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# Indian Spring

# News

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ISCA General Mtng: Jan. 14, 7:30 PM • Snow date, ISCA Mtng: Jan. 28, 7:30 PM

## MTA Purple Line Presentation to ISCA on January 14th

By Tony Hausner

**O**n **January 14th**, the Maryland Transit Administration staff will come to ISCA to present its plans for the Purple Line. The purple line is of vital interest to ISCA and I encourage everyone to attend and to learn about this project and show MTA whether or not you are interested in this plan. There is a snow date scheduled for January 28th.

I would like to provide some background to this project. I represent ISCA and Prezco (Presidents' Council of Silver Spring Civic Associations) on the Planning Board's Purple Line Master Plan Advisory Committee. For more information about the Planning Board's role go to

<http://www.mcparkandplanning.org/transportation/projects/bicounty.shtm>

The plan for the purple line is to build either a light rail system or a bus rapid transit line from New

Carrolton to College Park to Silver Spring and then to Bethesda.

The building of the Purple Line is critical to ISCA's future for the following reasons. As some of you recall, about two years ago the State Highway Administration started a study to widen the Capital Beltway and to add Express Toll Lanes.

This proposal would be a disaster for the Indian Spring and other neighborhoods because

- The added lanes will increase pollution and noise in our neighborhoods beyond their already excessive levels.
- Dozens of homes will have to be taken.
- Widening the Beltway will add even more traffic to the already congested secondary roadways that cross the Beltway
- Widening the Beltway will have a negative impact on Rock Creek Park

*continued on page 3*

### INDIAN SPRING CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

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If you are not sure of your membership status you can e-mail Phyllis, [fusman@erols.com](mailto:fusman@erols.com) or call, 301-587-9063 and she will give you the answer.

## Save the Date!

### Monday, Jan. 14

General meeting on the  
Purple Line

### Monday, Jan. 28

Snow date for the ISCA  
Purple Line meeting

**Contact:**

*Tony Hausner*

*(thausner@gmail.com)*

*301-587-6943*

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# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Walter J. Gottlieb

**H**appy New Year. I hope everyone had a happy and safe holiday. Safety was on everyone's mind as 2007 ended. A 12 year-old boy in our neighborhood had been struck by a car on Franklin Avenue and critically injured. There had been a series of car break-ins and attempted home break-ins in our neighborhood within a short period of time. We called a special ISCA general meeting on pedestrian safety and crime on December 10th, and I was gratified that so many of you showed up. Lt. Stephen Auger and Sgt. Tom Harmon of the Montgomery County Police, Silver Spring District joined us. (Lt. Auger spoke about crime prevention. Sgt. Harmon was there to talk about pedestrian safety.) There was a lively exchange of ideas and information between residents and the police. With respect to crime prevention, Lt. Auger urged residents to immediately report suspicious activity in the neighborhood. Don't call the non-emergency number, he said. Call 9-1-1. And don't worry about "bothering" the police. They want to hear from us when we see something out of the ordinary. He suggested making a habit of it—taking a look out the window before going to sleep or first thing in the morning—anytime that you can routinely do it.

Lt. Auger also stressed the importance of good "perimeter security" at home—keeping shrubbery trimmed, not leaving tools or ladders around that can be used to break windows, updating locks (including properly installed deadbolts), and making sure your windows are secured.

As I write this, it sounds like we're talking about a neighborhood under siege, and of course, we're not. Lt. Auger cited recent statistics showing that Indian Spring has a relatively low level of crime compared to the rest of the county. But by taking these common sense measures, we can make sure the neighborhood doesn't become a more desirable target for burglars. What's more, Lt. Auger freely admitted that the police are understaffed, and don't have the available manpower to patrol our streets. But members of the community can become what he called a "force multiplier" by staying alert and keeping in touch with the police.

The truth is, our Neighborhood Watch program needs some help. Roughly a third of our blocks have no block captains. Also, we announced at the meeting that we'd like to find someone to take the reins of the Neighborhood Watch program from Tony Hausner, who's been dutifully running it for several years. Unfortunately, no one at the meeting stepped forward, but maybe someone out there would be willing to step up. Please contact Tony if you're interested in becoming a block captain or coordinator of the program. thausner@gmail.com , 301-5876-943.

