

Indian Lake Smoke Signals

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Spring Cleanup

Many thanks to students from St John's High School and our many hearty volunteers who helped at our spring cleanup! . We also generously appreciate the donations of stone dust from Dan Callahan (D.F. Callahan) and Lincoln MacDonald (Worcester Fitness) !!

Herb Adams Honored

Our longtime board member Herb Adams was honored on Tuesday, March 13th for his longtime unwavering service to our neighborhood, city and country. A World War II paratrooper serving in many historic conflicts including Angio Beach and the Battle of the Bulge, Herb gives back 'because he is still here when others didn't return'. He is a valued board member of the ILWA, has donated his time to the Boy Scouts for over 45 years and is ever dedicated to his brotherhood of veterans. At 88 years young, Herb can be found just about any day maintaining the Frostholm Memorial, the Hapgood-Brooks Memorial, mowing at Morgan Park, cutting dead branches at Shore Park, working along Holden Street near the Bancroft School fields, selling poppies to help support the veterans and MORE!

Herb's night of honor at City Hall included a City Council Resolution and key to the city initiated by District 1 City Councilor Tony Economou; a Citation from the Mass. House of Representatives presented by State Representative John Mahoney; and a Resolution from the Worcester Parks and Recreation Commission presented by Parks Commissioner Rob Antonelli.

In addition, Congressman Jim McGovern sent a copy of the Congressional Record from Feb. 27th when he spoke of Herb's service as well as a flag which was flown over the U.S. Capital in Herb's honor.

City Manager Michael O'Brien, a staunch supporter, spoke eloquently of Herb's service and many folks came to honor Herb. Congratulations Herb and thank you for all you do!!

YouthWorks & Local Businesses Help

Our neighborhood was fortunate to be the beneficiary of the YouthWorks Program last summer. A cooperative partnership between Worcester Interfaith, the City of Worcester and the state provided funding for several local youths to work around Indian Lake. The group initiated repairs of several stone fireplaces at Shore Park. Material donations were generously provided by Sansoucy Stone and City Welding to support this project.

Fish Stocking Fund

It has been 13 years since Indian Lake was last stocked with Northern Pike and Tiger Muskies. We have been raising monies and had chosen a company to stock Indian Lake this spring.

Unfortunately, we learned only recently that the company does not have all the certificates required to perform fish stocking in Massachusetts. We continue to work with the Department of Conservation & Recreation to come up with alternatives, however, at this time it is looking like this will not likely happen until Spring of 2013. We will keep you informed.

Helpful Numbers

If you see illegal or unsafe activity on or around Indian Lake, please don't hesitate to notify authorities.

WORCESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

Main number: 508-799-8606 (any time)

Operations: 508-799-8669 (someone is usually only at this phone during the day)

MASSACHUSETTS ENVIRONMENTAL POLICE

Dispatch: 800-632-8075

Office: 978-630-3748

WORCESTER DEPT OF DPW & PARKS

508-929-1300

The Eagle

The ILWA donated the use of the association tools to support the Earth Day cleanup at 'The Eagle' on West Boylston Street next to the former Barber's Crossing. The cleanup, led by Councilor Economou, also included tree planting with the Worcester Tree Initiative. Work on the stone base was donated by Johnson Hardscapes and many volunteers helped with general cleanup and planting.

Law Enforcement

Enforcement of safe boating laws on Indian Lake as well as safe behavior by visitors at the parks and beaches surrounding the lake has been an ongoing challenge for many years. The organizations that police these areas: the Worcester Police Department and the Mass. Environmental Police, have struggled to support our requests while reductions in staffing have made this very difficult.

Last July 4th, an accident left a lake family traumatized when an out of control jetski nearly missed a group of children and then traveled 40 feet on land before hitting a tree. Thankfully no one was injured physically but frustration mounted when the charges against the driver were dropped by the District Attorney's office.

What can we do to help keep our lake safe? Don't hesitate to report dangerous behavior to the WPD and

Environmental Police (see left box). This helps them know where it makes the most sense to assign resources. Also consider writing letters to WPD Chief Gary Gemme and the Environmental Police citing the need for consistent enforcement.

The ILWA received a generous donation from the Webster Police Department of an old police boat last fall. We were able to use many of the items including police lights to move to another small boat which could be left on the lake to ensure that officers can more easily patrol as needed. We are hoping to have the boat available this summer provided all the details can be worked out.

Rain Garden Workshop May 30th at Bancroft

Unfortunately, the rain garden at Shore Park did not pan out last year. Yet Bancroft School is moving forward with a plan to build a rain garden on their property. Rain gardens offer an environmentally friendly approach to redirect storm water runoff which can wash pollutants into our local waterways so installing rain gardens as part of your property in the watershed can be beneficial for Indian Lake.

Learn about the benefits of rain gardens and how to build one at a **rain garden workshop at Bancroft School on Wednesday, May 30th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm**. Go up the front stairs and turn left to the multi-purpose room. To register, contact Donna Williams at 508-335-8393 or dwilliamsbrc@aol.com.

Bald Eagle at Indian Lake

Lake residents be on the lookout for a bald eagle that has taken up residence at Indian Lake. The Eagle has been seen all around the lake this spring!



Indian Lake Crime Watch

The 3rd Tuesday of each month, the Worcester Police Department holds a meeting to discuss neighborhood issues at Ford's Hometown Services, 549 Grove St. Enter through the left side door and proceed to the second floor.

For more information, visit our website at www.ilwa.org!!