

# IDLEWYLDE\*NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE IDLEWYLDE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

"Community Commitment since 1947"

December 2014

## Armacost building update

Another 'Sleeping Giant' has awoken in our neighborhood - and this one appears to be friendly. The new owners of the former Armacost Nursing Home (corner of Regester and Sherwood) came to meet with members of the ICA board Tuesday evening. They brought donuts (!) and, even sweeter, news about their plans to refurbish the abandoned hulk. They plan to open a 15-bed Senior Assisted Living facility exactly along the lines the ICA Board agreed with the old owners in 2010. The County Zoning Commissioner attached this agreement, including parking limits, scale and appearance, to the zoning variance required for the proposed use. That agreement transferred to the new owners when they purchased the property this Fall.

Vacant since 2005, the building was bought in 2009 by three brothers, who gutted it and painted the outside. Their efforts to finance the project stalled owing to the economy, and First Mariner Bank foreclosed on the property. Since then, two auctions and several prospective purchasers have not yielded a promising occupant - until now. The new owners, Steve and Suzanne Cromwell, have already repaired the leaky roof and are demolishing the metal shed at the rear as agreed with the ICA. They will also take down the ugly fire escape at the front, as also agreed. If construction and permits go smoothly, they could be up and running a year from now.

The Cromwells, longtime Baltimore residents, plan to be involved in the operation as well as the reconstruction of the building. Her background is nursing, his is real estate, and this is not their first time doing a project like this. Other Assisted Living facilities that they developed and used to run are now owned and operated by their children: Evergreen Valley Assisted Living, in a Victorian house in Hamilton, and Dulaney Valley Assisted Living in Hunt Valley and Baldwin <[www.dulaneyvalleyalf.com](http://www.dulaneyvalleyalf.com)>. ICA Board members plan to visit one of these to get a better idea of what's in store. The Cromwells made clear that their facility will not be a nursing home. Nursing homes are highly regulated and provide skilled nursing care to seniors with complex health needs. This facility will serve residents with low to moderate needs (levels I & II). Caretakers will reside in the facility, and residents will not be allowed to have cars.

Board members and neighbors who met with the Cromwells were pleased that they reached out to the community and seem to know what they're doing. We'll be happy to have the derelict building occupied and are hopeful that we have responsible new neighbors, whose busi-

ness will enhance our community.

Anyone interested in more information can contact a member of the ICA Board for a copy of the Board's agreement with the property owners.

\* \* \*

*Please support your ICA. The agreement that ensures a development compatible with our community came about thru many hours of volunteer work, supplemented by legal services paid for by the ICA.*

- Cynthia Jabs

## Retraction

In the last *Idlewylde News*, a discussion regarding the Atlantic Cleaners on Walker Avenue was reported incorrectly. Speculation on the contamination of the soil from dry cleaning chemicals was reported as fact, and to date there is no evidence of any contamination of the property. The owner of Atlantic Cleaners was a longtime merchant in the community and always ran a safe and clean business.

We apologize for this misunderstanding.

- John Keenan, Paul Romney

## Idlewylde COP training session

Please keep an eye out on the Yahoo and Facebook Idlewylde sites for news of an upcoming training session for those who'd like to participate in our **Citizens On Patrol** program.

Officer Kristy Fuka will lead the session, at the Community Hall, one evening in December, exact date to be determined soon. If you are a new patroller, or would like a refresher, please attend.

Questions? Contact Jim DeBesse at <[jamesedebesse@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesedebesse@yahoo.com)>.

## CLASSIFIED

### ARTS

**Baby music class.** I am interested in leading a class with a parent or guardian in my home once a week or twice a month for our wee ones. We will sing and bounce and play some instruments with bubbles and scarves. I am a professional Pre-school music teacher. If you are interested, please inquire at [spicearoni@gmail.com](mailto:spicearoni@gmail.com) or 410-828-4070 or . I also teach guitar lessons for elementary on up students. Deborah "Spice" Kleinmann.

# Story Time With Santa



Sunday, December 14  
3-5 PM  
at **Idlewyde Hall**



Come one and all to enjoy a very special story time with Santa Claus *in person* as he reads **'Twas the Night Before Christmas!**

