

# IDLEWYLDE\*NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE IDLEWYLDE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

“Community Commitment since 1947”

October 2019

## ICA September general meeting

The meeting was held on September 20 at Idlewylde Hall. Pizza from Sherwood Carry-Out was served.

A Board of Directors for 2019-20 was elected, and its members were nominated to represent the Association before the County Board of Appeals in zoning matters, as required by the regulations of the Board of Appeals. President Pete Ismay thanked the retiring directors for their service.

The meeting considered and adopted several by-law amendments drafted by the retiring treasurer, Dana Reed.

Moving on to community issues, the President presented a detailed outline of the situation respecting the application of One Stop Convenience Mart, now occupying the Express Mart premises at 6324 Sherwood, for a lottery license.

Pete laid out three positions the community could take:

- Unequivocal support of the application.
- Unequivocal opposition to it.
- A compromise, whereby we support their offering ticket-based games but not video games like Keno and Racetrax.

He noted that this compromise might not be viable under the regulations.

Several members expressed the view that the neighborhood is amply served by the availability of lottery products at McLellan's and the 7-11, and the meeting voted to oppose the award of a license to the Mart.

The President next reported on the status of the proposal to construct a skate park in Overlook Park. He read a statement by **Bill Felter**, president of the Baltimore County Skateboard Council, to the effect that there was nothing new to report since the community input meeting conducted in April but, in view of the opposition expressed by some members of the Idlewylde community, the Council is exploring other options.

County Councilman David Marks stated from the floor that he will not consent to the Overlook Park proposal unless he is convinced that Idlewylde supports it, and right now he doesn't think it does.

Councilman Marks also addressed some other issues of concern to Idlewylde.

- **Speed monitoring sign on Regester.** He recognized the community's wish for one to be set up further east, near the intersection with Litchfield. The new installation near Holly Lane is a pilot project, and if it is deemed a success others will be installed in the County.
- **Flooding concerns.** He noted that our need for better storm drainage is still unsatisfied but promised that he's still pushing for it.
- **York Rd zoning.** He stated that he is undertaking a comprehensive review of zoning in South Towson to prevent any more inappropriate projects like the Starbucks drive-in at Regester.

The Councilman expressed gratitude for the bipartisan electoral support he has enjoyed in Idlewylde.

---

## IDLEWYLDE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 66106, Baltimore, MD 21239

### BOARD (2019-20)

Pete Ismay, *President*, 410-459-6638 [pismay@hotmail.com](mailto:pismay@hotmail.com)

Jessica Brown, *VP*, 412-491-3318 [Jessica.Hoptay@gmail.com](mailto:Jessica.Hoptay@gmail.com)

Todd Studeny, *Treasurer*,

Elizabeth Melia, *Secretary*, 410-372-0533, [memelia@verizon.net](mailto:memelia@verizon.net)

*At-large members:*

Diane Christopher 410-318-9735 [dianechristopher12@gmail.com](mailto:dianechristopher12@gmail.com)

Tim Johnson, 443-414-3356, [timjohnson33@yahoo.com](mailto:timjohnson33@yahoo.com)

Duncan Keir, *VP*, 410-409-5231 [duncankeir76@gmail.com](mailto:duncankeir76@gmail.com)

Michelle List, 410-377-5244 [classylist@hotmail.com](mailto:classylist@hotmail.com)

Peggy Squitieri, 410-377-5722 [pashannon@verizon.net](mailto:pashannon@verizon.net)

### OTHER OFFICERS

Citizens on Patrol

*Director:* Katie McCabe, 301-922-2743 [ktmccabe2@gmail.com](mailto:ktmccabe2@gmail.com)

Membership Secretary

Paul Romney, 410-377-0748 [paulromney03@aim.com](mailto:paulromney03@aim.com)

Members of the ICA are welcome at monthly board meetings (usually second Tuesday), but please contact a board member to confirm time and place.

