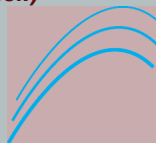




Taste of ISCA a success! Volunteers dish up generous food donations from local restaurants (Photo by Toba Hausner.)

April, 2012
800+ Homes



www.iscaonline.com

Indian Spring News

General Meeting, Monday, May 21

Celebrate Earth Day Weekend with a Clean Neighborhood!

By Eileen Fisher

JOIN YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS in keeping our neighborhood sparkling and litter free. The annual ISCA Neighborhood Clean Up will be held on Saturday, April 21. Volunteers will meet at the Indian Spring Recreation Center at 9:00 am. Rain date will be Sunday, April 22—same time, same meeting place. Please dress appropriately for mud and potential poison ivy, and bring gloves if you like (we'll have some on hand), and a water bottle that you can fill from our cooler. In addition to picking up trash, we will wash the playground equipment, and tackle some of the non-native, invasive plants in our park including garlic mustard.

Please contact Eileen Fisher at eileenfisher@yahoo.com to join the cleaning fun! *

Indian Spring House Tour, May 12

Contact Stephanie Helsing for information: nizwa328@gmail.com.

More info will be posted on the listserv.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The newsletter is printed in black and white to save on costs. A color PDF is online at iscaonline.com. So if you want to see any photos, ads, etc. in color, I recommend going online. Additional photos from the ISCA events can be found in our online photo gallery.

Indian Spring Citizens Association

Membership Application and Renewal

Dues are \$15 per household • Please Join or Renew Now • Dues cover 12 months from receipt
Send Check to ISCA • P.O. Box 3724 • Silver Spring, MD 20918-3724

Or drop off at 200 East Indian Spring Drive (c/o Phyllis Zusman, Membership Chair) or **use PayPal at iscaonline.com**.

Name(s): _____ Phone: () - Date: / /
Street Address: _____ Silver Spring, MD 20901 _____
Email: _____

If you are not sure of your membership status you can e-mail Phyllis, fzusman@erols.com or call, 301-587-9063, and she will give you the answer.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy spring! It is such a beautiful time of year here in Indian Spring. And along with appreciating the colorful blossoms and delicious scents in the air, I am also grateful for our wonderful neighbors



President Jill Ortman-Fouse

who we get to see more of now that the weather is so lovely. I am particularly thankful for those neighbors who have taken on a variety of leadership roles to support the community, and are coming up with new ideas for fun ways to bring our neighborhood together.

Stephen Wilson stepped forward when we needed someone to stay on top of the

potential use of Franklin Ave. for a detour. Because of Stephen's activism, together with representatives from surrounding neighborhoods, that idea was quickly taken off the table. Other alternatives are being considered, which will hopefully protect our neighborhood from additional cut-through traffic. Thanks to Stephen for staying in contact with the DOT and updating us at our March ISCA meeting of the latest developments.

Also, big thanks to Heidi Whitesell, who has been working for more than a year on traffic and safety issues in Indian Spring, primarily focused on Franklin

Ave. I'm pretty sure Heidi knows far more about the complex world of traffic-calming regulations than she ever dreamed possible. We had a nice turnout of neighbors at our March meeting where Heidi answered many questions and went through the list of concerns that she has been working on. She is looking for some people to help out with follow-through on a few of the items. Please see her article later in the newsletter for her update and to learn where she could use some additional assistance.

We are delighted to announce that Christina Taylor has volunteered to be our VP of social activities. Christina moved to the neighborhood last May and says she loves it here. She brings a host of wonderful event skills, and we are thrilled that she is taking this position. Christina owns two small businesses, one of them being event planning, fundraising and development (see www.TaylorMadeExperience.com). Welcome Christina, and thank you!

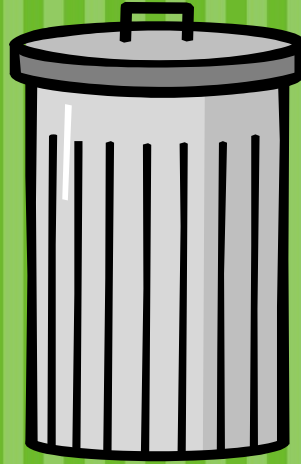
As of the writing of this column, we are still looking for a new ISCA president to complete our slate of officers. We are most appreciative of the rest of the ISCA officers, including Eileen Fisher, VP civic affairs; Elizabeth Magin, treasurer; and Suresh Srinivasan, secretary, for agreeing to return for another term, along with the rest of the board. The vote will be taken at our May 21 ISCA meeting.

