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Californ Spring Maria

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## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION – JUNE 27

#### By Ali Breen

The warm weather is here and its time to take to the streets

to celebrate our country and our neighborhood. The ISCA

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Indian Spring Citizens Association MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RENEWAL Dues are \$15 per household • Please Join or Renew Now • Dues cover 12 months from receipt Drop off Check at 9609 Hastings Drive Go Online. use PayPal at Send Check to ISCA P.O. Box 3724 or or (Monica Bridgewater, Membership Chair) iscaonline.com (+ service fee) Silver Spring, MD 20918-3724 Date: / / Name(s): Silver Spring, MD 20901 Street Address: Phone: ( ) – Email:

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#### continued from page 1

Independence Day parade will be Saturday, June 27 at 11:00 AM (start time one hour earlier than years past--hope to beat the heat). Please don your red white and blue, decorate those bikes, scooters, wagons (even well behaved pups) and join us at the Rec Center (9717 Lawndale Drive). Parade will start at 11:30 AM, winding through a short tour of the neighborhood, then back to the Rec Center for refreshments and entertainment. We invite all the local boy and girl scout troops to walk in the parade with their troops. We invite all local musicians and artists to join in the entertainment. If you are interested in helping out with the event, please contact Ali Breen at ali at vonunderfoot dot com. See you there!



for the ISCA Independence Day Parade Please contact ali at vonunderfoot dot com



## WE\_NEED\_YOU!

for the ISCA Independence Day Parade Please contact ali at vonunderfoot dot com

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** As noted previously, we will be including interviews with noted members of our community. We would welcome suggestions for further persons to be interviewed, please send to thausner@gmail.com, 301-587-6943 and we would love to have students to serve as reporters for student service credits.

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## INDIAN SPRING'S 2015 HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES

The following students whose families live in Indian Spring graduated this spring from college or high school (based on information submitted by parents and others in Indian Spring). College destinations are included, when provided to the newsletter, for high school graduates. If your daughter or son was inadvertently omitted, please send the information to newsletter editor Tony Hausner at thausner@gmail.com for use in the September issue.





## 2015 is off to a strong start! **BETTY BATTY'S** clients are not disappointed.



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e can't say enough good things about Betty. She is personable, communicative and easy to work with. We never felt like we were bothering her with questions or requests for explanations about the selling process - she definitely works hard to make her sellers feel at ease. Betty knows the Silver Spring market well, understood the value of our house and our neighborhood, and worked hard to get us the price we wanted. She was a great negotiator and we would, without hesitation, recommend her for anyone looking to sell. -The Friedman's



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Joseph Agger, entering University of Colorado Nicholas Barbiero, entering Florida State University Anna Leigh Baremore, entering Juniata College Alia Helsing, entering University of Maryland, College Park Ben Holland, entering Case Western Reserve University Samuel Howells, entering DePaul University Kaylan Hutchison, entering McDaniel College Monica Mai, entering UMBC

#### NORTHWOOD HS:

Lauren Burkett, entering University of Delaware Annie Ryan, entering University of Vermont

#### EINSTEIN HS:

Kurt Liming, entering University of Maryland, College Park Olivia O'Neil, entering Colby College Austen Whibley, entering Kenyon College

#### SANDY SPRINGS FRIENDS SCHOOL:

Jessica Collins, entering Anne Arundel Community College



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#### ACADEMY OF THE HOLY CROSS:

Katie Hatcher, entering University of Maryland, College Park. Haley Waites, entering St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia Pa.

#### ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL:

Joe Kane, entering Salisbury University

#### **PRIVATE SCHOOL:**

Elia Mattke, entering Florida Southern University

#### FORMER ISCA RESIDENT:

Emily Spahn, graduating from a school in Malawi, entering University of Denver

#### **HIGHER EDUCATION:**

Lauren Clinton, B.S. from University of Maryland (2012), entering Columbia University for graduate program in clinical psychology Katie Hatcher, Holy Cross University Andy Luck, B.A. in history from Towson University Colin Kane, B.S. in exercise science from Towson University Rose Shelley, Holy Cross University Patrick Shelley, St Joseph's University Maddie Stock, B.A. in education from Stevenson University George "Lenny" Slenkovich Jr., B.S. in mathematics and education, University of Maryland, College Park Madeleine Varmer, B.S. in biomedical engineering, Lehigh University Taylor Waites, J.D., Hofstra University School of Law Caitrin Waites, B.A., Marymount University

#### **Our Thanks to Lauren**

The editors of the ISCA newsletter extend their gratitude to Lauren Burkett for the excellent reporting about neighborhood students and local schools that she has diligently contributed to every issue of this monthly publication over the past two years.

