



# THE ISLAND HOME NEIGHBOR

February 2015

The Island Home Park Neighborhood Association

## Holiday Progressive Party a Hit

Katie Graham



On Saturday, December 13, neighbors and friends celebrated the holiday season “Island Home Style” at the Annual Island Home Progressive Holiday Party. Graciously hosted at the beautiful homes of the **Pennoyers’**, **Bouchard-Deans’** and the **Birdwell-Browns’**, it was a wonderful

evening filled with delicious food, drinks and even live music (thanks to the Birdwell-Browns). Perhaps most importantly, it was an opportunity to laugh and make new memories with those of us lucky enough to have neighbors that we also call friends. There’s no place like Island Home!

## Take the Title Back

Megan Martin

After seven straight titles, Island Home lost the Covenant Marathon’s top neighborhood prize to Sequoyah Hills. Do your part and help us cheer on the runners to reclaim our title.

This year’s new theme is *Island Home Time Warp*. Six stations allow marathoners to run through

the decades. Pick a decade station or join at any point along the course. Costumes encouraged.

For more information or questions, contact Megan Martin at 404.606.1011 or [meganforb@gmail.com](mailto:meganforb@gmail.com).

## IHPNA

### President's Message

First I would like to thank all who made the holiday season special for the neighborhood. The tree lightings and open houses provided true neighborly get-togethers for us to acquaint and reacquaint.

Despite the gloomy weather of January lots of things are happening in and around Island Home Park. Some things are good and some will be judged later.

On January 14, Dawn Michelle Foster and Bob Whetsel addressed the board with updates on the South Knoxville improvements. Also in attendance was Nick Pavlis Knoxville Councilman, Jim Hagerman Knoxville City Engineer and Eric Vreeland Communications Manager. The presentation started with Baptist Hospital. The Baptist Hospital demolition phase will complete shortly followed by construction on the new buildings. This subject triggered a lively discussion on how the community could appeal an action approved by the city under the form-based zoning code. Bob Whetsel agreed that a process does not exist for this and agreed to take an action for the city to provide a process by which the community can review and appeal decisions approved by the city. Suttree Park construction has started and the first phases should be completed by summer. And lastly, the tank farm project

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## And the Winners Are...

**Connie Vogt**

Along with many other IHP residents, **Charlotte and Skip Scalf** paid their 2015 IHPNA dues prior to December 31, 2014 and were entered into a drawing for a gift certificate from Stanley's Greenhouse and Nursery. Their names were selected as the winners at the January IHPNA board meeting. The Scalfs, of Hillsboro Heights, are excited to use their winnings for spring flowers and plants.

Treasurer **Bobby Graham** and board representatives are still accepting 2015 IHPNA dues. An updated Island Home Park Neighborhood Directory will be distributed to residents current with dues.

IHPNA dues provide for our neighborhood social functions, newsletters, directories, and community outreach.

## 2015 Dogwood Arts

**Nancy Campbell**

The 2015 Dogwood Arts Island Home By-Way opens on April 8 with the Dogwood Luncheon at Ijams Nature Center. Each day through April 26 we will have visitors driving, walking, and biking through Island

Home Park. In preparation for our visitors, Wayne Williams has built us a little information house for our entrance. Let's remember to look our best this year. The emphasis is all of South Knoxville. See the official statement below.

*"As the South Knoxville area continues to grow and revitalize in the wake of the re-opening of the Henley Street Bridge, Dogwood Arts & the Trails Advisory Board are of the belief that this sector of Knoxville as a whole deserves recognition and publicity. In addition to the Dogwood Chapman Highway Trail, South Knoxville has the Island Home Garden Byway, Ijams Nature Center, High Ground Park, Candoro Marble, and the 42 miles of biking and walking trails in Knoxville's Urban Wilderness and much more. It has been decided that the entire area be promoted rather than singling out the Chapman Highway Trail. We are very proud of the efforts of the South Knoxville residents, businesses, garden clubs and home owners associations to continue the beautification project that began 60 years ago."*

[www.dogwoodarts.com](http://www.dogwoodarts.com)

# Know Your Neighbor

**A Neighbor Spotlight by Rebecca Simmons**



Island Home Park Neighborhood Association president is Jim Staub (2128 Spence Place). Jim and his wife Nancy moved to the neighborhood in July of 2007. They bought and renovated the house

owned by Patricia Blissitt. Patricia grew up in IHP and she and Nancy are first cousins.

Jim has a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from Purdue University. He is also a veteran of the Air Force.