Please see the ISCA calendar of upcoming events and think about volunteering. As someone said, none of us can do everything but each of us can do something. Any time you sign up to help out in Indian Spring, you contribute to keeping this neighborhood a special place. Looking forward to seeing you all around the 'hood and at our upcoming activities!. *

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (This section for announcements about new neighbors, births, deaths, weddings, graduations, etc. Send announcements to thausner@gmail.com.)

ISCA Officers		
<p>President Jill Ortman-Fouse iscapresident1@yahoo.com</p> <p>Vice President, Social Committee Christina Taylor</p> <p>Vice President, Civic Affairs Eileen Fisher</p> <p>Secretary Suresh Srinivasan</p> <p>Treasurer Elizabeth Magin</p>	<p>Neighborhood Watch Organizers Tony Hausner Joyce Stocker</p> <p>Website Organizers Tony Hausner Elfaalem Alemu</p> <p>Membership Chair Phyllis Zusman</p> <p>Newsletter Coordinator Tony Hausner thausner@gmail.com</p>	<p>Layout Coordinators Ali Breen Audrey Cowgill</p> <p>Board Members Bob Tiller Mary Anne Hess Ann Horton Robert Bullock Robert Levy Siobhan Carroll</p>

SPRING CLEANING OR MOVING?



GET READY FOR...

DUMPSTER DAY COMING TO WOODMOOR IN MAY

The Rhonda Mortensen Team is once again sponsoring **DUMPSTER DAY** for friends and neighbors! Date and exact location will be posted soon at www.helpmerhondarealestate.com or email us at RhondaMortensen1@gmail.com. You'll also find information about our [latest listings](#) and have access to [the best home search tools](#) around. *If you're thinking of buying or selling, call us!*



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Indian Spring and Franklin Avenue Traffic and Safety Report

By Heidi Whitesell

THE FOLLOWING is a review of the update and discussion held at March ISCA meeting, of the concerns that neighbors have expressed regarding traffic and safety in Indian Spring:

- Ride-On bus speeds: the county has monitored it, especially #14 and taken action where warranted. The officials are very responsive, so *please contact Heidi if you are aware of further incidents and she will let them know.*
- Garwood bus-stop: some residents wanted the west bound bus-stop at the intersection of Franklin and Garwood to be moved to the Northwest corner. Someone remembered that the stop used to be in that location before it was moved because of an underground sewer line. There is a cutout in the roadway in the NW corner which helps since buses don't hold up traffic. Sometimes there is a safety issue with cars crossing over the double yellow to the oncoming lane. *Heidi has a point of contact (POC) but needs someone to do the follow-up.*
- Residents have expressed concern for the safety of children crossing Franklin on their way to school. There is a "Safe routes to school" program in the county which can help and Heidi has the name of the Director to contact. The program coordinator visits the schools to speak with the children, etc. This is different than the crossing guards which is a separate program. *Heidi needs someone to follow-up on this with the POC.* Jill will mention it at the next HVES PTA meeting and post it on their parent listserv since this will be of interest to that community.
- To discourage cut-through traffic, especially off University to Franklin—via Indian Spring, then Garwood, Evergreen, or Flower, etc—to avoid the light at University and Franklin, we can request a county study to see if we qualify for traffic restriction signs. However this is a long drawn out process and may take several years to complete. Further, there are no exceptions being given for residents. Also, the feedback from the residents in that area was that we would not meet the minimum requirement total of 100 vehicles per street per hour to qualify.
- More than 120 residents in the neighborhood have received letters from the county about trimming back shrubbery that obstructs line of sight on Franklin. This is primarily for traffic turning on to Franklin from side streets that is unable to safely do so. This and the speeding issues are obviously connected. Many accidents have been witnessed by neighbors. If these residents do not comply, the county will proceed to trim back or remove the foliage.
- To discourage speeding on Franklin Avenue, the county plans to install bumpouts (also called chokers). Examples of this can be found on Dale Drive and on Arcola Avenue. As Heidi noted in her detailed email the county has approved the resurfacing of Franklin for 2012, so in all likelihood the traffic calming and the resurfacing work will be done concurrently. There are also news ways of striping crosswalks to create an optical illusion of a speed bump. Bumpouts also help with safety for pedestrians in reducing the distance they have to walk when crossing. There are plans to have cutouts in the bumpout for bicycles.
- Another resident studied and reported on the locations of truck weight restriction signs on Franklin, the ones that say "No Thru Trucks over 7000 lbs G.V.W.". Eastbound on Franklin, there are two signs about 150 ft apart close to

Colesville Rd, and another near Flower Ave. Westbound, there are three signs close to University and one near Flower. The county cannot place these signs on University or Colesville where they would make more sense (before the disallowed turn is made), because these are state routes.

