

# IDLEWYLDE\*NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE IDLEWYLDE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

"Community Commitment since 1947"

October 2014

## ICA General Meeting: A Full Agenda

The meeting on Sept. 23 elected (unopposed) a new board. It looks a lot like the old board, though some chairs have been swapped.

*Pete Ismay* takes over as president and *Dana Reed* as treasurer. *John Keenan* will be veep and hall trustee, responsible for equipment and maintenance. *Cynthia Jabs* is still secretary. The other members are webmaster *Mike Snyder*, *Jamie Kass*, *Susanna Elliott*, *Ashleigh Rohm*, and *Paul Romney*.

We had a packed hour of discussion on many topics. Councilman *David Marks* joined us and spoke to several of them, as well as raising some of his own.

Most air time was devoted to **traffic calming on Regester**. John Keenan mentioned that we had been promised a traffic island at the Regester-Overbrook intersection as part of the Loch Raven Blvd improvements a few years ago, but this had been cut back as a cost-saving measure. Councilman Marks undertook to push for getting it done.

The idea of "**community pace cars**" patrolling Regester at the speed limit was proposed. John said that he has "pace car" bumper stickers available for this purpose.

**Traffic issues on Sherwood** also came up, with Stoneleigh Woods construction piling on top of the normal Maxalea traffic. Cynthia has relayed our concerns to both parties.

**Zoning issues** came up with the reported sale of the old nursing home property at Regester and Sherwood for commercial use. Councilman Marks mentioned the quadrennial Comprehensive Zoning Map Process, which will commence after the elections. He plans to be proactive on several issues in our area, including problem properties in the business block.

On **school redistricting**, he reiterated his view that our position at Stoneleigh ES is secure.

Regarding the **Atlantic Cleaners site** between Walker Ave and Overbrook, we are discussing potential uses with the Anneslie Community Association. One possibility is a swimming pool. If viable, it would be privately financed by residents' voluntary contributions.

*Spice Kleinmann* drew attention to the **Towson Fall Clean-up Day** on Saturday, Oct. 11, as an opportunity to clean up Overlook Park.

The ICA recorded a financial surplus of just over \$5000 in 2013-14.

**General meeting follow-up: Armacost** 812 Regester, formerly Armacost Nursing Home, has been acquired by developers who say they plan to establish a small assisted living facility. The ICA is consulting our lawyer on zoning issues and will be keeping an eye on the situation. We'll keep the community informed.

– *Paul Romney*

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## CLASSIFIED

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### HOME

**Academic tutoring.** Masters level special educator available for tutoring in all content areas. For more information contact *Carroll Freeman* at 443-797-7256.

### GARDEN

**Beekeeping equipment.** For Sale: equipment to start two hives and 2 how-to books, smoker and jacket with screen. \$200. Can deliver. Call 410-960-2442.

### IMPORTANT MEETING ON CRIME

**Citizens on Patrol co-director Jim Debesse has set up a meeting with Baltimore County Police Department Community Liaison Officer Kristy Fuqua at Idlewylde Hall on Thursday, October 23rd, at 7PM.**

**Officer Fuqua will discuss community policing practices and explain what we can do to help the police deal with crime in Idlewylde.**

**If you have questions or concerns about neighborhood crime, now is the chance to express them.**

ATTENTION all Ghosts and Goblins!  
You are INVITED to the  
Idlewylde Community

## **HALLOWEEN MOVIE NIGHT**

Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>

At the Idlewylde Hall

A Kid Friendly 'G' rated Movie Shown at 6:30 pm  
(for kids 6 and under)

Older Kid Movie shown at 8 pm  
(for kids 7 and over)

Bring along a treat to share.  
Wear your costume, if you dare!

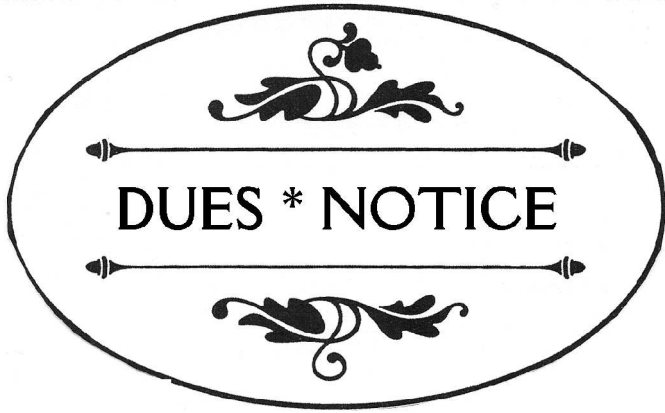
2<sup>nd</sup> Annual

# Story Time with Santa

Sunday, December 14th

3 pm to 5 pm

\*\*Please check [www.idlewylde.org/Events](http://www.idlewylde.org/Events)  
for any updates on these events\*\*



**IDLEWYLDE COMMUNITY  
ASSOCIATION**

Community Commitment Since 1947

P.O. BOX 66106, BALTIMORE, MD. 21239  
[www.idlewylde.org](http://www.idlewylde.org)

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“IDLEWYLDE IS NOTHING IF NOT YOU”

Dear Neighbor,

The Idlewylde Community Association (ICA) was founded in 1947 to promote the welfare and quality of life of Idlewylde residents. Membership is limited to Idlewylde households and businesses. The ICA holds two general meetings a year: one in March and one in September (when officers for the coming year are elected).