Jim is a retired engineer who worked in the TVA nuclear program for 30 years. Nancy is a retired teacher who worked for the Sevier County system at Seymour Primary School for 31 years.

She taught grades 5, 4, 2, and 1.

Since moving to IHP the Staubs have participated in many neighborhood activities. They hosted the Christmas open house twice and this year hosted a hot chocolate party after the children's tree lighting. Jim's first activity in the neighborhood was taking over the Easter Bunny duties from Dr. Chloe Chitwood. He then made the hop to interim treasurer for IHPNA. This past election Jim became IHPNA president. Jim enjoys decorating the Children's tree with neighbors Chloe Chitwood, Normalee Neubaur and others who stopped by to help.

Jim and Nancy have three children and five grand children spread among Knoxville, Nashville, and Charleston SC. You may recognize Jim by his dog Misha who frequently takes Jim for walks.

## The Birth of Island Home

**A Historic Retelling by Skip Scalf**

There is really no better way to put it. The Island Home Community was born as a result of the death of Perez Dickinson. He was a wealthy Knoxville landowner who, from 1870 to 1875, purchased six hundred acres of land that were to become his "Island Home Farm." Mr. Dickinson left this world on July 17, 1901, after having established and developed one of the finest livestock breeding farms in the South.

On February 8, 1905, Island Home Farm was sold to Harry Harris Galbraith and Frank Malony by Perez Dickinson Cowan, a nephew of Perez Dickinson who served as executor of the Dickinson estate. Three months after that sale, Mr. Malony sold his portion of the newly acquired property to Mr. Galbraith leaving Galbraith as the sole proprietor.

On May 10, 1911, H. H. Galbraith and his wife Essie P. Galbraith sold one hundred and seventeen acres of the six hundred acre farm

to The Island Home Park Company for sixty thousand dollars. The newly formed company was officially registered with the State of Tennessee on May 13, 1911. And, on May 25, 1911, lot number 26 on Island Home Pike, was sold to Abner L. and Mary E. Holton. Island Home was born and taking its first steps.

Or was it? The Galbraiths had sold one hundred and seventeen acres of land to a company that didn't officially exist with the State of Tennessee until three days after the sale. A bit of a problem to say the least. And the problem wasn't officially rectified until April of 1917.

So, what is the real birthdate? It seems best to look upon April 1917 as a mere formality and regard 1911 as the year of the Island Home Community's birth and May 25th, the day the first lot was sold, as the best day to put candles on a cake.

## President's Message Continued

has now begun site preparation. This leads to some disruption. Island Home Ave will be closed from the Toyota building to the end of the tank farm to allow for utility construction and road and walway improvements. A traffic detour plan has NOT been proposed yet, but as soon as it is we will have a general meeting to review the plan and let residents voice their opinions.

The park improvements are going to begin in the spring. I talked with the surveyors taking measurements to pass along to the city designer for the walkway from the crosswalk on Spence Place to the playground area. No sledding paths will be disrupted. The tree cutting proceeds to facilitate the airport are paying for this improvement.

Jim Staub  
President IHPNA

## Memoriam

Island Home Park lost a longtime resident in the passing of **Mr. Robert Haws** of Spence Place. Mr. Haws and his wife **Dorcas** have been supporters of many neighborhood events, often anomalously. Robert was well respected in his chosen vocation of law and was instrumental in helping with several neighborhood issues that needed political attention. He was always there to lend a helping hand. His forthright manner and willingness to help will be sadly missed. Island Home Park Neighborhood Association made a donation to the Alzheimer's association in his memory.

**Gary Holliday** passed away on December 16th. Gary lived at 2216 Maplewood with his wife Eula. Friends and family will miss him. The neighborhood association has made a donation to St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Gary's memory.

Codolences to **Bob and Becky Luper** of Maplewood Drive, on the death of Bob's Mother, Mary L. Luper. She was 89.

## Run for the Deaf

Tennessee School for the Deaf's annual **Run for the Deaf** will be on Saturday, May 2, at 8:00am. Some roads will be closed for a short time. Island Home residents are encouraged to be outside and cheer OR run. All Island Home

residents get the early registration price regardless of when they sign up. More information will arrive on your porches in late April! Questions? Contact **Jeanne Fair** @ [jfair@tsd.k12.tn.us](mailto:jfair@tsd.k12.tn.us)

**Sign up to receive neighborhood emails by sending a request to Greg Congelton at [gregleton@comcast.net](mailto:gregleton@comcast.net).**

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