

news from

930 West 54th

Winter 2009/2010

On the Internet at www.rockyripple.com

Volume 3 Issue 1

Your Town Officials

Town Council:
Carla Gaff-Clark
441-5263
cgaff@indy.rr.com

Angela Herrmann
709-3440
mail@angelaherrmann.com

Robert Tomey
251-2311
roberttomey@aol.com

Clerk/Treasurer:
Cathy Hurt
251-3989
cathy@floodstagestudio.com

Town Marshal:
Michael Kiefer
257-7962
rprd@sbcglobal.net

Town Council meetings

Second Tuesday monthly
at 7:30 p.m.
Town Hall
930 West 54th Street

Drop in at 7 p.m. for
snacks and conversation.

Town benefits from three grants

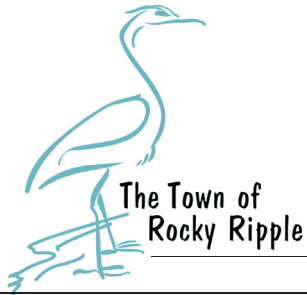
The Town of Rocky Ripple will benefit from three grants over the coming years. The largest grant, \$26,222, came from federal stimulus money through the Board of Indiana Criminal Justice toward the purchase of a Dodge Charger, the town's new police car. Special thanks to police chief, Michael Kiefer, for his care of the current police car that allowed it to remain mechanically sound for so many years, and Carla Gaff-Clark, who made this grant possible.

Two additional grants were made possible through the Center for Urban Ecology at Butler University (CEU@BU). The first, an IPL Golden Eagle grant will allow for ecological restoration and education at Fountain Park, located at 53rd Street and Patterson. This property was originally donated to the Town by Butler University. The second grant is part a larger green infrastructure initiative, made possible through a partnership between the City of Indianapolis and United Water. The purpose of this CEU@BU grant is to install rain barrels and cisterns as storm water collection devices and irrigation sources for community gardens at strategic sites around Indianapolis, which will include Rocky Ripple's Burkhart Community Garden.

An added benefit of these two projects include demonstrations on what home owners can do to on their own properties. Angela Herrmann worked with CEU@BU to make Rocky Ripple's participation possible.

Volunteers keep parks mowed and more!

Rocky Ripple residents volunteered in force in 2009 to mow the parks, run the festival, rezone park properties, and more! *An extra special thank you goes to everyone who contributed their time and effort toward the common good of the Rocky Ripple community.* Additionally, Friends of White River continue to be good stewards of the river access site behind the Town Hall. This year Friends and an Eagle Scout repaired the steps to the river. More projects are planned for 2010.



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Other updates around Rocky Ripple

Special Town Council meeting in January

The Town Council will hold a special meeting regarding rezoning a section of Riverview Drive. The meeting is scheduled for January 5 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Town Finances stabilized

Despite pending litigation due to the theft of Town funds, Town finances have stabilized, thanks to the Council's efforts to reduce expenses (thank you Robert Tomey and Danny Orr's mowing crew) and the receipt of \$30,000 in bonds from the State Board of Accounts. Midway through the year, the Council was concerned that it would not be able to finish the year with money in the bank. At the December meeting, Cathy Hurt reported that the Town had \$46,799.35 total in checking and savings. Thank you, Cathy, for making financial information more transparent and accessible to the community. Incidentally, thanks go to the resident who donated the printing of this newsletter!

About those orange zoning signs

What's going on with those orange signs at 53rd and Byram, 53rd and Patterson, and Patterson between 53rd and 54th Streets? These properties are being rezoned from residential to park to reflect their use as green space (thank you Dan Axler for navigating the zoning process). At the December 10 hearing of the Metropolitan Development Commission, the Town's zoning petition was approved. Signs will remain until the final approval of the City County Council in January.

Renting Town Facilities: Note the new fees

Prices for reserving the Town Hall and Park pavilion have increased. Visit www.rockyripple.com/community-information/ to download a facilities request form or contact Cathy Hurt.

Sewers still on schedule to arrive in 2011

According to Mike Goodin, Environmental Health Specialist with the Marion County Health Department, Rocky Ripple is on schedule for the 2011 installation of sanitary sewers. For more information, visit www.rockyripple.com/indianapolisresources/ or contact Goodin at 221-2145.

New Town Web site

A new town Web site is now live. Now everyone with an Internet connection can access e-mail updates. The new site is located at www.rockyripple.com, the same address as before. If you do not have access to the Internet in your home, talk with your neighbors or visit the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library.

2010 Census:

It's in your hands!

It's census time again. The Town Council urges all residents to complete and return their U.S. Census forms. Look for your form beginning March 1. Return your forms by April 1, which is National Census Day. Visit www.2010.census.gov/2010census/ for more information.

What do you think?

Should the Town keep or sell the dock that was purchased for resident use at the river access behind the Town Hall? Share your thoughts about the dock at the January 12 Town Council meeting.