



# Indian Trail Blazer

## *A Great Community Since 1907*

**B**reak out the confetti! The annual Indian Trail July Fourth Parade is just around the corner. This year's festivities will be held on **Saturday July 3, 2010.**

Be early and stay cool while enjoying the sounds of The Village Greene Band beginning at 9:30 a.m. at Town Hall. Load up the kids for some free fun in the sun as they slide down the water slide, donated by Donatos Pizza, and take a bounce in the houses sponsored by Extreme Ice Center and The Indian Trail Business Network Inc.

Don't forget to bring your appetite! Vendors will be on sight selling all the traditional favorites. Remember to save room and enter our watermelon eating contest, with prizes sponsored by Rea Contracting. The contest is open to the young and young at heart, and will begin at 10 a.m. at Town Hall.

At 11 a.m. take a break from the action, relax along the side of the road and prepare to be dazzled as the Indian Trail Fourth of July Parade marches by. The Parade will begin on Post Office Drive (corner of Hwy 74) at 11:30 am and will conclude in the Food Lion parking lot (corner of Old Monroe Rd). We are proud to announce Odell Rogers as this year's Parade Grand Marshal.

Compete in our float contest, sponsored by The UPS Store #5924 Indian Trail. Trophies will be awarded for Best Youth, Most Original, Most Patriotic, and Best Overall. Remember there is no fee to enter the Parade, so if a contest is not your thing, take a Patriotic walk, hike, bike, trike or any vehicle that you like!

Applications can be found on the web at [www.indiantrail.org](http://www.indiantrail.org), or march on down to Town Hall and register with Trena or Susan. Any questions do not hesitate to call Town Hall 704-821-8114.



*Get Ready for the 4th!*

## Message from Town Manager Joseph Fivas



### No Tax Increase for Indian Trail Residents

**I**t's that time of year; no not spring, but budget season. Every spring the Town Manager presents the budget to the Mayor and Town Council for their consideration.

On May 6th, the Town Council met to hear the budget recommendations. In the proposed budget, the Town Council will not be increasing any taxes or fees in FY 2010-11. This is good news for businesses and families, especially in these difficult economic times. However, residents and visitors should also know that the Mayor and Town Council have set some clear priorities for the Town, which I'm happy to say are included in the budget.

These priorities include:

- 1) Developing programs to bring more jobs to Indian Trail,
- 2) Begin to create a dynamic parks and recreation system and program,
- 3) Support public safety and ask residents their opinion in a needs assessment,
- 4) Target resources to improve roads,
- 5) Create more community events for all populations.

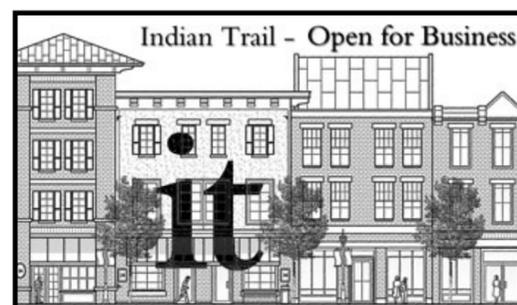
I look forward to working with the Mayor and Town Council on this budget. Residents should feel good about this budget and we welcome their feedback and input. The Town is feeling the effects of the economy, we've significantly tightened our belts, but we are also surging forward with new dynamic initiatives.

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## Business Friendly Act 2010

**T**he Indian Trail Town Council approved the remaining initiatives of the 2009 Indian Trail Business Friendly Act on January 12, 2010 as proposed to Council by Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Goodall on September 22, 2009. The purpose of the initiative is to help businesses (existing and new) succeed during the current economic crisis, while also promoting improved aesthetic qualities.

The Business Friendly Act implements a moratorium on several aspects of business-related regulations which the Town currently uses to guide commercial development. Regulations currently withheld by this act include certain temporary promotional sign standards, and new business application and development fees. The temporary stay in these regulations attempt to enhance the promotion of new businesses, and soften the cost for start-up. Also included within this initiative are several promotional programs, such as a newly created Business Owner Advisory Committee, a Historic Business District, and the adoption of a Business Nuisance Ordinance which addresses loitering.



"No one feels the pressure of our current economy more than our local Indian Trail business community. We felt it was time to initiate simple measures which should help attract new businesses to Indian Trail as well as assist our existing businesses attract customers and operate efficiently and effectively.

