



# ISCA NEWS



FLOWERS OF ISCA. PHOTOS BY ISCA RESIDENT SARAH BAKER MORGAN.

## Membership Meeting

Monday, May 1 at 7pm

The next ISCA Membership Meeting will be held on Monday, May 1 at 7pm. We invite all residents of the Indian Spring neighborhood to join us. We'll have a variety of updates from ISCA board members and other members of the community. This is also where we'll hold our annual board elections. More details including the meeting location and agenda will be shared via email and on the neighborhood listserv. Please join us!

## ISCA PRIDE Celebration Block Party

Saturday, June 3 from 1-5pm

Block of East Granville Drive

Hosted by the Spokane-Focarazzo Family

Don't miss our third annual ISCA PRIDE Celebration Block Party! Find more details about the event on the ISCA Facebook group and RSVP to let us know you're coming. All are welcome.

RSVP @



## ISCA OFFICERS

**CO-PRESIDENTS****Tobi McFarland****Michele Lunsford**[iscapres20901@gmail.com](mailto:iscapres20901@gmail.com)**VICE PRESIDENT****Randy Shay**[iscavp20901@gmail.com](mailto:iscavp20901@gmail.com)**SECRETARY****Jennifer Bricken****TREASURER****Pam Wertz****MEMBERSHIP CHAIR****Mary Schaefer**[iscamembership20901@gmail.com](mailto:iscamembership20901@gmail.com)**COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR****Andy Stager****SOCIAL CHAIR****Vacant****CIVIC CHAIR****Abbe Spokane****NEIGHBORHOOD INCLUSION****TASKFORCE CHAIR****Gwydion Suilebhan****DELEGATES****Phill Scott****Jill Ortman-Fouse****NEWSLETTER TEAM****Editor: Michele Lunsford**

Greetings ISCA neighbors,

We hope your year is off to a good start! We've been so fortunate with good weather these past few weeks and have enjoyed seeing many of you throughout the neighborhood.

Last fall, we held the annual ISCA Fall Fest where we hosted games and enjoyed a nice fall evening around the campfire with music. In December, we had very special visitors stop by the neighborhood: Santa and Mrs. Clause and their elves. Together, we enjoyed snacks, songs, and the lighting of the holiday tree.

We look forward to coming together again in June for our third annual ISCA PRIDE Celebration Block Party. We are so proud of this neighborhood and how it comes together to celebrate and recognize LGBTQ+ members of the community.

The other thing we're proud of: ISCA volunteers. None of these events would be possible without the incredible volunteers who dedicate their time and skills to this community. Thank you, all. We are so very grateful. Please check out the very next page where we gush about two rock star volunteers (Erik & Pam!) who make ISCA what it is today: awesome.

We hope to see you at the Membership Meeting on May 1. As always, if you wish to serve on the board or jump in and volunteer at one of our upcoming events, please let us know. We welcome all to join.

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

# Special Appreciation for Erik & Pam

For two decades, Erik and Pam Wertz have lived on Caroline Ave, aka the Arts District. Together, they have raised two children, Anna and Luke, and amidst the chaos of raising a family in the suburbs of Washington, DC, they have spent countless hours giving back to this community.

From chili cookoffs to tree lightings, block parties, and parades, Pam has organized some of ISCA's most incredible events. Pam thinks through every detail and always comes up with exciting new ideas and does whatever she can to ensure that every single neighbor has a good time and leaves with their belly full. Speaking of full bellies: have you tried Pam's cooking? If you've attended an ISCA event, chances are, you have! She is an incredible cook and often graces us with the yummiest dishes.

Whenever Pam is organizing an event, Erik is never far from the action. Erik is always there to help set up, tear down, and everything in between. Erik is the guy behind the scenes who pulls things together on a moment's notice. From tables, chairs, decor, and the infamous hot dog roller, Erik has spent so many of his weekends schlepping carloads of items around ISCA to ensure that events go off without a hitch. And if we needed a hitch, Erik would know where to find one. He just has that kind of magic.

Together, Erik and Pam make an incredible team. We are beyond grateful to have them as leaders in ISCA and we were thrilled to be able to honor them and present them with an Outstanding ISCA Service Award during the December tree lighting.

Erik and Pam, we cannot say thank you enough for all you've done for ISCA. We're so happy you're here.





