



# ISCA NEWS



LADY J. AND ISCA NEIGHBORS AT THE 2022 ISCA PRIDE BLOCK PARTY

## ISCA Shows Its Pride

*Written by Tobi McFarland*

The 2nd annual ISCA Pride Block Party was held on June 12, and was hosted on Seminole Street. Galaxy Donuts supplied us with the sugar we needed, and the Block Party hosts supplied the gay anthems, as well as bathroom we needed. Happily, the home brewers came and supplied the party with some yummy drinks (thanks home brewers) and Pride block party co-hostess Suzannah Stivison once again made cocktails and mocktails.

Many rounds of giant Jenga as well as some badminton were played.

This year we tried using compostable cups/plates etc, and asked people to bring their drinking vessels. At the end of the day, we only had two bags of trash! Thanks for rolling with it, that is quite an accomplishment.

Finally we were joined by the fabulous Lady J. for Drag Queen Story Hour. She read us some stories about encouraging us to be ourselves and performed for us.

For the LGBTQIA folks living in our neighborhood, thanks for living your lives, and representing us every day. For the activists and politicians working to protect our community, thank you for helping to lead the way to the future. For the allies that live here, thank you for making ISCA safe for your LGBTQIA neighbors, and for teaching your children that as well. I could not have imagined the life I now live when I was sneaking off to DC Pride as a sixteen year old. I had no idea that I would be able to be out, safe, happy and supported in my neighborhood. Thanks to our neighbors on Seminole for allowing our block to host the gathering. Here's to seeing you at Pride next year!

## ISCA OFFICERS

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**Editor: Michele Lunsford**

Greetings ISCA neighbors,

From the ISCA Pride Block Party to the Independence Day Party and Parade, we've enjoyed seeing many of you throughout the streets of Indian Spring—including at the local bus stops for special ice cream drops!

In early September, the ISCA board met to discuss a variety of topics. We look forward to sharing more with you all soon. In the meantime, we need you! If you would be willing to volunteer your time to the community, please let us know by contacting [iscapres20901@gmail.com](mailto:iscapres20901@gmail.com). From setting up tables to organizing events or being a member of board, there are many opportunities to plug in to this community. A huge thanks to all of our current volunteers. They do so much for this community and deserve much recognition.

Our next big event is the annual Fall Cultural Fest. If you would like to support this event, please let us know as we need volunteers. A date will be announced in the coming weeks. We certainly hope you'll pull out your best chili recipe and join us for a fun afternoon. We are excited to see what the rest of this year brings for our neighborhood and we look forward to seeing you, our awesome neighbors, on the streets of ISCA.

*Tobi McFarland and Michele Lunsford*  
 ISCA Board Co-Presidents

# Your Neighbor and Realtor



Hi, I'm Morgan Russell. I'm a Silver Spring native and have been a resident of Indian Spring for two years. I love our community and enjoy sharing my experience with others!

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*Morgan was literally the very best! He was so easy to work with and answered all of my questions quickly. Morgan made the process of buying a home feel comfortable and easy. He is very knowledgeable about the neighborhood and surrounding areas. He continues to give me great recommendations too - with restaurants, home repairs, lawn maintenance, etc. He really knows his stuff. And he is so very nice! I couldn't have asked for a better, more professional Real Estate Agent to work with. He is my go-to for any friends buying in the area. Would give 10 stars if I could.*

”

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*We look forward to meeting many more of our neighbors this year!*

*- Morgan, Alicia, Teagan and Daisy*

# ISCA Membership Update

by Mary Schaefer, Membership Chair

Hello neighbors! This is your friendly neighborhood association membership chair, here! I'm writing to talk to you about becoming a member of our community association, ISCA.

Why should you become a member? Membership in the community association increases your voice in the community. In addition to our amazing social events, we also engage in neighborhood civic issues and volunteerism. The stated mission of the association is to "be an active part of the community and work towards its progress."

The ISCA Board hosts several meetings throughout the year; these have been held in person and virtually during the pandemic. Your membership adds you to an email list for ISCA information including notification of events and voting on issues impacting our community. You can also join a committee or run for a position on the ISCA Board (elections happen every Spring).

Are there dues? Last year we moved to a suggested dues system. The suggested amount is \$20 per year, paid at the start of the calendar year. We are grateful for your \$20 membership fee, but if you are unable to do that, please pay what you can or you may sign up to be a member at no cost. What am I paying for? ISCA uses the dues to promote social activities and cover the expenses of other needs around the neighborhood. This past year, your dues helped to put on a Pride Block Party, Independence Day Block Party and Parade, a Back-to-School Ice Cream Social, and more.