### Join the Idlewylde Community

#### Yahoo Group

1. Go to [https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/-Idlewylde\\_community/info](https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/-Idlewylde_community/info)
2. Click the "Join Group" button.

## Calling All Volunteers!

I had the great pleasure this summer of strolling through the neighborhood and striking up conversations with neighbors who happened to be out in their yards enjoying a beautiful early summer's evening or a weekend day.

My goal was to engage members of our community in expressing their vision for the future of the community hall, to encourage participation in upcoming activities, and to find out if they might be willing to help with cleanup at the Hall and with minor repairs. Some were relatively new residents, and truly great additions to the community. Many responded positively to the request to volunteer. Then, as the summer heat hit, I curtailed my efforts. So now I'm reaching out to the many that I missed.

Along with our dumpster day on November 16th we'll be conducting a cleanup of the Hall lot. We'd also like to hold an *interior* cleanup and minor repair day later on in the fall or early winter, a weekend day to be announced. Either event would be well-suited to willing volunteers like those I spoke with, who might enjoy being part of a group working together on a specific day. If you'd rather apply your handyman or cleanup skills at times more convenient to your schedule, by all means coordinate the day and time with me.

Our goal is to preserve a resource unique to our community, a town hall (possibly the only one in Baltimore County?) where we can meet to discuss matters that affect us and our neighbors, where special events can be held (yes, that speaker series is still in the works, as well as seasonal celebrations for families, and hopefully, some music), and where our politicians can have a forum, or more importantly we can have their ear.

With that in mind, here is the list of the interior work items to choose from in the coming months:

3. Cleaning the kitchen tile floor.
4. Repairing chair seats (new vinyl squares that are easily attached with existing screws over torn cushions – having a staple gun would help).
5. Installing toilet-paper holders in bathroom stalls where they are missing.
6. Repairing broken door latches in bathroom stalls.
7. Replacing a cracked sink countertop in the men's room (generic faux marble).

8. Replacing the kitchen faucet.
9. Painting the legs of the kitchen tables and the rusted steel legs of the sink.
10. Painting the wooden kitchen cabinets.
11. Resurfacing the bar top.
12. Cleaning the stage carpet (if anyone has a carpet cleaner to loan, please let me know).
13. Hanging new hollow core doors for the storage rooms.
14. Repairing the electrical socket behind the bar and replacing the fan in the ladies room (any electricians out there?).

Does anything on the list strike your fancy? Then by all means reach out to me via text or email about scheduling (443-520-0485; Cmiller225@aol.com).

Thanks, and I look forward to hearing from you.

– Christine Miller, Beverly Rd



Jim Craig

410-377-6100

6609 York Rd - Anneslie

jimcraig1@allstate.com



**Allstate.**

You're in good hands.

© 2017 Allstate Insurance Co.

230752

## Blair House Nears Completion

At long last, all four corners of Regester and Sherwood will be occupied once again. Construction and landscaping of Blair House is nearly finished and the first residents are set to move in this November.

The upscale memory care residence is a new (very!) incarnation of the former Armacost Nursing Home. The building had been vacant since Armacost closed 15 years ago. It changed hands several times before renovations began last year.

Executive Director Suzi Jones describes Blair House as a “boutique-style memory care assisted living community.” No actual diagnosis is required to move in. But the 15-bed facility is designed “to reduce anxiety for those with memory loss.”

Their brochure bills it as the only memory care community in the area “that is an elegant, inviting home with meaningful memory care programs.” Cost will range from \$7200 to \$9500 per month.

“Our ambition is to move away from the traditional model of Alzheimer’s Care, said Stephen Bowman, President of Peregrine Senior Living, the company that developed and will manage Blair House. Bowman has been in this business for more than 20 years. His New York based company currently manages 15 elder care facilities around the country.

Rather than focus on the challenges of short-term memory loss, Bowman aims to cultivate elders’ connections with themselves via more durable longterm memories, using things like music and movement. Gardening, sensory programs and animals are also part of the plan. The center is non-denominational, but space and time will be provided for various spiritual activities.