# Your Neighbor and Realtor



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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.”



## COME SEE ALL THE Y HAS TO OFFER!

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# ISCA's Annual Fall Fest

by Randy Shay, Vice President

On Saturday, October 29th Fall Fest was held on Lawndale Drive. The weather cooperated and it was a beautiful day! A large number of ISCA resident folks, young and old alike, turned out to share time with neighbors, enjoy the abundant food choices available at the potluck dinner and sample the variety of beers on offer which had been crafted by ISCA brewers, Nick Allen and Maj Capps. Games were on hand for the kids to play.

Some of the many musicians that live in the neighborhood sang and played acoustic music, led by Ole Varmer and Randy Shay, as they gathered around a fire pit which served double duty for toasting marshmallows for s'mores. All in all, a very fun event!

Thank you to the many volunteers who made it possible!





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# Santa & Mrs. Clause Parade and Tree Lighting

Thanks to those who joined us for our annual tree lighting ceremony. Snacks, singing, and SANTA! It was fun for all. Many thanks to the volunteers who made it happen!



# ISCA Membership Update

by Mary Schaefer, Membership Chair

Hello neighbors! This year's ISCA Membership Drive ran from mid-January through mid-March, a bit longer than I'd anticipated but I think we are all feeling the months fly by lately. It gave all of you time to get your membership info in, and it gave me a few extra weeks to process it all.

As a result of the drive, we now have more than 180 active households. That's fantastic! Huge thanks to our Treasurer, Pam Wertz, for being my sidekick through the whole thing.

As a reminder, ISCA uses the dues to promote social activities and cover the expenses of other needs around the neighborhood. This past year, ISCA dues helped to put on the PRIDE block party, 4th of July parade, installed another Little Free Library in the neighborhood, helped cover the cost of the fee to manage our neighborhood listserv, and helped support Santa's visit for the tree lighting in December.

The Board hosts several meetings throughout the year where issues impacting the neighborhood are discussed. Your membership allows you to vote on key issues raised by the association. Your membership also adds you to an email distribution list for ISCA information including notification of events and votes on issues impacting our community (NOTE: this is different from the "iscaonline" listserv for which you do not need to be an ISCA member).

If you missed the membership drive, but would still like to join ISCA, please visit our website at [iscaonline.com/join](https://iscaonline.com/join). We would love to have you!

Please remember, we are always looking for volunteers to support our events.



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





# When Our Clients Feel Like Family, It Only Makes Sense to Refer Who We Trust Most.

## Get Ready to Sell

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RC Masonry Inc	240.281.5313	Brick Mason
Raymond Kern	301.728.6619	Contractor
W A Electrical Service	301.366.4700	Electrician
Home Services	301.674.9564	Home Cleaners
BGE Homes	888.243.4663	HVAC
Binghamton Land Design	301.587.4643	Landscaping
Oscar Arango	202.270.2798	Painter
Jorge Carbera	202.486.2306	Painter
Don Waters	301.370.4878	Roofer
Potomac River Arborists	301.467.0515	Tree Service
Blaine Windows and Doors	301.565.4949	Window Installation
I and J Services	301.933.2598	Window Washer
YYY Garden	240.618.4044	Yardwork
Aspen Hill Plumbing	301.933.0801	Plumbing
Aaron Weintrab	301.346.5643	Computer Technician

## Get Ready to Buy

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JDC Appraiser	301.438.3300	Appraiser
Nick Stanisic	202.345.6756	Home Inspector
Capital Area Realtors	240.314.0734	Lender
Goitein/Rosa	301.951.1555	Loan Modification Attorney
KVS Title	301.605.1420	Title Company
Carolyn Hunt	301.919.7404	Notary
Meyer Jacobs	301.907.8166	CPA, Accountant

## Get Ready to Move

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Metropolitan Moving and Storage	301.279.0090
Town & Country Movers	800.683.6683
Able Packing, Moving & Storage	703.330.3772
Chris Callahan Packer & Organizer	301.452.5730



mortensen and young team  
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# The Mortensen and Young Team is There Every Step of the Way

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Susan Rothstein	301.873.4456	Caterer
Pete Looney	301.613.9489	Musicians
Trohv Travelers	240.462.4965	Photobooth/Bar
Martin's Sedan Service	301.260.9393	Transportation
Amanda Weaver-Page	401.864.0951	Wine Tastings