This issue, which carries three bylined articles by Lauren, represents her last stories for the newsletter. She graduated earlier this month from Northwood HS and will be attending University of Delaware this fall to study dietetics.

Lauren is the daughter of Gina and Jamie Burkett of Indian Spring Drive. She received Student Service Learning hours for her volunteer work on behalf of the Indian Spring Citizens Association.

Best wishes, Lauren, in your next endeavors!



## NORTHWOOD STUDENTS EXPLORE CAREER OPTIONS VIA CAPSTONE PROJECTS

By Lauren Burkett

Seniors at Northwood High School who are enrolled in the array of career academies finish their year in distinctive fashion with a capstone project.

The capstone project became an appealing option three years ago as a way for students in 12th grade to be more engaged in an in-depth project in a subject of their choosing. The projects also bring legitimacy to the academies, according to staff members.

Besides Northwood, other local high schools that have capstone projects are Montgomery Blair and Einstein. Northwood, which draws about 10 students from Indian Spring, is located along University Boulevard near the intersection with Arcola Avenue.

continued on page 11





## **READY?**

Congratulations! You have decided to make the move to a new home. Now, you need a realtor to sell your property. Call Rhonda from the HelpMeRhonda team for an in-home consultation including recommendations on pricing, necessary improvements, and curb appeal. She will act not only as your realtor, but as your "Senior Move Manager" and together, you will develop a moving plan with a timeline. Rhonda will help you prepare your home for the market while also assisting in the process of searching for your new home (if not already found).

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For Seniors, moving can be an overwhelming experience,

both financially and emotionally. Seniors may be moving for the first time in many years and likely to their final

home. The logistics, the finances, and the emotions brought out in this type of move are challenging and stressful. HelpMeRhonda has partnered with a team of professionals to orchestrate a seamless transition from

Time to get organized! If you are downsizing you will have a lot to go through, which can be overwhelming. The professionals at Orchestrated Moves LLC, our partner, will help you tackle the organization and downsizing needed to help make your new home as warm and comfortable as your current home. We will help find the right and responsible destinations for items you choose not to keep, whether by sending to family members, finding a venue for the sale of the items, or donating to worthy (tax-deductible) charities. We will ensure everything moving with you is well organized, labeled, and professionally packed. Professional cleaning services can also be arranged for both homes.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: The newsletter is printed in black and white to save on costs. A color version is online at iscaonline.com; so if you want to see any photos, ads, etc. in color, I recommend going online.

#### **ISCA NEWS & EVENTS**



Lauren Burkett (right) is shown with fellow Northwood seniors who created informational brochures as part of their capstone projects on public health-related topics.

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Northwood offers the following academy options: Academy of Musical Theatre and Dance, Academy of Politics, Advocacy and Law, Academy of Technological and Environmental Systems Sciences and, as of this past year, the Humanities, Art and Media Academy, which offers two separate pathways. One is the communications pathway where students engage in the community through the practice of speech, artwork and written language. The second is the visual arts pathway, which gives students the opportunity to discover art as a potential industry while developing their creativity and technical skills.

As of this year, Northwood has another option to add to the academies. It's become the first school in Montgomery County to adopt the Montgomery College Middle College program, cleverly named the MC2 program. This enables high school seniors to graduate with an associate of sciences degree from the community college.

The MC2 program provides an academically rigorous regimen that begins with the recruitment of 8th graders.

Only seniors enrolled in one of the academies are eligible to undertake capstone projects, which are optional. During their time at Northwood, students are encouraged to take courses that relate to

their chosen academy based on their strengths and interests.

I was a member of the Humanities Academy's communications pathway, so I took classes that best related to my future major in college, dietetics. I completed anatomy and physiology, family life, sociology and AP English Language and Composition to explore my intended field of study.

In 2014-15, 14 students participated in the Humanities Academy, seven in the TESS Academy, eight in the law academy and 15 in musical theater and dance. The total of 44 academy participants represents an increase of 25 over last year.

Although MCPS doesn't provide grants to schools with capstone projects, the Career Lattice Program provides stipends to lead teachers who submit proposals to the board of education.

One recent recipient of a grant was Daryl Alston, Northwood's Humanities Academy head and teacher of Honors English 9, Yearbook, Short Fiction and Intro to Journalism. He has been teaching at Northwood for 10 years.