Bowman hopes to build community connections with neighbors. He and his team showed up at an Idlewylde Community Association board meeting early in the planning process.

At neighbors’ requests, the company is looking into replacing large trees removed on the Sherwood Road side of the building, where a windowless wall looms large just a few feet from the sidewalk.

Questions about parking have also come up, since several neighbors depend on street parking. Jones said Blair House will eventually have a van and is looking into the possibility of using it to ferry visitors to an off-site lot. On-site spaces should accommodate the five staff members she expects to have once the building is fully occupied.

The ICA worked out an agreement with prior owners of the property before agreeing to a zoning exception allows commercial use of this residentially zoned site. This includes conditions like containing all their parking needs on site, minimizing traffic during times when children are walking to corner bus-stops, and matching surrounding building styles.

Director Suzi Jones is onsite most weekdays. Her office is in the house north of Blair House on Sherwood. This was purchased and renovated along with the former nursing home. Future plans for the house are uncertain, but it has served as a temporary office space through the construction.

Jones invites anyone who’d like to tour the property or ask questions to call her 410-377-8000. An open house is being planned for late October or early November.

– Cynthia Jabs

---

## C L A S S I F I E D

---

### HOME AND GARDEN

**Handywoman work.** I can do small jobs inside and outside the home. I can baby and elder sit and entertain as well. Call me!! *Deborah “Spice” Kleinmann*, 443-465-1660.

### ARTS

**Guitar lessons.** Half-hour lesson \$30. Learn chords to your favorite songs. A bit of theory and tuning!! *Deborah “Spice” Kleinmann*, 443-465-1660.

---

### Buying club

Is anyone interested in starting a club? This would be a once-a-month pickup of bulk organic products.

We could meet at the hall and have the truck come unload and weigh products, pick them up, break down boxes, go home. For example:

15. Bulk organic brown rice or other grains.
16. Case or organic corn chips.
17. Spices.
18. Annie’s Mac and Cheese.
19. Organic chocolate.
20. Sugar, flour (for holidays).
21. Bulk nuts, dried fruits.

I’ve participated in these before.

– *Spice Kleinmann*, 443-465-1660

## Effective Meditation Classes

The purpose of meditation is to make our mind calm and peaceful.

If our mind is peaceful, we will be free from worries and mental discomfort, and so we will experience true happiness.

- Venerable Geshe Kelsang Gyatso Rinpoche  
"How to Transform Your Life"

Kadampa Meditation Center Maryland  
900 E Northern Pkwy, Baltimore, MD 21212  
(410) 243-3837 • **MeditationMD.org**



### Idlewylde Dumpster day

*Ben Larson* has scored 5 dumpsters for us, and they'll be at the hall, 6301 Sherwood Rd,

**Saturday, November 16,  
7 a.m. till noon.**

He'll gladly accept a helping hand or two. Volunteers should bring a pair of work gloves.

**Please note** that the following items cannot be accepted:

- Large stumps, or wood/logs in excess of 8 inches in diameter or 6 feet long.
- Flammable or hazardous materials and liquids, paint, or pesticides, including batteries and oil.
- Tires..
- Electronics, TVs or appliances.
- Recyclables (put them out for your weekly recycling pickup).

Also, please don't bring yard waste that can be put put for the bi-weekly yard waste pickup.

Lawn mowers and other powered items must be completely empty of gasoline.

### Overlook Park

*Sharon Fisher* is raising money to purchase and install more swings at the top of the park.

*Pete Ismay* is looking into setting up a *Friends of Overlook Park* organization, on the model of the recently founded *Friends of Radebaugh Neighborhood Park* in Towson, to help take care of the park and its enhance its amenities.

#### IDLEWYLDE NEWS

P.O. Box 66106, Baltimore, MD 21239

Editor: Paul Romney (410-377-0748)

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 ICA. 755 copies are printed bi-monthly for door-to-door distribution, and each issue is posted on [idlewylde.org](http://idlewylde.org)