



The Mapleleaf

A PUBLICATION OF THE MAPLEWOOD CITIZENS ASSOCIATION (MCA)
WWW.MAPLEWOODCITIZENS.ORG

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JANUARY 2018

Meeting:

**Wednesday, January 31, 2018
7:30 p.m.**

Knights of Columbus/Rock Creek Mansion
5417 W. Cedar Ln.
Bethesda, MD 20814

AGENDA

Call To Order

Presentation By Captain Paul J. Liquorie, Bethesda Police 2nd District Commander

Business Meeting

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

Brief Report on FIS Plans for New Elementary School on FASEB Property

MCA Discussion of Proposed Plans for 19 Homes on Beech Avenue

Maplewood Village Report

Adjourn

MAPLEWOOD CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Mailing address:	MCA P.O. Box 2483 Kensington, MD 20891-2483
Hotline:	301-530-6080
Website:	www.maplewoodcitizens.org
President:	Allen Myers president@maplewoodcitizens.org
Vice President:	Mary Jo Deering vp@maplewoodcitizens.org
Secretary:	Jo Batky secretary@maplewoodcitizens.org
Treasurer:	Hugh Barteman treasurer@maplewoodcitizens.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we begin 2018, I want to wish all residents of Maplewood a happy and prosperous New Year!

MCA did not publish a newsletter or hold a meeting in November 2017 due to a lack of developments on substantive issues facing Maplewood. However, that is no longer the case and we start the 2nd half of MCA's 2017 – 2018 membership year with a busy agenda which will likely require MCA's attention on into the 2018-2019 membership year. Three major issues now taking shape are: a) a proposal by the Foundation For The Advancement of Education In The Sciences (FAES) to construct seven single-family homes on their vacant property at the corner of Cypress Ave and Acacia Avenue; b) a proposal to construct nineteen single-family homes on a vacant five-acre parcel of land on Beech Avenue between Page Ave and Linden Ave; and c) a proposal by the French International School to construct and operate an elementary school on property currently owned by the Federation of Societies in Experimental Biology (FASEB) the main entrance to which is on the west side of Rockville Pike just south of Pooks Hill Rd. There is also the ongoing issue of increased traffic congestion that will be created by the proposed new high-rise condominiums on the current parking lot on the west side of the Pooks Hill Marriott Hotel.

In response to my September request for volunteers to assume leadership roles in MCA, I am grateful that one individual has come forward offering to serve as an officer for the 2018 – 2019 membership year and that two others have offered to assume the newsletter layout responsibilities and be the neighborhood community liaison to the National Institutes of Health. As you can see, more volunteers are needed for all officer positions and to take over the newsletter editor position. If you are interested in serving your civic association and improving the quality of life in Maplewood, please contact me directly via e-mail at almyers@starpower.net. MCA Bylaws require that I appoint a Nominations and Elections Committee in March for election of officers at the May MCA meeting. I will forward all names that I receive to that committee for consideration. Please volunteer now! Thank you.

MCA is looking forward to meeting Bethesda Police 2nd District Commander, Captain Paul J. Liquorie, who will speak at the January 31st MCA meeting. With new leadership in the 2nd District come new priorities and policies. Please attend the meeting to learn what Captain Liquorie will focus on in his new position. Additional details are on page 2.

Allen Myers, President

2018
Happy New Year!

Beech Avenue Proposed Development

In January 2018, Beech Avenue LLC informed MCA that it proposes to construct nineteen single-family, detached houses on a vacant 5-acre parcel of land that it has purchased on Beech Avenue between Page Ave and Linden Ave. A "Community Meeting" required by the Montgomery County Planning Board was planned for January 16th at the Davis Library. At the January MCA meeting, MCA president, Allen Myers, and other residents who attended this meeting will provide a report on that meeting.

The Planning Board requires a "Community Meeting" to be held in advance of a developer's submission of a formal site plan for a property. It is an opportunity for the developer to explain its project to neighbors and allows for an informal exchange of ideas and concerns about the project between the developer and the neighbors. While anyone is invited to attend the "Community Meeting", only those residents within a one half mile radius of the property actually receive a mailed notice about the meeting. The developer may still present its plan to the entire neighborhood at an MCA meeting and MCA and individual residents have an opportunity to testify before the Planning Board on the proposed development.