- Although the issue of sidewalks on Franklin has been on the list of future county improvements for years, each step in the process must be approved for funding. The first step of approving the cost of the study is next. If the study is approved for funding, the next step would be

the study, then the planning and approval of the funding of the plans. The entire process could take additional years before the sidewalks are actually built. Existing sidewalks would be enhanced, and new sidewalk would be added so there would be sidewalks on one side or the other the length of Franklin. It may help to contact county council members to encourage their support of the funding.

- Better enforcement will need more police. The County budget has asked for 24 additional officers county wide, and 2 classes of 30 recruits each. *

SAVE THE DATE!
May 12, ISCA House Tour

SAVE THE DATE!
May 21, General Meeting



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Observations of Spring in Indian Spring

By Jana Lee Frazier

HATE WALKING. This morning my knees ache, my feet hurt, I am breathless and my lungs burn. But I am ill and I walk with the hope of getting well.

I am always angry when I start out, coffee mug in hand, my heart beating hard with dread. Today, I want to turn around about five feet from the front door. But I don't. In the still starkly bare dogwood tree, a mockingbird perches, the tree's only decoration. He's singing a bit of his wondrously complicated song. Where I spent most of my life there was no such bird and no such music, a mixture of pure classical sonata and a stand-up comedy routine of imitated sounds. I feel blessed just to be here where he is in this moment in time.

Beyond the yard where the bridge crosses a shallow stream, a lone mallard spins in lazy eddies, his head iridescently emerald. I worry he's wasting his time just playing when he should be seriously looking for a mate. He pays me no mind whatsoever as I pass by, then I stop suddenly to stand in a shower of sherbet-pink petals the wind has sent my way from the weeping cherry straight ahead. I am transfixed. Staring up into the cascade of flowers falling down around me from long, pendulous branches that ride the breeze against an azure sky in which a chalky moon glows softly even this early in the day.

There is a chattering, clattering show that instantly distracts me from gazing at the moon. Two squirrels, their sleek coats the color of onyx, chase each other up

and down a huge old tree at the water's edge. I wonder what it would be like to have that much energy, that much joy, that much freedom. In fact, I realize, that if I turn slowly in a complete circle, I will see wacky, exuberant squirrels in every direction, in a multitude of colors—lustrous cream, grizzled grey, golden brown, black as night, with squirrel nests resting in the arms of every other tree in sight.

And there are trees galore! I pass under a maple with tiny starbursts of blood-red bloom and oaks still wearing last year's leaves, several magnolias completely covered in heavy, waxy white flowers tinged in crimson. I see that water from recent rain has collected in each cup. A robin stops by to drink from the rim of a blossom. I hear woodpeckers tapping out their cryptic codes on the thick barks of tulip poplars whose straight trunks soar ever-skyward.

As I head back to home I move through a tunnel of forsythia bright as flame and crunch a delicious confetti of pine cones, acorns and the spiky seed pods of sweet gums under my feet, releasing a wonderful aroma into the air. As I reach the front door, I know that even though I don't hurt nearly as badly, I still hate walking. But in Indian Spring, I realize that I love going for walks. *

CRIME REPORT, By Joyce Stocker

Crimes Reported to Montgomery County Police for February
between 2/23/12 and 3/26/12.

3/12/12

300 block Leighton Ave

Breaking and Entering

Please report all crimes, no matter how minor, to the police and to the listserv.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Joyce Stocker has indicated that she would be glad to facilitate the reporting of burned out street lights to PEPCO. Send an email to comit89@aol.com.



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March 19 General Meeting Notes

By Suresh Srinivasan, Secretary

THE MAIN FOCUS of the ISCA meeting held on 3/19/2012 was the traffic on Franklin Avenue and related issues such as pedestrian safety that Heidi Whitesell has been following. She has reported on progress on these topics frequently on the listserv.