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# Public Safety in Indian Trail

## ~ UCSO, Indian Trail Division ~

With warm weather and summer school breaks approaching, the Union County Sheriff's Office would like to offer a few reminders and safety tips to parents. While living, working, and playing Indian Trail this summer, we urge you to be safe and aware of your surroundings.

- When riding in a vehicle, make sure children are secured in an approved child safety seat or seat belt. Remember, the back seat is safest!
- When children are swimming, always make sure an adult is nearby and watching. Never allow children to swim alone! Remember to have children wear sunscreen.
- Be alert to strangers watching children and report any suspicious persons or activities to the police immediately. Remind children that anyone they don't know is a stranger. Tell them never talk to or take candy from a stranger; never take rides from a stranger; never help a stranger look for a lost pet; never open the door for a stranger.
- Make sure children know their complete name, the parent's name and how to contact a parent in an emergency.
- Keep an updated schedule of children's activities and know whom they will be with, how to contact them and when they will return. Remember that Indian Trail has a Juvenile & Minor Protection ordinance that restricts youth under 18 years of age from being out after 11 p.m.. Visit the town website to view the ordinance in its entirety.
- Make sure children know how to dial 911 if they need help or have an emergency.
- Your child needs to wear a helmet on every bike ride, no matter how short or how close to home. Many bicycle accidents happen in driveways, on sidewalks, and on bike paths, not just on streets. Children learn best by observing you. Whenever you ride, put on your helmet. Children should never ride bicycles, skateboards, or scooters in or near traffic.



Your child needs to wear a helmet on every bike ride, no matter how short or how close to home

- When at parks, shopping malls and public events, be aware of the surroundings and keep children within eyesight. Indian Trail recently adopted an ordinance that prohibits loitering around businesses. Instruct your children not to block or restrict customer and pedestrian flow by congregating on sidewalks near the business entrances.

Enjoy Indian Trail,

**Lt. Chase Coble**  
Union County Sheriff's Office

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### Business Friendly Act Continued...

The upside potential regarding our one-year moratorium on fees for new businesses is truly unlimited. Today, even with the current economy, Indian Trail is setting an example to the entire region that we are indeed, a "business friendly" community, and there is no better time than now to plan, prepare and build for a much stronger economy ahead" said Mayor Pro-tem Goodall.

The moratorium on sign enforcement and new business fee exemption will expire one year from their adoption date or at such time the Council takes action to continue the moratorium, modify, or allow the measures to expire. The Business Friendly Act will be promoted to the business community, our local Business Chamber, Union County Partners for Progress, and other media outlets.

For more information on the Act and how it might benefit your business, please visit our website at [www.indiantrail.org](http://www.indiantrail.org) or call Shelley DeHart, Director of Planning, at 704 821-5401.

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### Message from Town Manager Continued...

Copies of the budget will soon be found in the Union West Library and on our website. There will be a public hearing on the budget on June 8th at 7 p.m. in the Town Civic Building. The tentative approval of the budget is June 22nd. Please join us for this important discussion.

Contact:

Joe Fivas  
Town Manager  
Town of Indian Trail  
(704) 821-8114  
[Townmanager@admin.indiantrail.org](mailto:Townmanager@admin.indiantrail.org)

## Bicycle Master Plan Takes Shape!

The Bicycle Master Plan is off to a great start! As part of the Town's Earth Day Celebration held on Saturday, April 24th, Town Staff and HNTB kicked-off planning efforts for the Town's first Bicycle Master Plan.

Attendees were asked to participate in a bicycle questionnaire and provide input on Town maps identifying opportunities and obstacles for cyclists. Other bicycle related activities included a bike rodeo, bike and helmet safety checks, bicycle and helmet giveaways, and bicycle maintenance demonstrations.

Residents are encouraged to visit the Bicycle Master Plan web page available at [www.indiantrail.org](http://www.indiantrail.org). This website is updated regularly with current information regarding meetings and other events throughout the process. As part of the public involvement process, the Town has created a Facebook group for the Bicycle Master Plan. Please join the group if you interested in having discussions with other bicycle advocates.

The Bicycle Master Planning process has just begun, so there is plenty of time and opportunity for you to get involved. We have developed a short questionnaire that we encourage each resident to fill out. This information is crucial for an overall bicycle system map the Town will use to implementing the plan for bicycle facilities throughout the town. There is a link to the survey on the Bicycle Master Plan webpage.