When he was named the lead teacher last year, he submitted a project proposal for the Humanities Academy. This request provided mentors --Northwood teachers in subjects related to students' majors -to guide humanities students in completing their capstone projects.

My capstone project was titled "Increasing Nutritional Awareness at Northwood," and I worked by Vikki Epps as my assigned mentor. She was my health teacher in 10th grade and my Family Life teacher in senior year, so it was an honor for her to assist me throughout my last year. As part of my project, I created



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brochures describing how to pursue a healthier lifestyle and I distributed them at Northwood's annual Health and Wellness Fair on May 1.

Alston hopes this mentorship opportunity will expand to other academies in the near future. When asked if a specific capstone class would benefit students, he said students would be better served by selecting a topic that allows them to demonstrate their passion. "That passion is best demonstrated by a student who's willing to see a project completed without the ranking system of grades," he said.

As academy head, Alston believes the academies provide a foundation for students to create their culminating Powerpoint presentations of their capstone projects. On May 8, academy students publicly presented their capstone projects during 10-minute talks about their work to a panel of judges and outside guests.

One of those judges was Jamie Bisset, who has been teaching law classes at Northwood for 10 years. As head of the PAL Academy, she made her classes memorable to students by addressing real-life issues. She arranged for multiple guest speakers to talk about their legal work and arranged field trips to Maryland's statehouse in Annapolis and the Court of Appeals. When students reached their senior year, she said, "we talked about what their interests were and how we could incorporate them into meaningful and educational experiences." Northwood graduates will probably come to appreciate their hard work on senioryear capstone projects even more once they begin their college studies when they discover independent research assignments are the norm.



#### UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE Saturday **27** 

### Independence Day Celebration

#### **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** 

#### WEB SITE:

#### Iscaonline.com

(includes services recommendations, and photo albums) We are also on Facebook under Indian Spring Citizens Association

#### EMAIL GROUP (LISTSERV):

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#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

This section for announcements about new neighbors, births, deaths, weddings, graduations, etc. Send announcements to thausner@gmail.com We welcome information on new residents and other special occasions.



## INDIAN SPRING MOM WANTS YOUR DIAPERS AND BABY FORMULA

By Jay P. Goldman

Indian Spring resident Faith Lewis feels both a personal and a professional connection to the DC Diaper Bank. She's officially an "ambassador" for the non-profit service, which provides a reliable supply of diapers to babies, toddlers and their families across the metropolitan Washington area.

"Personally, as a parent, the idea of not being able to provide the bare essentials to your child is heartbreaking. I feel like I should do anything and everything I can to make sure that no parent should ever have to worry that they can't feed or clothe a child," says Lewis, a mother of two who has lived in the neighborhood since 2011. "Professionally, my area of focus is government nutrition programs, so I see where the shortcomings are and what these parents are up against."

Her house at 305 Leighton Ave. is an official drop-off spot for the DC Diaper Bank. A sign on the front yard and a bin on the front stairs are the places to deposit any of the following items (just let her know ahead of time if you have a big drop-off):

- Diapers (all sizes, all brands, does not have to be a full or closed pack);
- Adult diapers (all sizes, all brands, does not have to be a full or closed pack);
- Cloth diapers (all sizes, all brands, can be used as long as they are clean);
- Wipes;
- Unopened and unexpired formula;
- Unopened and unexpired baby food jars and pouches;
- Unopened baby shampoo, bubble bath, diaper cream, toothbrushes, toothpaste and other baby hygiene items;
- Potty training seats;



- New toddler underwear;
- New bottles/nipples/teethers;
- New and gently used board books;
- New and gently used sleepsacks;
- New travel size toiletries; and
- Feminine hygiene products.

Lewis said she also can accept used food pouches. Just be sure to rinse them or put the cap back on. She'll also take the empty packaging from wipes and diapers. The DC Diaper Bank recycles these products (Montgomery County doesn't accept them for recycling), using the money earned to pay the organization's utility bills, which keeps overhead low.

"Not only does their work provide a direct benefit to the family, but it also helps to create a relationship between the family in need and other service organizations that may otherwise have difficulty connecting," Lewis said.

You can learn more about the nonprofit service at www.dcdiaperbank.org/ about/. There is also an Amazon wish list on the site. Lewis can be reached at faithmlewis@gmail.com.

#### THE FOLLOWING RESTAURANTS AND STORES HAD AGREED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TASTE OF INDIAN SPRING.

