

www.wymanparkcommunity.org

Wyman Park

Community Association



Join us for the Wyman Park Holiday Party

For all ages! All are welcome
December 6 from 10 am to 12 pm
37th and Beech Avenue Baseball Triangle

Santa, firetrucks and refreshments
Bring a treat to share, if you are able
Sign up to provide gifts to a Baltimore City foster child
or sibling group (stay tuned for more information).

Upcoming WPCA General Association Meeting

7 pm via zoom
December 2

Wyman Park Community to partner with Baltimore City Resource Parent Association

Join us again this year at the annual Wyman Park Holiday Party on December 6 from 10 am to 12 pm the corner of 37th and Beech Avenue.

We will continue to celebrate the season with many of our regular traditions: Santa Claus, firetrucks and refreshments. This year, we have a new twist that will refocus our community on the joy of giving.

In partnership with the Baltimore City Resource Parenting Association (BCPRA), the Wyman Park community will be asked to provide wrapped gifts to 60 foster children and sibling groups in Baltimore City.

As this newsletter went to print, the WPCA was awaiting the "wish list" from BCPRA and was gearing up to post sign-ups and additional information for the Wyman Park community. Please look for list serve announcements and postings throughout the neighborhood in mid-November that will allow you to sign up for a child or family group.

We will be collecting gifts in mid-December and will need volunteers to transport these to a BCPRA drop off in Baltimore City.

For more information on the Baltimore City Parenting Resource Association, visit their website: <https://www.baltimorecityresourceparents.org/>. Questions? Amy Rial is available to answer any questions: rialster@gmail.com

WPCA HEALTH UPDATE – NOVEMBER 2025

COVID-19 Vaccine: What to Know in Maryland Right Now

An updated **2025-2026 COVID-19 vaccine** is now available. Agreement from trusted resources recommend it for **everyone 6 months and older**, with extra attention to those at higher risk. If you haven't received it yet, now's the perfect time to boost protection before the holidays.

Who should get it:

- **Everyone 6 months+** – universal recommendation. Your provider can help you decide when to vaccinate (shared decision-making) based on your last infection or booster.
- **Adults 65+** and people with medical conditions – strongly encouraged.
- **Immunocompromised** – may need an additional dose – 6 months later.
- **Pregnant or planning pregnancy** – protects both parent and baby.
- **Kids 6-23 months** – stay current on schedule.

What's in the COVID-19 vaccine this year?

The 2025-26 vaccines are **monovalent** (one strain) and target the variants circulating now (JN.1 / KP.2 family). You'll likely see Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, and Novavax (12+). It's the same idea as flu – update the recipe to match what's out there.

Timing: If it's been a few months since your last shot or infection, go ahead and get this one. Those 65+ or immunocompromised may get a second dose later.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

Thank you to everyone who has reached out with ideas, suggestions, and questions over the past few months. I truly appreciate the engagement and initiative of our neighborhood and continue to be impressed by the level of care and neighborliness that defines Wyman Park.

Here are a few updates on current WPCA priorities and things to keep an eye on:

• Dog Park Updates:

A public meeting with representatives from Baltimore Rec & Parks will be held on December 1 to review the results of this summer's survey and discuss possible next steps. All are welcome to attend, but an RSVP is required. Please contact Lauren Abramson at labramso@gmail.com to register.

• Camps in the Park:

Several neighbors have reached out with concerns about tents in the park at a few locations. I have been in close contact with the Friends of Stony Run, Councilmember Odette Ramos's office, the Baltimore Police Department, and the Mayor's Office of Homeless Services. Efforts are underway to find permanent housing solutions for those who were occupying the camps. In the meantime, please continue to notify us if you notice any activity there – especially any signs of campfires in the park.

• Holiday Party & Foster Youth Gift Sponsorships:

Mark your calendars! The Wyman Park Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 6. This year, we're adding a special focus on giving: neighbors will have the opportunity to "adopt" the gift list of a Baltimore City foster child. Details will be shared elsewhere in this newsletter and in the email group. As always, we'll gather at the baseball diamond to enjoy cookies, cocoa, coffee, and conversation – with a special visit from Santa!

