

Beachwalk News



the way life should be



Hi Neighbor,

Halloween was last week, the year is slipping away, and the newsletter is late - Sorry. Days are shorter, but as a consolation, the Autumn night skies can be strikingly beautiful over Beachwalk.

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Developer's Corner - Update on Property Taxes

In Indianapolis they say that the issue of property taxes is "fluid". Almost every where else the word would be chaotic. I suppose that it would be humorous if it were not so vitally important, and potentially, so terribly expensive.

As a brief update, I called the Michigan Township assessor's office this morning. They are telling all who call that they "have no idea" when the tax rates for Michigan City will be published, and therefore they have no idea when the tax bills will be mailed. The various attempts to have the whole reassessment process thrown out as hopelessly flawed have failed. The State accepted assessments in LaPorte County as valid.

As to the advisability of an appeal, the following seems important to note:

1. Many Beachwalk homeowners have appealed their last years' taxes.
2. Many have filed notices of intent to appeal this year's taxes.
3. It appears that most Beachwalk homeowners will appeal this year's taxes before the deadline (45 days after receipt of tax bill).
4. Given how fluid the situation is, my recommendation remains as it has been: pay your taxes, on time, or appeal. If you choose to appeal, wait until near the deadline, with the possibility that new information may emerge that will inform your strategy for mounting a successful appeal.

"Another county heard from", as my mother used to say. Governor Mitch Daniels has recently offered a new proposal for a comprehensive reform of revenue-production in Indiana. I would recommend that you go to ([the Governor's Website](#)) to review his very interesting proposal (which includes a 1% of assessed value cap for property taxes for Indiana Homeowners, combined with a 1% increase in Indiana sales tax). It is unclear whether the lawmakers will get behind Mr. Daniels proposal. Also, this early version of a wide-ranging reform initiative does not mention 2nd home owners. It would seem prudent for Hoosier and out-of-state owners, renter and non-renters to monitor this legislation.

Beachwalk/Michiana News - Planning for 2008

Beachwalk leadership and BPOA have begun active planning for next year, and it appears that 2008 will be a year of continued expansion of social programming for Beachwalk families and guests. The date for the BPOA Annual Meeting is almost final, and the agenda is being developed. Please consult the December Newsletter for details and agenda. The priorities for 2008 will be discussed at the Annual Meeting, so be sure to attend.

Christmas lights are going up as I write this at the entrance and down Beachwalk lane to town center.

1st American is planning some major clean-up and re-work of the Lake Kai beach in the spring. Also, John Marshall and I will finish the process of improving the signage around Beachwalk, as well as address the issue of "traffic calming". Any and all suggestions are welcome.

Homeowners' Clubhouse - Someone you should know - The Edwards Family

My wife showed me a very impressive article in *Traditional Home* magazine describing the Chicago home of a long-time Beachwalk family, the Edwards. I would highly recommend you follow this link ([Edwards Family](#)), to find out more about Mike and Kristie, their children, and their truly lovely home in Chicago. When I talked with Kristie Edwards about the Newsletter piece, I asked her to send me a brief piece about her familys' time at Beachwwalk. She sent me the following:

"We came to Beachwalk by way of Seaside, Florida. I had taken my young family there for a vacation and fell in love. When I came home from the trip my mother-in-law told me I should come to Indiana to see this "new" development on the lake. This was in 1999. That summer we rented two houses for one week each, one up by the lake and one next to the pool.

The week that we rented by the pool we met our builder John (Ziola), of Chi-Tec. We picked our lot and began our journey.

My kids have all learned to ride a bike at Beachwalk. It is the place they are allowed to walk themselves to friends' houses. They learned to swim in the Beachwalk pool. In the winter it is here where we spend the holidays and hopefully get some sledding in.

We absolutely fell in love with our experiences at Beachwalk. Although some amenities have come and gone it is the people and the sense of community that keeps us at Beachwalk. This is a place we consider our heaven on earth."

Things to do, continued

October 20th was the annual Margarita Party at the O'Mahoney's House, 307 Beachwalk Lane. About 40 Beachwalkers worked hard at building community ties, while downing a prodigious quantity of spirits (luckily, many could walk home). **November 17th** is the Progressive Dinner at 6:00pm. Dinner will be catered by The Duneland Beach Inn. The night will begin with appetizers at Mike and Kate Kelley's, 1029 Lake Shore, and then everyone will break-up into smaller groups for dinner at various houses; we will come together at the end of the evening (at Bob and Pat Kaczor's, 314 Beachwalk) for dessert. RSVP to Marge Chapello at mchapello@comcast.net or 630-789-5721. Also, contact Marge if you are interested in being one of the hosts for the evening. I talked w/ Marge today and she would not divulge the menu, except to say it will be scrumptious Fall fare. This movable feast has no upper limit, so there is still room. Call Marge and join us. If you want to put faces to some Beachwalk homeowner names, see below.



Tom and Patty McCarthy



Tom and Debbie Kmiec



Essie Epstein and Linda O'Mahoney

And finally,



Beachwalk, 1:30 AM

Michael O'Mahoney
Beachwalk Resort

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