**Annual membership runs from September to August. It's time to sign up for the year 2014–2015.  
Dues are \$20 per household.**

(Dues optional for households with a majority of members aged 65 or older.)

Please complete the form below to begin/renew your membership. **Or do it by PayPal at [www.idlewylde.org](http://www.idlewylde.org).**

Thank you for supporting the quality of life in Idlewylde!

Your ICA Board

Please make checks payable to ICA.  
*Send to ICA Membership, P.O. Box 66106,  
Baltimore, MD 21239*

- Renewing member
- New member
- Most members of our household are 65 or older (optional fee)
- I have not yet joined the Idlewylde Community Yahoo Group. Please add me.

**Amount enclosed:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

Member information	
<b>Name(s)</b>	_____
<b>Address</b>	_____
<b>Phone</b>	_____
<b>Email(s)</b>	_____
	_____

# THE IDLEWYLDE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION IS DEDICATED TO PROTECTING AND IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY

As stated in its by-laws, the ICA's purposes include:

- \*Maintaining and running the COMMUNITY HALL;
- \*Promoting our WELFARE and QUALITY OF LIFE;
- \*Maintaining the APPEARANCE of the community;
- \*Protecting and improving residential PROPERTY VALUES;
- \*Expressing members' views on COMMUNITY ISSUES;
- \*Promoting EDUCATIONAL, RECREATIONAL, and SOCIAL ACTIVITIES;
- \*Disseminating USEFUL INFORMATION;
- \*Proposing LEGISLATION and ZONING ORDINANCES, and maintaining the observance of ZONING and other LAWS AND REGULATIONS affecting Idlewylde.

IT'S YOUR COMMUNITY! JOIN THE I.C.A.!

## Idlewylde Community Association

### BOARD (2013-14)

Pete Ismay, *President*,  
[pcismay@hotmail.com](mailto:pcismay@hotmail.com)

John Keenan, *Vice-President* 410-377-0563, [jkeenan@WallaceMontgomery.com](mailto:jkeenan@WallaceMontgomery.com)

Dana Reed, 443-869-3670  
[daanrd@comcast.net](mailto:daanrd@comcast.net)

Cynthia Jabs, *Secretary* 410-377-7252  
[bomsterjab@comcast.net](mailto:bomsterjab@comcast.net)

#### *At-large members:*

Susanna Elliott, 443-791-8583,  
[susannaelliott@hotmail.com](mailto:susannaelliott@hotmail.com)

Jamie Kass, 410-377-6728  
[jamieandhenry@yahoo.com](mailto:jamieandhenry@yahoo.com)

Ashleigh Rohm, 443-465-3824  
[smash426@hotmail.com](mailto:smash426@hotmail.com)

Paul Romney, 410-377-0748

[paulromney03@aim.com](mailto:paulromney03@aim.com)

Mike Snyder, [me@michaelsnyder.me](mailto:me@michaelsnyder.me)  
*The Board usually meets at the Community Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm. All members of the ICA are welcome, but please contact a board member to confirm.*

### CITIZENS ON PATROL

*Directors:* Jim DeBesse,  
[jamesdebesse@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesdebesse@yahoo.com)  
Mary Beth Collins,  
[mbcollins03@gmail.com](mailto:mbcollins03@gmail.com)

[www.idlewylde.org](http://www.idlewylde.org)

*Webmaster:* Mike Snyder

### IDLEWYLDE NEWS

P.O. Box 66106, Baltimore, MD 21239  
*Editor:* Paul Romney

*Director of Distribution:* Jamie Kass

Submit articles, announcements, ads, etc. to the editor at [idlewylденews@yahoo.com](mailto:idlewylденews@yahoo.com), or phone editor.

#### *Advertising Rates*

- ¼ page: \$25 members, \$50 non-members
- ½ page: \$35 members, \$75 non-members
- Full-page insert: one-sided: \$200, two-sided: \$250

Classified listings are free for members of the ICA.

*Payment.* Send check payable to "Idlewylde Community Association" to ICA at PO Box above.