Finally, staff is currently looking for volunteers from the community to participate in the stakeholder interviews on June 18th. The town is looking for the following groups of citizens to interview about their bicycle experiences in Indian Trail:

- **Bike Enthusiasts!**
- **Parents and Children** (ages 5-10)- parents please attend with children.
- **Teenagers** (ages 13-18)- we will offer community service hours!

If you are interested in participating in the stakeholder meetings for the Bike Plan, please contact Craig Thomas or Hillary Pace at the Planning Department at 704-821-5401, or simply visit the Bike Plan webpage for further information!



Citizens comment town maps at Bicycle Master Plan booth during the Earth Day Arbor Day festival



Bike Winner Erin Williamson



## Indian Trail Stormwater Services *Make A Splash!*

Make a splash by volunteering! Indian Trail Stormwater Services invites everyone interested in helping keep our Town creeks clean to participate in our "Adopt a Stream" and "Storm Drain Marking" program. Indian Trail Stormwater Services will provide training, materials and available locations.

The Storm Drain Marking program is designed to educate the public that what goes into the storm drain system ends up in our creeks. Illicit discharges can severely degrade our water quality. Work involves installing small plaques onto the drainage structures that are located along subdivision streets.

The Adopt a Stream program is another way to get involved with keeping our creeks clean. Work in this program involves walking a selected stretch of stream periodically, removing any debris, placing it in garbage bags, and locating the full trash bags at a specified location for Town pick-up and disposal. Once 2 clean-ups have been completed, a sign is installed near the stream section that states the volunteer groups' name.

Individuals, organizations or businesses can take advantage of these opportunities. Put your rain boots on and make a splash! We can provide you with a chance to make a difference in your Town.

If you have any questions or would like additional information about these programs or anything about Stormwater, please contact the Engineering Department at 704-821-1314.

Information is also available on our website!



## Carolina Thread Trail

### *Crossing Paths with Indian Trail!*

Mark your Calendars! The Carolina Thread Trail is coming to Union County! The Thread Trail is a regional network of greenways spanning 15 counties in the greater Charlotte area.



There will be four Listening Sessions throughout the county in July and we will be looking for your input on possible trail locations.

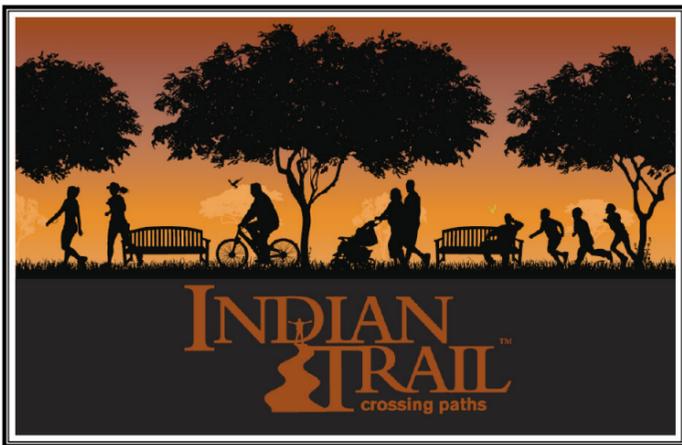
**July 19th** 6:00 -8:00pm Weddington Swim & Racquet Club (Weddington)

**July 20th** 6:00 -8:00pm Museum of the Waxhaws (Waxhaw)

**July 21st** 5:00-7:00pm Union West Regional Library (Indian Trail)

**July 22nd** 6:00-8:00pm Union County Cooperative Extension (eastern Union County)

For more information visit [www.indiantrail.org](http://www.indiantrail.org).



## Proposed Town Budget

2010 - 2011

### *Remaining Schedule:*

**May 14** - Proposed budget ready for public review on website, at Library, and at Town Hall (draft copy)

**June 8** - Town Council Meeting with Public Hearing on proposed budget

**June 22** - Budget adopted at June Town Council Meeting

## Indian Trail Releases New Web-Based GIS

A new application is now available for those interested in the Town's efforts towards commercial growth, planning, and general development. It's an interactive map of the Town! Here you can find scores of spatial information, including parcel detail, zoning and land use classifications, floodplain boundaries, current stormwater and planning projects, and our current inventory of commercial establishments - both retail and office centers, as well as industrial and business parks.