## and Feel Your Best . . .

Elsabet Tekle	301.384.7800	Dentist
Sarika Snell	202.955.6995	Dermatologist

## Get Ready for the Unexpected

Beahms Auto Service	301.587.0727	Auto Mechanic
Joseph W. McCartin	301.937.0400	Insurance
Law Office of Gerald Kelly	410.740.8750	Tax Attorney



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# ISCA Beltway Update

Update as of March 31, 2023

By Abbe Spokane, Civic Chair

## Transurban pulls out of expansion P3 project

- The contractor chosen to run the P3 project to expand 270 and the beltway has withdrawn from the project. You can read more about this in the news links below, as well as several opinion pieces in the Post. This news was hailed as a big victory for opponents of the project, and puts the ball in Governor Moore's court for next steps in transportation for our region.
  - *Washington Post*: [Toll road operator withdraws from plan to develop Beltway, I-270 toll lanes](#)
  - *Maryland Matters*: [Transurban announces it will exit proposed toll lane expansion](#)

## MD Sierra Club continues to oppose widening

- The [Maryland Sierra Club](#) continues to be a vocal opponent of highway widening, and ISCA has signed on to support their efforts to demand smart transit development in our area. Several years ago, our neighborhood was fighting against a very real and immediate threat of becoming a construction zone and losing homes and park land to highway widening. Thanks to the voices of many ISCA residents and neighbors all over Montgomery County, we are now watchful and hopeful that smarter transit improvements are in our future.

## 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](https://bit.ly/ISCAListservGuidelines).

Join by visiting [iscaonline.groups.io/g/main](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](https://bit.ly/ISCA-Facebook) or by scanning the QR code with your phone.





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# Northwood's Complete Renovation Delayed by One Year

By: Heather Powers Sauter



The renovation of Northwood High School, which originally called for the school to shut down operations at its site on University Boulevard this summer, now is scheduled to begin in August 2024.

Higher construction costs due to inflation delayed work on large capital improvements projects in the Montgomery County Public Schools, requiring the district to seek additional funding for the project overruns. This includes the new Charles W. Woodward High School in Rockville, which will serve as Northwood's holding school during the two-year construction process.

Northwood will move to Woodward, located on Old Georgetown Road, once Phase I construction at that site is complete in August 2024.

Northwood High School will be demolished to make way for a new, energy-efficient facility that will accommodate up to 2,700 students. Current building capacity is 1,500 students, though enrollment for the 2021-22 academic year, the latest data available, was 1,784 students. If the construction schedule holds, the new Northwood will open for the 2026-27 academic year.

According to the [Northwood High School Addition](#) page on the MCPS facilities website, "the primary goal of the site design is to separate the bus loop from the student drop-off loop while creating a pedestrian friendly/safe access to the school building entrances." Renderings show light-filled spaces that include the cafeteria, media center and a central courtyard.

Construction at Woodward High School is moving along and is being done in two, overlapping phases. Phase I is comprised of the core academic facilities required for students to attend classes and graduate on time.

Phase II could start as early as this September, but that hinges upon County Council approval of MCPS's budget requests. If approved, Phase II could be completed by the time Northwood occupies the Woodward facility and is scheduled to be completed by February 2025. (See page 2 of [MCPS's October 2022 Open House on the Construction of Northwood and Woodward High School Schools](#) for the most recent timelines and project information.)

Northwood parents, teachers and staff have been advocating for facilities upgrades since the school reopened about 17 years ago. No capital improvements were made to the building during the 20-year period it was closed as the facility fell into disrepair.

According to a presentation given in [October 2022 on the Northwood and Woodward projects](#), next steps include conducting focused community outreach to address questions about how the holding school will accommodate Northwood's programs, extracurricular activities and sports. Many Northwood students rely on public transportation in addition to school buses to get to and from school. This will also be addressed.

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## News from Neighbors

Madeleine Boyer will graduate in May with a Masters in Public Health from the University of Maryland. Congrats, Madeleine!

We want to hear your news! Share your latest life updates via the ISCA Facebook page and Google listserv.

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## Recommended Services List

It's yard clean-up season! Need a landscaper? Mulch delivery? 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](http://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).



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