BRAC INTEGRATION COMMITTEE MEETING

February 27, 2018, 7:00 pm

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Service Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane

Open to the public, this quarterly meeting gives the community an opportunity to be updated on construction activities at Naval Support Activity Bethesda (NSAB-home of Walter Reed National Military Medical Center) and the underground pedestrian tunnel being built to increase pedestrian safety and facilitate traffic flow in the vicinity of the Medical Center metro stop. Please send any traffic/pedestrian/biker concerns in the vicinity of NIH/NSAB to janetmaalouf97@gmail.com.

FAES PROPOSES SEVEN NEW HOMES ON VACANT LAND

At Cypress Ave and Acacia Ave



A "Community Meeting" was held on October 16, 2017 by the Foundation for the Advancement of Education in the Sciences (FAES) on its new development plans for its vacant property at the corner of Cypress Ave and Acacia Ave.

As background, several years ago FAES had proposed to build townhouses on this vacant land and the land which is currently occupied by 4 FAES homes (3 homes on Cypress Ave and one home at the corner of Cypress Ave and W. Cedar Lane). Driving development of the FAES land was and is an FAES hope to provide affordable housing for NIH post doc fellows at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) whose work involves critical research on important health issues such as AIDS, etc. Maplewood was against this townhouse proposal for what was, in essence, a high density dormitory style development incompatible

with the surrounding single family homes. FAES is now proposing to build seven single family detached homes only on the vacant land at the corner of Cypress Ave and Acacia Ave. Each of the homes is expected to house up to five NIH fellows.

Maplewood residents at the October 16th meeting expressed concern about anticipated parking and traffic generated by the new homes. FAES indicated that, based on experience with the existing four FAES homes, not all NIH post doc fellows have cars and/or need to drive to work. FAES duly noted the concern, however. With funding for construction yet to be lined up, FAES noted that the homes will likely be constructed one at a time rather than all at once. FAES has indicated its willingness to present its plans at a future MCA meeting as the plans become clearer.



SHOULD IT S...N...O...W....! OR SOME OTHER CHALLENGING EVENT OCCUR ON Wednesday, JANUARY 31, 2018, you may call the MCA hotline at 301-530-6080 for the status of the 7:30pm MCA meeting!

New Bethesda Police 2nd District Commander to Speak At MCA Meeting

Captain Paul J. Liquorie has recently replaced Captain Dave Falcinelli as the Bethesda Police 2nd District Commander. In addition to providing information about the overall crime situation in Bethesda, Captain Liquorie will address issues specific to Maplewood including enforcement of violations of the rush hour turn restrictions at Linden and Beech Avenues as well as the results of a police investigation of a house fire on Danbury Road that occurred in September 2017 and which involved loss of life.

Danbury Road House Fire

MCA has learned that the Montgomery County Office of Permitting Services has ordered the owner to raze the house at 5212 Danbury Rd. where a fire and loss of life occurred in September 2017. The owner has appealed the order. A hearing on his appeal will be held at 9:30 am at the County Board of Appeals in the County Council Office Building in Rockville on Wednesday, February 28, 2018. Immediate neighbors and others in the vicinity of the house have requested that MCA become a "party of record" at the proceeding.

MAPLEWOOD VILLAGE NEWS

Maplewood Village, an informal volunteer initiative, offers a variety of opportunities for you to meet your neighbors.

Happy Hour the second Wednesday of each month from 6 - 8 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus, 5417 W. Cedar Lane.

Share your green thumb (or brown thumb) stories with the Garden and Plant Share Group. Contact Barbara Harrison at (301) 896- 0106 or lakestargirl@gmail.com for the next meeting date and place.

Get moving with our Walking Groups. They start at the entrance to Maplewood-Alta Vista Park at 5209 Alta Vista Rd at 9 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Kids and dogs welcome!

