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Relay Historic House Tour opens local homes for holiday celebration

RELAY, Md. – The annual Relay Historic House Tour will open six village homes and two historic churches to visitors on Saturday, Dec. 6, 2014, from 5-9 p.m., to showcase the Victorian-era houses decorated to celebrate the holiday season.

These beautifully appointed homes, some pre-dating the Civil War and others constructed during the late Victorian era, will be open for touring by members of the public to appreciate during the holiday season. The tour is sponsored by the Relay Improvement Association, which represents the communities of Relay and St. Denis, Maryland.

Two churches on the elementary school square, Grace Reformed Presbyterian Church and the Catholic Community at Relay, will host events. Grace Presbyterian will perform its annual Christmas Living Nativity, complete with animals in the stable. The Catholic Community will present local ensemble *Flutopia*, performing Christmas and holiday music.

In addition to the featured homes and the Relay Town Hall, the tour will also pass by historic churches and houses of worship offering music, the Relay Children's Center (the former Relay Elementary School) and other beautiful homes and buildings that anchor the historic district. Guides will offer history on the community and the owners of the featured homes will describe their houses' and neighborhood history.

Relay remains the village time forgot; while surrounded by fast-paced highways this community continues with the traditions of a slower time. Unique among its neighbors, Relay maintains a town hall, built about 1910 as a fire station and later used as one of the first public libraries in Baltimore County.

Tickets for visitors are \$15 and \$12 for members of the Relay & St. Denis Improvement Association. Tickets can be purchased starting at 4:30 p.m. at the Relay Tour Hall, 1710 Arlington Ave., Relay, Halethorpe, MD 21227. In addition to tickets, there will be a raffle for a seasonal gift basket. Guidebooks for the tour are available, along with refreshments.