*There will also be ...*

- *crafts*
- *cookie decorations*
- *games*
- *refreshments*

## SANTA'S WILD RIDE, 12-13-14

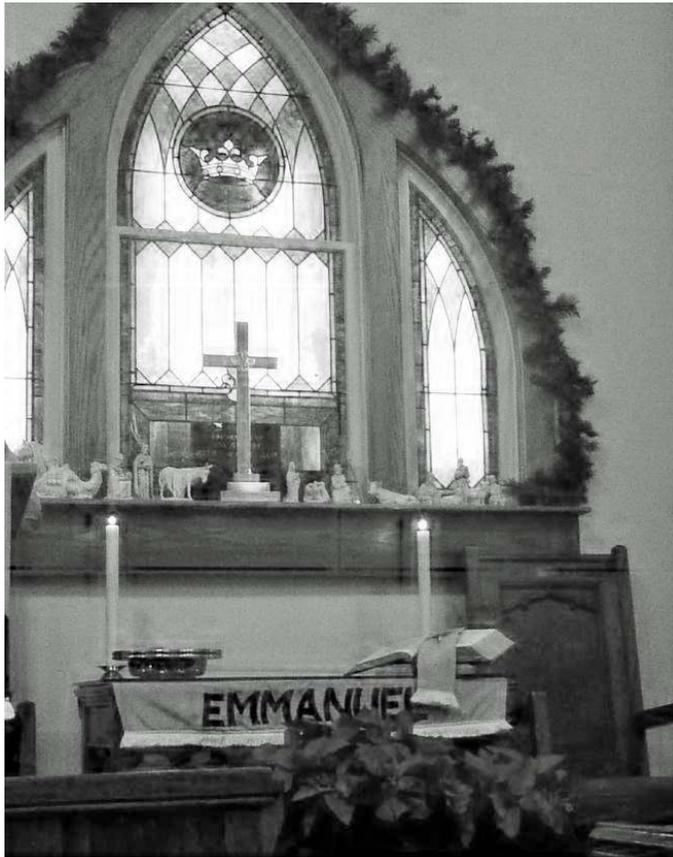
*Santa's Fire Truck arrives at PARKWAY & REGESTER at 6:30 PM*

Turn right on LITCHFIELD  
Left on REGESTER  
Right on Loch Hill  
Right on Loch Raven  
Right at the light on Walker  
First right on Lochmeda  
Right on LIMIT which becomes FALKIRK  
Right on LIMIT  
Right on SHERWOOD  
Left on OVERBROOK  
Right on BANBURY  
Left on ANNESLIE  
Right on MAPLEWOOD  
Right on REGESTER  
Right on OVERBROOK at the bottom

of the hill  
Right onto ARRAN  
Right on OLD ORCHARD  
Left on REGESTER  
Left at the light onto SHERWOOD  
Left on ARRAN  
Right onto OVERBROOK  
Right on SHERWOOD  
Right on ARRAN  
Left on BEVERLY  
Right on REGESTER  
First right on BEECHWOOD  
Left on OVERBROOK  
Left on CRESTWOOD  
Right on REGESTER

Right on SHARON  
Continue on ST. ALBANS  
Left on BEECHWOOD  
Left on SHERWOOD  
Right on WALKER  
Right at top of the hill onto BANBURY  
At the stop sign, continue straight on BANBURY  
Cross REGESTER, take first right on LITCHFIELD  
Left onto MAXALEA  
Right onto SHERWOOD  
Left onto LITCHFIELD  
Left at PARKWAY  
First left onto MALDON  
Left onto LITCHFIELD, and ...

**SEE YOU NEXT YEAR, SANTA!**



# Idlewylde United Methodist Church

1000 Register Avenue,

Cordially Invites you to

Come Home for Christmas!

Please join us.....

November 30 – The Hanging of the Greens Service, 11 am

December 21 – Quiet Christmas Service, 11 am

December 24 – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service, 11pm

## BCPS Central Area community meeting

At the meeting on October 16th, Dr. Dallas Dance spoke briefly about the overcrowding along the York Road corridor but did not offer suggestions for relief.

The meeting's primary focus seemed to be to ask the community their opinions, share them in small groups by writing them out on large pieces of paper, and then present a summary of their small group ideas to the larger group. BCPS staff then collected all of the papers/ideas and stated they would review them all and take them into consideration as they make plans for how they will address the need for additional seats in our area.

There was no indication of what those plans could be based on what transpired at this meeting. However, BCPS

estimates that we need 500 additional seats in the central area. Since they prefer to build larger schools nowadays, they may try to meet this need by expanding existing schools and/or making Cromwell Valley ES a neighborhood school.

BCPS will present plans to be implemented within the next three years, based on input from all of the recent community meetings, at a Board of Education meeting in December. *Hopefully*, the central area will be part of those plans, and, *hopefully*, we will have the opportunity to provide feedback on any proposals affecting schools in our area before they are voted on by the Board.

– Aimee Freeman

## Idlewylde Community Association BOARD (2014-15)

Pete Ismay, *President*, [pcismay@hotmail.com](mailto:pcismay@hotmail.com)  
John Keenan, *Vice-President* 410-377-0563,  
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### At-large members:

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[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, [jamesedebesse@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesedebesse@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 [idlewyldenews@yahoo.com](mailto:idlewyldenews@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.



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As Cynthia Jabs notes at the end of her Armacost update, the ICA's effectiveness in representing Idlewylde is directly related to Idlewylde's commitment to the ICA. One thing every neighbor can do to help is simply write that yearly check for \$20 and put it in the mail to us. Or nowadays you can just go to **idlewylde.org** and pay your dues by PayPal.

But it's totally up to you. The ICA hasn't the time or the resources to chase you with multiple invoices the way the magazines do. We rely on you to remember, and to

check your payments (back to August) if necessary to see whether you've paid your dues or not.

Or you can ask. Just contact me, **Paul Romney** (info on p. 3). And if by chance you pay your dues twice, we'll actually send you a refund. We're not looking for that level of financial commitment from anyone!

Dues for 2014-15 are \$20.00 per household, and are optional where a majority of household members are 65 or older.

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

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_