The event was cancelled due to lack of volunteers to help with the event.



# CRIME REPORT

#### From Joyce Stocker

The following crimes were reported to the Montgomery County Police from the Indian Spring community from 3/27-5/25 (T=Theft, TFV=Theft From Vehicle)

3/27/15	TFV	200 block Franklin Ave
4/6/15	TFV	9600 block Flower Ave
4/14/15	Т	9400 block Biltmore Dr
4/17/15	Т	200 block Leighton Place
4/17/15	Т	200 block Leighton Ave
4/20/15	TFV	9600 block Evergreen St
4/20/15	Т	1 block Franklin Ave
4/22/15	Т	9500 block Evergreen St
5-12-15	TFV	200 block Normandy Ave
5-12-15	TFV	600 block Granville Dr
5-13-15	TFV	100 block Granville Dr
5-20-15	Т	100 block E Franklin Ave
5-21-15	Т	9500 block Biltmore Dr
5-23-15	Т	200 block Brewster Ave
5-24-15	TFV	9500 block Saybrook Ave

This is a higher level of crime than usual.

Please report all crimes, no matter how minor, to the police and to the listserv. Be sure you lock your vehicles and leave nothing in them.

Montgomery County Police. on-line reporting system is; www.mymcpnews.com/resources/how-to/file-a-reportonline-2/



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## BLAIR'S SIZE OFFERS BENEFITS TO NEIGHBORHOOD STUDENTS

By Lauren Burkett

Families who live in Indian Spring have close access to one of the area's most distinctive high schools.

Blair is conveniently located at Four Corners, on University Boulevard East, for the approximately 40 Indian Spring teenagers who are students there with many dozens of others, including older siblings, having graduated from Montgomery County's largest high school with 2,950 students.

Although Blair is just a few minutes away from homes in Indian Spring, the county's school board redrew the boundary lines for attendance more than a dozen years ago, which means Blair and Northwood High School, located a short distance to the west on the same road, today pretty much evenly share the neighborhood's public high school enrollment.

Indian Spring resident Vickie Adamson has taught at Blair since the school opened at its current location in 1998 after teaching for five years at the school's longtime original site at Wayne and Dale avenues (now home to Sligo Creek Elementary School and Silver Spring International Middle School). Adamson, who is the chair of the English Department, lives on Caroline Avenue, and her sons Richard and Victor were members of the Blair classes of 2010 and 2014, respectively.

Adamson's teaching preps include Introduction to Journalism for magnet and comprehensive students, as well as Honors English 12-American Studies. She's also directed students in Sankofa, the Black History Month Celebration, over the past four years to help the school community better appreciate diversity.

In an effort to improve how other English teachers present their lessons to students, Adamson serves on the board of theMontgomery County Education Association, and she holds national board certification in English language arts.

In an interview, she said her mission as an educator is to "make sure that Blair English teachers are providing students with a 21st century, global education in ELA." She is passionate when discussing the distinctive characteristics of Blair, particularly its diverse makeup, noting "Blair has students from the comprehensive high school, Magnet, Communication Arts Program and English for Speakers of Other Languages -- all which make it a true multicultural blend."

An active parent at Blair, Stephanie Helsing, who resides on Indian Spring Drive, said the school's racial and economic diversity, sports programs and amazing principal, Renay Johnson, all contribute to the school's appeal. Her daughter Alia is graduating from Blair this month and her son Spencer is completing his sophomore year.

Helsing believes her daughter has had a wonderful experience over her four years at Blair. "I have a great group of close friends that expands constantly as we meet more people," Alia said, adding that Blair's size allows her to "meet someone one day and never see them again." This has the benefit of allowing her to have "many opportunities to branch out and try new things." She enjoys spending her time on Blair's Poms team.

Helsing, a member of the PTSA, has been most involved as a volunteer with the athletic boosters, especially in fund-raising activities. She says the principal's frequent attendance at school sporting events sets a wonderful tone for the student body, in that her energy encourages everyone to feel excited about being a Blair Blazer.

Another involved Blair parent, Jennifer Holland, of Lawndale Drive, is the mother of graduating senior, Ben, and an incoming 9th grader, Jake. Holland said the school's close proximity means Blair has no school bus routes serve the neighborhood. The Beltway crossings make walking a more dangerous option for students who walk or ride bikes. Some parents have formed car pools because of safety concerns about inattentive drivers.