Timeframe: Membership is for the 2023 calendar year. We will be initiating the membership drive in January of 2023, but if you would like to join now you can do so at [www.iscaonline.com](http://www.iscaonline.com)

There, you will find a link to PayPal, Venmo, and our mailing address. You can also email me directly ([iscamembership20901@gmail.com](mailto:iscamembership20901@gmail.com)) and I can check on your membership status and answer your questions.

Thanks for your time!



Scan QR code on your phone to go directly to the ISCA Membership page



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**2021 Silver Spring Stats:**

- \* Sold at 103.6% of the sales price
- \* Avg sales price was \$644,000
- \* Under Contract in an avg of 5 days
- \* 42 homes sold in Silver Spring alone

**Reach out today for your complimentary consultation.**

**I welcome the opportunity to work with you.**

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# ISCA Civic Updates

Update as of August 22, 2022

By Abbe Spokane, Civic Chair

## Maryland and Montgomery County Elections

- After an intense primary election season, don't forget to vote this fall on Tuesday, November 8 (or request your mail-in ballot or vote early at many county locations). Candidates for governor, county executive, and county council have varying positions on the 270 and Beltway P3 project, and of course many other issues of local importance.

## 270 and Beltway Expansion Plan Current Status

- The FEIS (Final Environmental Impact Statement) is being reviewed by the Federal Highway Administration. Many organizations believe the FEIS is problematic in several ways that MDOT has been ignoring or hiding. You can view the FEIS here: <https://oplanesmd.com/feis/>, and it is possible that additional public comments may be accepted in the future. [www.dontwiden270.org](http://www.dontwiden270.org) and [www.marylandmatters.org](http://www.marylandmatters.org) continue to provide news updates and analysis of the issue. The fall election results will no doubt impact the future of this project.

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# Community Service Updates

Update as of August 22, 2022

By Abbe Spokane, Civic Chair

Shepherd's Table pickups of food items and prepared sandwiches and baked goods continue every other Sunday. Watch the listserv for reminders of requested items and how to sign up. Thanks to the Quarm family for arranging dozens of pickups each week from our neighborhood! (Learn more in the update on the next page!)

Thank you to neighbors for supporting our young social entrepreneurs! Our kids are all watching as you show up to donate, buy lemonade, crafts, or plants and talk to them about how they are helping the world. If your kids are doing a service project, please advertise on the listserv and Facebook page--we want to support them!

Watch the listserv and Facebook page for volunteer opportunities as the new school year begins. If you are involved in community service work and need new volunteers, know an organization that needs help, or have an idea for a local service project please recruit your neighbors!

# Volunteer through Shepherd's Table

by Mary Schaefer, Membership Chair

Looking for an easy way to help our brothers and sisters in need in Silver Spring? Did you know it's as easy as putting a donation out on your front stoop?!



**Shepherd's Table**  
TOGETHER MEETING NEEDS. CHANGING LIVES.

Shepherd's Table is a local non-profit organization providing fresh and delicious meals to those experiencing food insecurity, homelessness, or poverty. ISCA has several neighborhood volunteer drivers who pick donations around the neighborhood every other Sunday afternoon.

Here is how it works: an announcement goes out to the listserv every other Wednesday with a sign-up list. Add your name and address to the list by Sunday morning and put your donation out by 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon. Our drivers will then come by to pick up your food donation and deliver it to Shepherd's Table! It's that easy.

We have a wonderful group of dedicated homeowners who regularly put out donations of food and pantry items for collection. Our neighborhood households have given more than 1,000 separate donations since the pandemic began. Please join us!

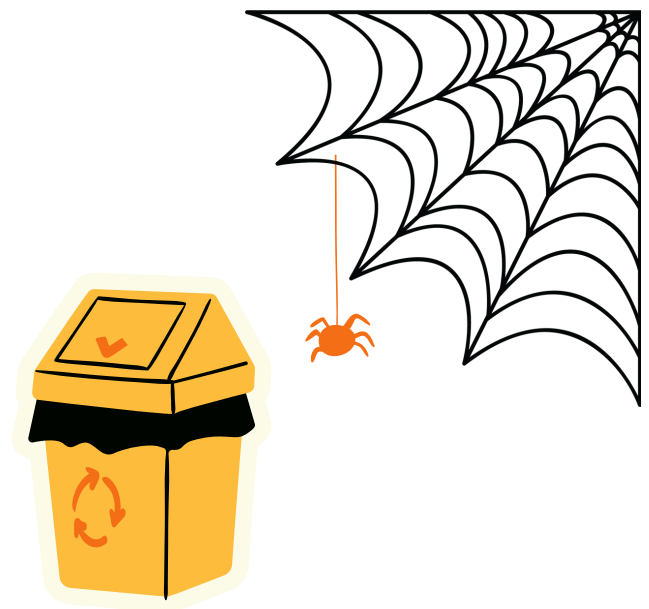
Reach out to Mary Quarm at [mbrigid0503@yahoo.com](mailto:mbrigid0503@yahoo.com) for information and watch the listserv for the Shepherd's Table announcement every other week.