On the pedestrian safety front, there was a lot of discussion about Franklin Avenue – the blind curves, the dim lighting at night, the fading crosswalks, the speeders. We passed a motion to initiate an application to the County Department of Public Works and Transportation for speed bumps on Franklin. (It's just the first phase. Getting actual speed bumps depends on majority support of the affected residents.) Jennifer Chambers, the neighborhood's pedestrian safety coordinator and former ISCA president, said she would send an application letter to DPWT. In response to the incident with the 12 year-old boy, Jennifer had sent a list of requests to DPWT for safety remedies on Franklin – including re-striping crosswalks, paddle signs to warn drivers to be alert for pedestrians, and better street lighting at night. We appreciate everything Jennifer's doing to enhance pedestrian safety in Indian Spring and Silver Spring in general.

Sgt. Harmon was careful not to promise very much regarding traffic enforcement in the neighborhood. When one resident expressed concern about drivers running the stop sign at Granville and Hastings, he explained that the police didn't have the resources to monitor a relatively small intersection. He stressed the importance of drivers staying vigilant—always looking for pedestrians and other drivers to do the unexpected. Sgt. Harmon did arrange to have a mobile speed sign deployed on Franklin near Ocala to remind drivers to slow down, and endorsed the idea of having speed cameras on Franklin as a deterrent and safety measure.

The meeting provided no easy answers, and the police seemed to be putting the onus back on us to be pro-active. It's our challenge to accept.

I started an ISCA President's Blog in November. Please check it out and add your comments. [www.indianspring.typepad.com](http://www.indianspring.typepad.com) You can also find it on [iscaonline.com](http://iscaonline.com)

## MTA Purple Line Presentation, *continued from page 1*

While the purple line is not a total alternate solution to beltway widening, it moves us in the right direction. Public transit solutions are a much better way to move people than to continue a greater emphasis on highway solutions. Transit is much more cost-effective, and much better for the environment. While we need to address the concerns of motorists, we need to place a relatively higher priority on transit solutions such as metro, light rail, and better bus systems.

Some have argued that we should build a metro line from New Carrollton to Bethesda instead of light rail. However, the costs of that are prohibitive in today's economic environment and would involve taking of a great deal of county residences in the process.

In early December, MTA released projections for ridership and costs. These are critical elements in the decision-making process. I will present mid range figures for one of the most attractive options: medium investment light rail. MTA projects average daily ridership for this option of 43,000 and capital costs of \$1.2 billion. These figures compare favorably with other projects around the U.S. that have been recently approved by the Federal Transit Administration.

There are controversies about several aspects of this proposed system and the various options such as the routes in different parts of the planned system. For instance, there is concern about the impact on the Capital Crescent Trail. MTA has answered that the area where the trail is located is wide enough to accommodate both the trail and the light rail line.

One set of controversies closer to home are the options being considered in East Silver Spring. Two of the alternate routes are along Wayne Avenue or Starting with a tunnel which goes under Silver Spring Ave/Thayer Avenue. More details on these alternatives can be seen at <http://www.purplelinemd.com/pages/alternatives.html>

General information from MTA on the purple line can be found at <http://www.purplelinemd.com/>

There are some people on or near Wayne Avenue who like the idea of light rail at grade with stops at Wayne and Dale and at Wayne and Manchester with an upgrade of Wayne Avenue with a more attractively landscaped boulevard. There are quite a few others in these neighborhoods who feel that light rail on Wayne will undermine their properties, cause traffic congestion on Wayne, and force traffic onto their smaller neighborhood streets among other issues. They propose that light rail go underground below Wayne Avenue. However, MTA is very concerned that the underground proposal will be too costly.

These are some of the issues concerning the purple line. The MTA is scheduled to issue a draft Environmental Impact Statement on all the options this spring and a decision by the Governor on the preferred route (locally preferred alternative) is expected this fall.

I hope you will attend this important meeting to learn about the plans. ISCA will need to decide in the very near future its position on this proposal.



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ISCA 2007 Holiday Celebration

## The ISCA Tree is Glowing

By Celeste Raker-Dillen

The annual Holiday Cheer Ceremony was this past Sunday and it was a lot of fun, despite the somewhat dreary weather. Thanks to Arlene Gottlieb, we had a lovely lighting of the Menorah and with help from the kids, a couple of great verses of “Dreidle, Dreidle, Dreidle.” Coffee and hot chocolate was compliments of the Woodmoor and Burnt Mills Starbucks, and the cookies were from ISCA’s very own Social Committee. Thanks goes to Eileen Fisher and her very patient children Kate and Billy Valentine for helping to decorate the tree, Scott Bridgewater for being the coffee

chauffeur, and Normandy Brangan for the many questions and paper support. Thanks to Monica Bridgewater for the photos which will be placed on the [iscaonline.com](http://iscaonline.com) web site. And a BIG thank you goes to Dr. King, our neighborhood dentist who kindly donates the electricity for the tree’s lights

The food drive was a big success, and if you missed it, there is still time to donate. There is a big bin located at 9613 Hastings Drive for you to put additional items in. I will deliver the food to Shepherd’s Table this weekend.