• Newsletter Help Needed:

We're looking for a few volunteers to help with the WPCA newsletter – particularly with writing, editing, and gathering neighborhood news. If you enjoy storytelling, local updates, or just want to lend a hand, please reach out to newsletter@wymanparkcommunity.org. Your help will make a big difference in keeping our community connected and informed!

• Shutdown Potluck Recap:

The Shutdown Potluck was a wonderful success! Thank you to everyone who came out to support federal workers with food and pantry donations, and an especially big thank-you to Sarah Dorman for coming up with the idea and providing an abundance of baked ziti for all. Our neighborhood truly embodies the spirit of community, and I'm deeply grateful to be part of it with all of you.



Warmly,
Andrea

President, Wyman
Park Community
Association

Covid-19 Vaccine Information

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If you passed the upper field on a Wednesday evening you may have noticed giant stacks of pizza boxes on a folding table, little kids on bikes and parents enjoying time with friends while listening to live music.

This recurring event is called "Wyman Wheelies" and I have been enjoying organizing it for about a year.

The centerpiece of these evenings is a bike course for the kids to ride as frequently/infrequently as they would like. Some kids hammer out laps, developing real bike skills, but far more time is spent playing games in the woods, climbing trees or just running around.

We've stopped hosting Wyman Wheelies for this year but we're looking forward to picking it back up in the Spring (mid April - mid June) and it's open to everyone. If you'd like to join, feel free to bring a picnic blanket and come hang out with this great group of people.

We use a **whatsapp** group to communicate so if you're interested the best thing to do would be to join using this QR Code and I look forward to seeing everyone out there in the Spring!



Hampden Elementary/Middle: A Steady Climb in Citywide Rankings



Hampden Elementary/Middle School (HEMS) continues to show strong and consistent performance among Baltimore City schools. According to the Maryland State Department of Education's 2024-25 report, HEMS earned a 4-Star rating (out of 5), placing it solidly in the top third of city schools.

The U.S. News & World Report 2026 rankings reinforce that progress, placing HEMS #5 among Baltimore City elementary schools and #8 among middle schools. Students perform above expectations in reading and meet or slightly exceed benchmarks in math, positioning Hampden in the top 30 percent of Maryland middle schools overall.

Taken together, the data reflect what the Hampden community already knows: this is a neighborhood school with strong academics, dedicated teachers, and a growing reputation for excellence – proof that high-quality education can thrive right in the heart of the city. Congratulations to the students and teachers for all their hard work, and thank you to the Hampden community for all their support!

For more info, and to reach out or support:
www.friendsofhampden.org or www.hampden55pto.org



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COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION, INC.**

MEMBERSHIP & DUES

Only \$15 gets your entire household membership in WPCA. Support your community association!

How to Join:

- 1) PayPal or Credit Card: visit www.wymanparkcommunity.org;
- 2) Mail a personal check made payable to "WPCA" along with your name, address, phone number, and mail to: Michael Siers, Treasurer, 608 W 33rd St. Baltimore MD 21211
- 3) NEW!! Scan the QR code to pay your WPCA Dues \$15 per year



Magruder & Khan Group



Your Goal
is our
Mission

Bill Magruder: (410) 456-2490
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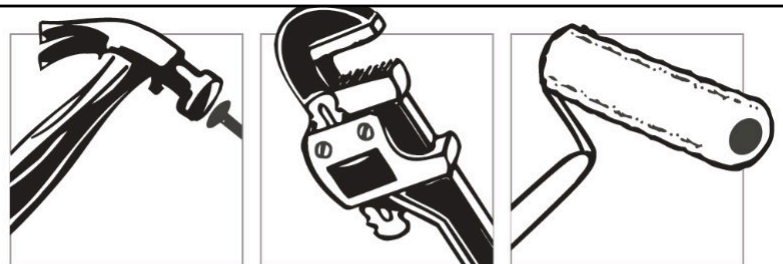
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