Extend a warm welcome to newcomers: The Maplewood Visitors contact new residents to welcome them and deliver helpful information. If you would like to be a Maplewood Visitor or if you know of a new neighbor please contact Elissa Fisher at Elissa.Fisher@comcast.net

Bring your next project to the Knitting Group. Contact Sandi Komarow at skomarow@gmail.com for the next date/location.

New activities are being considered:

A 55+ Lunch Bunch will start Monday, March 26th. Details will come later.

If there are enthusiastic cyclists in the neighborhood, please contact Karen Bedell at kbedell9401@yahoo.com. Groups may start in spring and will be organized by level.

Get involved! This is YOUR Village! Contact Mary Jo Deering with questions or suggestions about Maplewood Village at mdeering@starpower.net. Because we rely on the Maplewood listserv to communicate, please sign up per the instructions on page 4.

A Note of Remembrance: Maplewood Village is saddened by the loss of one of its very active members, Barbara Hilberg, who passed away suddenly in early January. For additional details on Barbara's commitment to the neighborhood and a planned memorial service on February 3, 2018, please go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/MaplewoodVillageBethesda/>

Maplewood Spring Social Sunday April 29, 2018 Rain or shine!

Maplewood's annual Spring Social is scheduled to be held on Sunday, April 29th, 2018 at The Rock Creek Knights of Columbus mansion on West Cedar Lane in Bethesda. This event is free for MCA members.

The Social organizers, Chip and Sherry Brennan, welcome new and returning volunteers for this event. More information will be available at the MCA general meeting on Wednesday, January 31, 2018. Any MCA resident who would like to help plan the event or who has suggestions, etc is encouraged to contact Chip and Sherry at etbrennanjr@hotmail.com.

MAPLEWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD HELPERS LIST

The Maplewood Neighborhood Helpers List is printed and included with the September and March issues of the *Mapleleaf Newsletter*. This list is an opportunity for young residents of Maplewood age 12 and older to hire out for the following jobs: dog walking, baby sit, pet sit, house sit, mow lawns, rake leaves/shovel snow, homework help, gardening and computer help. Several years ago this list was one sided! Now it is two sided! Lots of prospective entrepreneurs in the neighborhood! The list is popular with residents who would like some help.

Please contact Susan Chacko at susan.chacko@gmail.com or call her at 301-530-8601 by February 28, 2018 to be added to the list.

New French International Elementary School

In September 2017, MCA president, Allen Myers, was contacted by legal counsel for the French International School (FIS) who informed him of new plans for the FIS elementary school. FIS indicated that it was dropping its proposal to construct a new elementary school along Old Georgetown Rd south of Beech Ave (in the Wyngate neighborhood) and that its proposal to purchase the property currently owned by the Federation of Societies in Experimental Biology (FASEB) on Rockville Pike just south of Pooks Hill Rd had been accepted. FIS is still formulating these plans and anticipates presenting them at the March MCA meeting. Some preliminary information will be provided at the January MCA meeting.

**Unsure if you are
current on your MCA
membership dues?**

**Send an email to
treasurer@
maplewoodcitizens.org
or leave a message at
the MCA hotline
301-530-6080**

**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN
HELPING DELIVER THE
MAPLELEAF?**

**IF SO, LEAVE A MESSAGE
AT THE MCA HOTLINE
301-530-6080**



Maplewood Citizens Association
PO Box 2483
Kensington, MD 20891-2483

Join the MCA Listserv

Send an email to maplewood-citizens-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

The Maplewood Citizens Association has been around for more than half a century. It provides a public forum to discuss neighborhood concerns, solve problems, and promote community.

Make Maplewood a better place to live — become a member or renew your membership today!

MEMBERSHIP FORM — Maplewood Citizens Association (MCA)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ email _____

CHECK ONE: New Member _____ Renewal _____

Today's Date _____

Dues are \$25 for one year, September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2018 payable by check to "MCA". Please send your completed membership form and check to: Hugh Barteman, Treasurer, MCA, P.O. Box 2483, Kensington, MD 20891-2483

Go to www.maplewoodcitizens.org to pay your dues via **PayPal**.