# 2007 ISCA Holiday House Tour

By Allegra Tasaki

This was the “on” year for the ISCA Holiday House Tour held Sunday, December 2nd. Many curious neighbors in the community watched the progress of home improvement projects over the past two years got the chance to get an inside look at what was accomplished. As tradition holds, every odd numbered year, ISCA community members who have had home improvement projects completed in their homes volunteer to allow fellow neighbors to take a tour and ask questions. Another successful and fun event took place. Here is the program of homes that opened their doors to neighbors and hosted the tour. If you have any questions or would like further information about projects, contractor contact information, or would like to view a neighbor’s home, please contact me at [tasaking@verizon.net](mailto:tasaking@verizon.net) or 301-565-8377.

## 1. The Zaudtke Family Home

We purchased the home in 1997 with a one story addition on the screen porch side and along the back of the house. We converted our brick colonial into a California Bungalow and took design cues from early 20th century architects Charles and Henry Greene. Specific design elements included in the house are taken from the Gamble and Blackler Houses in Pasadena, California. What did we do? We replaced the one story addition on the back of the house with a new basement, family room, powder room, kitchen and Mary’s office. The new family room includes a fireplace, built in TV cabinet, window seat with storage and a breakfast bar. The original home did not have a fireplace. We added a front porch and formal foyer to remove the front door from the living room. This was important as the living room was collecting the books, bags, shoes, sports equipment of our 3 children. The other important solution to this problem was the mud room directly in front of the driveway (connected to the kitchen and Mary’s Office).

## 2. The Contreras Family Home

It’s been about 12 months since we completed our two-story addition, which is the new heart of our home. The project gave us a modern kitchen, family room, master bedroom suite and guest bathroom (in our old, non-eat-in kitchen). Architect Jamie Solomon of Takoma Park came up with a design that we adore, and held our hands until construction was finished—even helping us select paint colors. The work was beautifully carried out by Twin Advantage owner Joe Cherry and his team of expert craftsmen. Twin Advantage has worked on at

least six homes in the neighborhood—and now we know why. Their work was top-notch. The design process started months in advance, but construction took about five months. That included about four weeks for demolition of our old back porch and framing of the new space, plus some time toward the end waiting for delayed custom-made bathroom fixtures. The construction process was intense, but manageable because of the people who did the work. They were reliable and provided great advice. Of course, there was plenty of homework for us to do on our own.

## 3. The Ryan Family Home

We bought our Cape Cod in 1995, although we loved the four bedrooms and two baths the house had a lot of little boxy rooms and the galley kitchen was very small. A screened-in porch had been converted into a dining room but frequently leaked in rain storms. In 2005, we extensively remodeled, leaving the front of the house intact but adding a larger kitchen, dining area, and family room on the first floor and a new bedroom and bath on the second floor. We also removed the old enclosed entryway and add a slate front porch. In the spring of 2007 we re-landscaped the front of the house and added a patio in the back.

## 4. The Elinoff Family Home

Welcome to our first home here on Baden Street! Lora and I were fortunate to find a very polished Colonial, but have tried to add our own personal touches in the short time we have been here. So far we have added a

*continued on page 6*

## Membership Drive

**W**hat a Wonderful Response. I would like to congratulate all the folks that responded to my message in the last newsletter. We not only had many dues checks, but several new members as well. It is so gratifying that not only do people read the newsletter, they follow through! I am now hoping that all of you will make a New Years’ resolution to keep your dues current and to call (301-587-9063) or to e-mail me, to check on your status ([fzusman@erols.com](mailto:fzusman@erols.com)). Thanks again!! Phyllis Zusman

# Join the Indian Spring Garden Club

By Elizabeth Magin

**A**re you curious about planting and using herbs? Want to plant a butterfly garden? The Indian Spring Garden Club would like to welcome new members. Whether you are a serious gardener or not, the Garden Club is an excellent way to meet some of your neighbors and learn about your garden and the plants you might like to grow. And there is no cost to join.

The Indian Spring Garden Club is a small, informal group that meets monthly (during the Fall, Winter, and Spring) to socialize and learn. This year, we are alternating meetings in the neighborhood with “field trips” to Behnke’s lectures. At our neighborhood meetings, we

select topics of interest in advance, and members research the topics for discussion. We occasionally invite experts to join us.

Benefits of Garden Club membership include the annual plant exchange and the annual Indian Spring Garden Crawl. Other benefits include access to wholesale-priced spring bulbs and information about local plant sales. See our schedule below for the remainder of this season.