*Idlewylde News* is the newsletter of the Idlewylde Community Association. 755 copies of each issue are printed for distribution.

## Stephen W. Converse, Realtor

Long & Foster Real Estate, Inc.  
America's Largest Privately-Owned  
Real Estate Company ...  
Celebrating 45 Years!



My family and I have been living in Idlewyde for the last 25+ years, so I know the local neighborhoods well. I assist buyers and sellers and welcome the opportunity to meet with you for your FREE consultation.

Direct: **410-736-2296**

Office: 410-583-5700

Email: [Stephen.Converse@LNF.com](mailto:Stephen.Converse@LNF.com)

Web: [www.Stephen-Converse.com](http://www.Stephen-Converse.com)



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Dawn Converse, cSMM

**410-336-8566**

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



## Duncan Scott Keir

### Your lawyer in Idlewyde

Our firm represents individuals and businesses in a wide variety of settings. In the boardroom or the courtroom, we have the experience and knowledge you need.

### Price & Keir

410.528.7205

[dkeir@fixedcostlaw.com](mailto:dkeir@fixedcostlaw.com)

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



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## **Baltimore County Public Schools Central Area Overcrowding Update**

All appears up in the air again since County Executive Kevin Kamenetz vetoed the plan adopted last year by BCPS. School Superintendent Dallas Dance hopes to present a new plan to the Board of Education in December. We expect that BCPS will discuss plans affecting our area at the Central Area community meeting on October 16 (see flier).

### ***The Story So Far***

In the spring of 2013, BCPS launched a series of community consultations on the issue of elementary school overcrowding. The Central Area was identified as a priority region in need of 700 extra seats.

Worried that we were at risk of being redistricted out of Stoneleigh Elementary School, Idlewylde and Loch Hill formed Idlewylde and Loch Hill United (ILHU), a joint committee charged with monitoring the issue and keeping neighbors informed and engaged. We grew even more concerned as BCPS worked out proposals that didn't seem to fit the actual problem. The worst overcrowding is in Rodgers Forge and West Towson. But the BCPS proposals involved schools miles to the east.

Throughout the second half of 2013, neighbors attended Board of Education meetings and BCPS community consultations, wearing our royal blue ILHU tee-shirts to show that we were watching. We made appropriate interventions during public comment periods.

In October, responding to input from our own and other communities, the BCPS administration presented its proposals:

- Add an extension to Cromwell Valley Elementary School (CVES), currently a regional magnet, and redefine it as a neighborhood magnet.
- Renovate and re-open Loch Raven Elementary School (LRES) as a neighborhood school serving the Halstead community.
- Renovate the current Halstead Academy ES and make it a STEM (Science, Technology and Math) regional magnet.

Idlewylde and Loch Hill supported this proposal, since it promised to meet our primary goal of staying zoned for Stoneleigh ES. However, we expressed concern about two issues:

- The secretive process by which the proposal was generated. This effectively excluded Loch Raven Village from community consultations, although

it ended up being more heavily affected than any other neighborhood.

- The discrepancy between a West Towson overcrowding problem and an East Towson solution. We think that the long-term needs of Rodgers Forge and West Towson must be provided for west of York Rd.

In November the BCPS Board of Education approved the proposal, but the Loch Raven Village Association (LRVA) continued to protest the renovation of LRES, which would displace a popular community center and put a second Title I school in their community while not relieving overcrowding in some of their own local schools. In August, the *Baltimore Sun* reported that Baltimore County Executive Kevin Kamenetz had withdrawn his support for the LRES and CVES projects because they were too costly.

### ***Where we are now***

What Kamenetz proposes instead is building a 700-seat school on the site of the Bykota Senior Center near the intersection of Bosley Ave and Joppa Rd. This location had been considered by BCPS but rejected as too expensive, and for other reasons.

It is understood that while CVES will not be expanded, BCPS still intends to make it a neighborhood school with a designated boundary. This will have a redistricting impact that could go into effect for the 2017 school year.

BCPS' current goal is to present their new plan for CVES to the Board of Education in December 2014. We expect that they will present options for adding seats to our area at the October 16 community meeting. ***We need to turn out in force at this meeting.*** Wear your ILHU tee-shirt if you have one!

There are many questions we need to ask BCPS. ***Let's be present as this discussion is renewed!***

– Kimberly Graham

### ***Another GREAT Idlewylde block party***

This year's party was organized by Ashleigh Rohm, with major help on the day from John Keenan, Cynthia Jabs, Mark Bomster and Frank Simms. The weather was perfect and the turnout good.

Former ICA president and current state delegate Steve Lafferty joined us. So did Councilman David Marks, who is running unopposed in November and doesn't need to turn out just to shake hands. It was a pleasure to see them both.

– Paul Romney