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## Trash Clean up in ISCA

Sunday, October 30 at 10am at the Rec Center

What's spookier than Halloween? Trash in our park!  
We'll get it all nice for trick or treating when everyone's out and about.



# Status of State's 495/270 Toll Lanes Project

By: Tony and Toba Hausner, Ole Varmer, Arlene Montemarano, Beth Siniawsky, Philip and Sarah Cotterill, Marian Lally, Joyce Stocker, Chaz Miller and Arlene Gottlieb.

In 2017, Governor Hogan and the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT) announced plans to add toll lanes to 270 and 495.

In the case of 495, this would result in widening by two lanes on each side. Many groups have joined in fighting these proposals and suggested a number of transit solutions that would work better and be better for the environment. Due to the greater opposition to the plan, MDOT removed a large portion of 495 from the current plan. However, MDOT has not ruled out that the portions removed now may be back on the table later as many of us expect. Right now the plan basically on the table is to add toll lanes on the Beltway from the American Legion Bridge to the 270 spur and then up 270 to 370 (the ICC). The next phase will be on 270 from 370 to Frederick. The first phase consists of widening the American Legion Bridge, creating two toll lanes on each side of 270 (which includes carpools), removing the car pool lane and reducing from 6 to 4 general purpose lanes.

The 50+ groups that have opposed this project have been led by the Sierra Club of Maryland ([Sierraclub.org/maryland/stop-highway-expansion](http://Sierraclub.org/maryland/stop-highway-expansion)), Citizens Against Beltway Expansion ([Cabe495.com](http://Cabe495.com)), Don't Widen 270 ([DontWiden270.org](http://DontWiden270.org)), and Maryland Transit Opportunities Coalition ([Transitformaryland.org](http://Transitformaryland.org)). The Sierra Club has led a fundraising campaign to be used to hire environmental and legal consultants, which have provided input to date, and plans to take legal action if this project gets approved. These organizations criticized the DEIS (Draft Environmental Impact Statement), as well as the final EIS, for ineffective solutions to the traffic issues, destruction of historic sites and parkland, and environmental damage. Instead, they proposed a more effective set of solutions that included transit and other alternatives. See the comment letter from the Sierra Club and other organizations on the final EIS (<http://rebrand.ly/sierrapluscomments>)

In the winter of 2021, Indian Spring Citizens Association led by Abbe Spokane, our Civic Chair, polled its residents and a wide majority voted against beltway expansion.

MDOT issued the DEIS over 2 years ago, and issued a Final EIS in June 2022. They allowed 30 days to comment on the final 26,000 page document, the minimum required under the National



TRAFFIC ALONG THE INNER-LOOP OF THE CAPITAL BELTWAY AT THE AMERICAN LEGION BRIDGE. PHOTO BY BRUCE DEPUYT.



Environmental Policy Act (“30-day cooling off period”). The above groups, the County Executive and the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission provided comments at the end of the 30 day comment period and all wrote to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) asking for additional time to comment. On August 26, the FHWA approved the project (see [bit.ly/MarylandMattersArticle](https://bit.ly/MarylandMattersArticle)). The Maryland Board of Public Works is expected soon to approve the project as they had previously approved earlier decisions regarding this project. However, as indicated above, we expect the Sierra Club and other community organizations to file legal action to prevent this project. Furthermore, one of the losing bidders filed legal action against an earlier phase of the award decision to Transurban. See Cabe’s 8/28 newsletter for additional challenges to MDOT’s decision.

## News from Neighbors!



### *Fall Backyard Concert*

By: Beyhan Trock

Another wonderful neighborhood concert on Normandy Drive. Enjoy good music with good friends on September 18 from 3 o'clock to 5 o'clock. More information to come. Keep your eyes open!



