job of demolition and some of the installation, we could reduce this price. All work must be completed by May of 2010 to get the reimbursement. The following is an action plan:

1. We engage the neighborhood architects to provide a sketch of the design that we might want to use. Have David Brace brief and explain the costs.
2. We call for review of the design by anyone interested (post to Web site and Kiosk).
3. In parallel see if we can find a team to do the demolition (call for volunteers via Web site and Kiosk).
4. Finalize cost estimate and determine division of labor.
5. Set a schedule and stick to it.
6. A party for those who helped.

A meeting will be held in the park to do steps 1, 2 and 3. If you would be willing to help with this project, contact Jim Staub or any board member. See the Kiosk and web site for date and time. For questions contact Jim Staub.

## News about our neighbors

Jim Hagerman has been named to the City's Board of Environmental Appeals. The Board of Environmental Appeals (BEA) allows any person who receives a civil penalty or damage assessment from the Stormwater Engineering Division to appeal the action. Jim is a certified professional engineer and works for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

## Island Home Baby Boom!

A happy welcome to all our newest neighbors:

### Pippa Blamey

May 6  
Daughter of Tom and Ashley Blamey

### Leah Katherine Zinser

June 9  
Family of Kurt Zinser, Sarah Lowe, & Ethan & Reid Zinser

### Jackson Brinke

June 20  
Son of Rich and Rachel Brinke

### Penelope Anne (Poppy) Baldwin

July 31  
Family of Wesley Baldwin, Melisa Barrick-Baldwin, & Jack & Ella Baldwin

### Harper Louise McAdoo

August 26  
Family of Chris, Robyn, & Carter McAdoo

### Augusta "Elise" Schaur

August 28  
Daughter of Michelle and Georg Schaur

### Joseph Crandall Laughter

September 11  
Son of Judson and Laura Laughter

### Lydia Simmons

October 14  
Family of Brian, Rebecca, Hayden, & Aubrey Simmons

## Make Way for Walkers!

Many people enjoy walking in our neighborhood. We are fortunate to have sidewalks, and many of our sidewalks have been improved in the last few years. To keep our neighborhood pleasant for walkers, please consider the following:

Your trees, shrubs, and hedges should be trimmed back from the sidewalk right of way.

Overhead clearance should be about 6' 8", which is the height of a doorway.

Sidewalks are not designed to support the weight of cars, please do not park on sidewalks.

If you are unable to trim back your plants please contact the IHPNA president, Greg Congleton, or a member of the IHPNA board for assistance.

## Stay in Touch!

Sign up to receive messages from Island Home's two newsgroups.

**IHP Alert:** This group is for the broadcasting of emergency alerts containing information affecting the life or property of residents. To subscribe, send an e-mail to:

**IHP-Alert-subscribe@yahogroups.com.**

**IHPNA:** The purpose of this discussion list is to allow residents of Island Home Park Neighborhood to communicate regarding neighborhood activities and matters affecting our neighborhood, South Knoxville, and the City of Knoxville, Tennessee. To subscribe, send an e-mail to:

**ihpna-subscribe@yahogroups.com.**

Thanks to David Ratledge for maintaining these groups.

## New Baby? New Job? Something to Crow About?

Send your neighborhood news to Katie Hannah! khannah2218@yahoo.com

## Island Home Neighborhood Association Officers & Governors

Officers				
President	Greg Congleton	Spence Pl	gregleton@comcast.net	573-5469
Vice Pres	Rachel Craig	Island Home Blvd	hagerman@usit.net	579-6048
Secretary	Laura Barton	Maplewood Dr	lpbarton1@comcast.net	247-5142
Treasurer	Jim Staub	Spence Pl	thestaubs@gmail.com	573-0841
Board of Governors - District				
District 1	Taryn McLean	Maplewood Dr	tarynmclean@bellsouth.net	579-1442
District 2	Rudy Henley	Willis Place	rudyhenley@comcast.net	577-4829
District 3	Matt Teglas	Island Home Blvd	jmteglas@comcast.net	579-3120
District 4	Kurt Zinser	Fisher Pl	kmzinser@yahoo.com	573-2066
District 5	Lance Dean	Island Home Blvd	bo-deans@comcast.net	579-0480
District 6	Jessica Rodocker	Island Home Blvd	jessicarodocker@comcast.net	386-3311
District 7	Gina Brace	Maplewood Dr	gkbrace@yahoo.com	579-3214
District 8	Barb Arnold	Hillsboro Hgts	Barbara_arnold@webbschool.org	609-3407
Board of Governors - At Large				
At Large	Connie Vogt	Island Home Blvd	ceevee@bellsouth.net	573-6897
At Large	Rebecca Simmons-Lamm	Fisher Pl	resimmons_lamm@yahoo.com	579-9231
At Large	Hilary Drews	Spence Pl	hdrews@utmck.edu	573-6045
At Large	Joanna Pennoyer	Maplewood Dr	joannapennoyer@bellsouth.net	577-5572
At Large	Chris McAdoo	Maplewood Dr	chrismcadoo@gmail.com	573-2122
At Large	Stephanie Welch	Hillsboro Hgts	Stephanie.welch@knoxcounty.org	368-5307
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