Treasurer and Membership: President Jill Ortman-Fouse began with the Treasurer and Membership reports for the association. We are in positive territory by about \$2200 in our account, but we need to encourage more of our neighbors to join. We currently only have about 175 paid-up members from about 800 households. For the board, all of the officers except Jill are returning to the board in their current capacity. We welcome the new Social VP Kristina Taylor, but we are still looking to replace Jill who will be

stepping down in May. Voting for this will be held at the next meeting in May.

Social Events: The social events calendar is a busy one starting with the ISCA Taste of Silver Spring event next Tuesday 3/27 at 6:30pm at Highland View Elementary. If you are interested in volunteering (we still need help with setup, food service and clean up), please contact Tony Hausner (301-587-6943). As indicated in the listserv message that Tony sent out and in the March newsletter, there will be food and desserts from a variety of local restaurants. Attendees are also encouraged to bring something to share. The event is free for members. It is easy to become a member—you can sign up online or mail in your membership. Several local politicians have it on their calendar.



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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



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The ISCA neighborhood Spring clean-up is on Saturday 4/21 from 9am to 11am—the organizer is Eileen Fisher. The clean-up will mostly involve weeds, overgrowth of vines and some trash. Volunteers are welcome but please dress appropriately for chance encounters with poison ivy. The group meets at the Rec Center at 9am. On 5/12, we have the ISCA house tour led by Stephanie Helsing followed by the ISCA Community Yard Sale on 6/2. Please start your collections and register with the organizers (Vicki Adamson and Vanessa Krabacher). Look for the ad campaign in the newsletter. The May ISCA meeting on 5/21 is the next and last one this term. Some topics of discussion include installation of solar panels and smart meters.

Traffic Detour: Stephen Willson then reported on his interactions with the State Highway Administration on the University Boulevard traffic detour during the bridge work. Stephen's latest update posted on the listserv on 3/20 is that the SHA is evaluating options to keep the ramp from the outer loop to Eastbound 193 open during the construction. They expect to confirm this within the month. You can monitor the progress

yourself on the SHA's website at this link:

<http://apps.roads.maryland.gov/WebProjectLifeCycle/ProjectSchedule.aspx?projectno=MO5822115>

Franklin Avenue Traffic: Heidi Whitesell has reported on this in past ISCA meetings and posted a detailed message on the listserv on 3/10 on various traffic issues affecting Franklin Avenue. Bottom line is she needs help following up with various points of contact at the Montgomery County Traffic and Engineering Office, so please let her know if you want to contribute. Heidi stressed that officials have been very helpful and are on the side of the citizens. Heidi went through the list with the attendees and discussed each item including: bus speed, bus stop issues, safe crossing for students, cut-through traffic to avoid light at University and Franklin, trucks on Franklin, speeding and bump-outs to slow vehicles down, sidewalks on Franklin, foliage and other line-of-site issues, and the need for additional police for enforcement. She reports on these issues in detail elsewhere in this newsletter. *



Be a part of the Indian Spring Community-Wide Yard Sale in June!

Pooling our resources by advertising our HUGE Yard Sale collection will attract buyers from far and wide. Let's draw in big crowds and show our community spirit!

Start gathering your no-longer-needed-but-still-usable goods. Search your attic, toy box, garage and basement. Collect toys, electronics, baby items, clothes, house goods, furniture, art, books, and more.

Remember we'll be passing out maps with the participating addresses and descriptions to direct shoppers. So REGISTER to get your sale on the list:
Vickie_P_Adamson@mcpsmd.org

Clean out your attics and garages. We're having a community-wide Yard Sale in June.

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Thank You to All Who Have Donated to New Technology at HVES!

MS. DARDARIAN, principal at Highland View Elementary School, has received her second check in the amount of \$10,000 from the PTA of HVES for new technology in the classroom. Thank you to the entire community for such a successful campaign. As of March 21, the read-a-thon portion alone has raised \$12,221.

It's not too late to donate and be part of this community effort to upgrade technology at our local elementary school. Go to www.razoo.com/team/hvesread and see how our kids have been involved in the effort by reading each day.

We are a group of dedicated parents who are striving to provide every teacher and staff member at Highland View with a laptop, LCD projector and document camera to use to help them implement the new Montgomery County curriculum. We want to make technology accessible for all of our children. Join our cause and donate today! Our goal is \$30,000 and we are 2/3rds of the way there!

Questions? Check out www.razoo.com/story/Hvestech or contact T.C.Hill at 301-587-2935 or giving hvestech@gmail.com. *

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