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# New Principals Take Charge at Our Neighborhood Schools

By: Jay P. Goldman

Two of the public schools that serve families in Indian Spring will have new principals this fall.

The following were appointed by the Montgomery County school board to their new posts in July:

- Hanna Yim, who is moving from assistant principal at Oak View Elementary School to principal of Highland View Elementary School. She spent seven years as a teacher before joining Oak View. She has a master's degree from Johns Hopkins University and a bachelor's in early childhood education at University of Maryland.
- Lisa N. Shorts, who is transferring as acting principal of Argyle Middle School to principal of Eastern Middle School.



## Recommended Services List

Need a plumber? Landscaper? A new doctor? Check out the list of recommended service providers compiled by ISCA neighbors like you. A big thanks to Ani for managing the list. You can find the list at [bit.ly/ISCA-Service-Recs](https://bit.ly/ISCA-Service-Recs) or at the bottom of the homepage at [www.iscaonline.com](http://www.iscaonline.com).

To keep this list up to date, please send your recommendations (or warnings!) to [anipeck87@gmail.com](mailto:anipeck87@gmail.com).



# Sign up for a Free Shade Tree through Montgomery County

Planting shade trees is an easy, affordable, and sustainable way to positively affect the environment.

From beautifying neighborhoods and increasing property values to improved air quality and home energy savings, shade trees have many economic, environmental, and social benefits.

Learn more and sign up at [www.treemontgomery.org](http://www.treemontgomery.org)



## Connect with Neighbors!

### Join the ISCA Email Listserv

Communicate with hundreds of your neighbors via email by registering at the ISCA groups.io page. The iscaonline email list is an invaluable resource for neighbors to communicate and engage virtually! Read the ISCA Listserv Guidelines at [bit.ly/ISCAListservGuidelines](http://bit.ly/ISCAListservGuidelines).

Join by visiting <https://iscaonline.groups.io/g/main> or by scanning the QR code with your phone.



### Follow ISCA on Facebook

Learn about upcoming events and advocacy work happening in and around the ISCA community. From food drops to new businesses in Silver Spring, ISCA's Facebook page covers it all!

Join by visiting [bit.ly/ISCA-Facebook](http://bit.ly/ISCA-Facebook) or by scanning the QR code with your phone.



# Noteworthy Indian Spring Resident

By: Joyce Stocker and Cati Blais

This spring, we nominated Tony Hausner for the Montgomery County Neal Potter Volunteer of the Year Award. While Tony was not selected, we'd like Indian Spring to know more about this outstanding resident, and just some of what he has done for our community.

Many of the social programs and traditions that we enjoy were initiated by Tony. Since he and his wife, Toba, and their daughters, Deena and Ariel,

moved here in 1977, Tony has been active in ISCA, reviving it first as an officer, then as president. He was instrumental in the decision to build the new Blair High School to relieve overcrowding, and in revitalizing the downtown Silver Spring area, while preserving its historical aspects.

To address an increase in crime in our neighborhoods, Tony created Safe Silver Spring, and served as its president. From his doctorate spanning issues of juvenile delinquency, Tony used his expertise to target gang violence.

Through the years, he has been involved in civil rights issues, health reform, traffic solutions, gun legislation and crime reduction. Recently, he testified before the County Council with proposals on how to create and maintain a successful police force. And, currently, he is active in keeping residents informed about the possible expansion of the Beltway which will significantly affect our area. We in Indian Spring, Silver Spring and Montgomery County have reaped the benefits of Tony's passion to address various "quality of life" issues. He continues to serve as an always reliable backbone of our community and his activism has been a shining example to us all.



*Thank you, Tony!*

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- Melanie S

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# Congratulations, ISCA Grads!

*Pablo Tomberlin graduated from Wheaton High School.*



*Dr. Matthew Stocker graduated from University of Maryland with a PhD in Soil Science.*

*Alexandra LaDuca graduated from Salisbury University as a Public Health major.*

*Maria Bond-Lamberty graduated from Montgomery Blair High School.*

*Carli Boyer graduated from Dickinson College as a International Business and Spanish major.*



*Lee Sauter graduated from Northwood High School and Thomas Edison Technical High School.*



*Luke Wertz graduated from Wheaton High School.*



*Christopher Poulson graduated from Montgomery Blair High School.*

*Devin C. Whalen graduated from Bucknell University with an Electrical Engineering major.*



*Madeleine Boyer graduated from University of Maryland as a Public Health major.*

# ISCA Celebrates Independence Day and Pride!