If you are interested in attending meetings, contact Jennifer Whalen at [jj.whalen@verizon.net](mailto:jj.whalen@verizon.net).

<b>Sat. January 19</b> , 1:00 pm	Evergreens for Screening
<b>Tues. February 19</b> , 7:30 pm	Garden blogs and Web sites
<b>Sat. March 15</b> , 1:00 pm	Extreme Gardening: Too Much or Too Little Water
<b>Tues. April 15</b> , 7:30 pm	Topic TBA
<b>Sat. May 3</b>	Garden Club Plant Exchange
<b>Sat. May 31</b> , 1:00 pm	Field Trip through Behnke Nurseries
<b>Sat. June 14</b>	Indian Spring Garden Crawl & Pot Luck

## Holiday House Tour, *continued from page 5*

little color to our kitchen and living room with a bold red and a lively green. We have also focused on some landscaping projects in the front yard adding a few majestic jade cherry laurels, two camellias, a hinoki cypress and a hydrangea. Aside from these more enjoyable projects, we also had the roof re-shingled by Quality Custom Painting. We are excited to be a part of such a wonderful new neighborhood. We hope you enjoyed our home!

### 5. The Kleine Family Home

Happy Holidays! We’ve lived in the Indian Spring community since July of 2001, and about the only thing we didn’t love about being here was our cramped, not-so-functional kitchen. We finally took the plunge this summer and underwent a complete kitchen/dining room

remodel, including taking down the wall that separated the two rooms. Six weeks (and many take out meals!) later, we were enjoying a much more open, airy, and functional kitchen. We hope you’ll drop by to share some holiday cheer, including homemade chocolate chip cookies and hot chocolate with whipped cream and sprinkles.

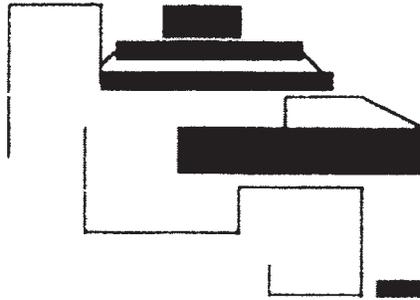
### 6. The Dillen Family Home

In our renovation, you were able to see the difference a wall makes! Kitchen remodel includes removal of the kitchen/dining room wall and replacing it with a peninsula bar with a unique granite counter top. Also features Marmoleum floors. Also welcome to check out our screened porch.

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# Indian Spring Real Estate Market Report

Provided by  
**Rhonda Mortensen, Licensed MD & DC**  
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**NEW**  
 Neighborhood Website  
[www.IndianSpringNeighbors.com](http://www.IndianSpringNeighbors.com)  
 Homes, Jobs, Events, Chat & More...  
 Check it out!

*"Happy New Year"*

## Homes Sold Since November 2007 \*

Address	List Price	Close Price	Style	BR	FB	HB
216 Baden Street	\$495,000	\$493,000	Colonial	3	1	1

## Partial List of Homes Currently on the Market/Under Contract \*

Address	List Price	Status	Style	BR	FB	HB
202 Indian Spring Drive E	\$450,000	Active	Colonial	3	1	1
204 Indian Spring Drive E	\$522,000	Active	Colonial	3	2	1
9404 Ocala Street	\$530,000	Active	Rambler	3	3	
9520 Biltmore Drive	\$459,000	Active	Colonial	3	1	1
9506 Garwood Street	\$455,000	Active	Cape Cod	3	2	
9935 Moss Avenue	\$479,000	Active	Cape Cod	3	2	
9704 Hastings Drive	\$595,500	Active	Colonial	4	3	1
9412 Garwood Street	\$479,000	Active	Cape Cod	4	2	
301 Franklin Avenue E	\$349,500	Active	Cape Cod	2	1	
213 Brewster Avenue E	\$469,000	Active	Rambler	3	2	
9940 Moss Avenue	\$540,000	Active	Cape Cod	5	2	1
9711 Lawndale Drive	\$585,000	Active	Colonial	4	2	1
321 University Boulevard E	\$554,900	Active	Colonial	3	2	1
213 University Boulevard E	\$347,000	Active	Colonial	3	1	2
321 University Boulevard E	\$2,250	Rent	Colonial	3	2	1
16 Indian Spring Drive	\$2,200	Rent	Colonial	3	2	1

\* The information above was provided by MRIS. These lists include only those homes listed in the MRIS system and does not include homes for sale by owner. Information is deemed reliable but is not guaranteed

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**Rhonda Mortensen**



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