Holland considers Blair's size to be an advantage, saying, "It really prepares kids moving on to college and how much they need to be responsible and organized and also handle themselves in the larger world."

Blair's wide array of clubs, elective classes and other opportunities allow students to find their niche more efficiently than some other schools. Her son Ben is engaged in many clubs at Blair, especially those relating to drama.

Another Blair parent, Jill Ortman-Fouse of Wire Avenue, is a first-year member on the Montgomery County Board of Education. She said she cannot play favorites in her elected role as she and other school board members must be objective in their decisions for distributing financial and staffing resources across the school district. One of her main responsibilities as a board member is to hear appeals from parents and to deal with cases involving changes in students' school assignments. (In my case, I live less than two blocks from Blair, yet my home school is Northwood, although I could have submitted an application for a chance of school assignment to request attendance at Blair had Northwood not been the better option.)

Typically, Ortman-Fouse said, requests are only granted when conditions of unique hardship or extenuating circumstances exist. On June 3, Ortman-Fouse participated in Blair's commencement ceremony at DAR Constitution Hall in the District of Columbia both as a proud parent of a graduate and in her official capacity by handing out diplomas to the graduating seniors.

Lauren Burkett, a resident of Indian Spring since 2009, is a 2015 graduate of Northwood High School.)



Alia Helsing is shown on Poms Senior Night at Montgomery Blair High School along with her brother Spencer, a 10th grader

## A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY GOES BIG IN INDIAN SPRING

#### By Lauren Burkett

In 2009, Todd Bol of Wisconsin built a small wooden archetype of a schoolhouse as a gift for his mother, a former teacher who was an advocate for reading by children. Originally called "House of Stories" and "Habitat for the Humanities," they soon acquired the functional nickname of "Little Free Libraries" and began popping up in neighbors' yards, coffee shops and various other public hot spots.

In Indian Spring, Gwydion and Maura Suilebhan, who live on Normandy Drive, latched onto the concept. They took the initiative to bring Little Free Libraries to our neighborhood – and you can find one now at the corner of corner of Lawndale and Normandy Drive.

After visiting littlefreelibrary. org, the couple recruited several neighbors -- Jeff D'Avy and Sheila Rao, Siobhan Carroll and Marc Thibault, and Jill Siegelbaum and Ryan Cunningham – to jointly purchase four of the libraries. Because the wooden structures, measuring 16 x 19 x 23 inches, range in cost from \$200 to \$1,000 each, the Suilebhans saved more than \$50 per library



The neighborhood's first Little Free Library stands on the property of Maura and Gwydion Suilebhan at the corner of Lawndale and Normandy.

by involving at least three others in the purchase. This brought the price down to just over \$300 per library. They are shipped to buyers as blank slates in need of paint and decorations.

As a result, D'Avy and Rao hosted a painting party at their house where a group of youngsters had a fun time letting their imaginations run wild. Porter Suilebhan, Madeline and Max Cunningham, Mave, Bridgett and Nora Thibault, and Jeff, Kiran and Pallavi D'Avy all participated in the designing of the little free libraries. They discovered the possibilities truly are endless.

Neighbors young and old have taken notice of the free book depository since it debuted last November.

"I really like the addition of the little free libraries to the neighborhood because I love that I can peak inside them on a dog walk and maybe grab a free book or put one in," said Northwood High School senior Annie Ryan, who lives on Granville Drive. "I think it fosters a really great sense of community and they're just so adorable too!"

Today, there are four on Normandy Drive alone --:one in the 100 block, two in the 200 block and another in the 300 block. In addition, two Little Free Libraries operate in Seven Oaks Park.

The mission of this worldwide movement is to promote literacy and reading for pleasure, all while creating an unbreakable bond of community.

I would love to have a little free library posted in front of my house. If anyone in the neighborhood is interested in doing the same, please express your interest on the Indian Spring listserv.

Maura Suilebhan said she would welcome a greater presence of Little Free Libraries. In an interview, she said, "Every day I see people walk by our library and grab a book, and the collection of books is always different because people like to give back to their community." The slogan for the Little Free Libraries organization is "Take a book, return a book" for a very important goal -- to unite people over sharing the gift of reading and promoting childhood literacy.

Lauren Burkett, a resident of Indian Spring since 2009, is a 2015 graduate of Northwood High School.)



Porter Suilebhan assisted in painting the wooden library during a kid decorating event hosted by his parents.



Contact Ali Breen at ali at vonunderfoot dot com if interested & able to help with event