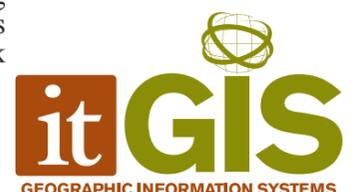
The IT Mapper has the latest information on the Town's roads, parcels and subdivisions, as well as a great base map which displays Union County's aerial photography. All the standard



tools are available as well, such as zooming capabilities, address and parcel search, and feature identification.

This is the latest effort by Indian Trail GIS Services to provide the Town access to information on the services and initiatives currently at work. The application itself is powered by ArcGIS Server and based on the Adobe Flex framework. The IT Mapper is still a work in progress! Look for continuing updates and improvements, and as always, your questions and feedback are greatly appreciated.

*Happy mapping!*



## A Message from the Indian Trail VFW 2423 Got Flag Etiquette?

The 4th of July Celebrations are quickly approaching and Indian Trail VFW post members want to remind everyone we live in the best country and that is what the 4th of July Celebration is all about! Please remember to be thankful for what we have and be respectful to the flag of our country, for it is a symbol of our freedom. The following is a reminder of Flag Etiquette in parades:

### The Salute to the Flag of the United States of America

To salute, all persons stand up. Those in uniform give the appropriate formal salute. Citizens not in uniform salute by placing their right hand over the heart and all hats should be removed and held to left shoulder. Members of organizations in formation salute upon command of the person in charge.

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*Other situations when the flag should be saluted:*

**When the flag is being raised or lowered:** the salute should be given at the moment the process begins and be held until the flag has been raised to the top of the pole or lowered to its base.

**When the flag is passing by:** as in a parade or flag ceremony, the salute should be given at the moment the flag passes your position, and held until it has passed by.

**When the Pledge of Allegiance is being given,** the hand-salute should be given before the first words are spoken, and held until the last words have been spoken. Often someone will be delegated to LEAD in the Pledge of Allegiance. In these circumstances the leader will often give instructions or a command to render the salute, and then to drop the salute. You will learn more about this in our page on Flag Ceremonies.

**When the National Anthem is played,** the salute should be given at the opening note and held until the last note has been played.

## Community Service Opportunities

### Indian Trail Board and Committee Membership

The Town needs your help! Indian Trail has various opportunities for residents to serve on advisory boards and committees. These boards and committees play a vital role in the future development of our community each with a specialized focus area.

- **Board of Adjustment** - Quasi-judicial Board considers and decides on Zoning Appeals, Special Use Permits, and Variances from the Unified Development Ordinance.
- **Planning Board** - Recommending Body to the Town Council on Zoning Petitions, Land Use Plans, and Town Zoning Regulations.
- **Transportation Advisory Committee** - Provides recommendations to the Town Council on Transportation related issues.
- **Stormwater Advisory Committee** - Provides recommendations to the Town Council on Town's mandated Stormwater program.
- **Parks, Tree, and Greenway Committee** - Serves as the Tree Board and provides recommendations to Town Council on Parks, Tree, and Greenway related issues.
- **Business Owner Advisory Committee** - Assists staff in promoting, attracting, and retaining commercial and industrial development within the Town.

Each membership is an appointed position by the Town Council, requires a commitment to meet once a month at a regularly scheduled meeting time, and serve for a period of 3 years. For more information or an application to serve, please visit [www.indiantrail.org](http://www.indiantrail.org).



## Overgrown Grass

Summer is just around the corner here in Indian Trail, which means the grass is going to be growing! With folks going out of town on vacations, this can be a tough time of year to keep up with mowing the lawn. The Municipal Code of Indian Trail identifies a place of dense or uncontrolled growth of weeds or grass to a height in **excess of 12 inches** as being in violation.

Indian Trail Code Enforcement, with the help of local residents, works very hard to identify properties overgrown grass and get them cleaned up. The Code Enforcement process for overgrown grass violations starts with identifying the property owner. The proper notification is then served to the property owner and then Code Enforcement then keeps track of allowable time limits for the owner to see to the maintenance of the property themselves. It is only after this point that The Town of Indian Trail can take over and hire a landscape company to go in and provide the necessary services.

If you would like to file a complaint about tall grass, simply call Code Enforcement at 704-821-5401 or you can also go online and fill out a Zoning Complaint form at [www.indiantrail.org](http://www.indiantrail.org).

INDIAN  
TRAIL  
north carolina

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