



The Mapleleaf

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

VOLUME 1415, NO. 2

NOVEMBER 2014

Meeting:

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

7:30 p.m.

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

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Presentation on BRT by Gary Erenrich
(45 minutes)

Presentation on Lease of the Maplewood –
Alta Vista Park building (30 minutes)

BUSINESS MEETING:

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's 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

Montgomery County plans to implement several Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) routes in the County including one along Rt. 355 in our area. The County is in the process of forming Corridor Advisory Committees for each route to include representatives of nearby residential communities and businesses along the respective routes. Gary Erenrich, Special Assistant to the Director for WMATA (Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority) Affairs for Montgomery County Department of Transportation, will be our guest speaker on this topic at our Maplewood Citizens Association (MCA) general meeting, Wednesday, November 19, 2014. For additional details on the BRT project, please see page 4.

A second topic to be addressed at the November 19th meeting will be the County's proposed leasing of the Maplewood-Alta Vista Park building to the Rock Creek Dance Academy. Representatives of the County Department of Parks and the Rock Creek Dance Academy will each make presentations and answer questions. Please see page 3 for additional details.

Since this will be the last issue of *The Mapleleaf* published in 2014, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all residents of Maplewood a very happy and enjoyable holiday season.

Jo Batky, our new MCA secretary will now introduce herself to you.

Allen

Maplewood has been my home for 23 years. My children, Barry and Janna, were raised here and attended our local public schools Wyngate Elementary, North Bethesda Middle School and Walter Johnson High School. They are now college graduates, have moved out of our home and are working!

I am a rare Washington DC native! After moving to Montgomery County, I graduated from Walt Whitman High School and Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. I have worked as a registered nurse for over thirty years and briefly as a medical sales representative. I now work at an outpatient surgery center.

After marrying, my husband Bob moved from Alexandria to Bethesda in 2009. He worked for thirty years as a marine biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Together we enjoy walking, biking, sports and travel. We spend much of our time in Ocean View, Delaware.

The Village Group Project (aging in place), directed by our new Vice President, Mary Jo Deering, is particularly exciting to me and opens the door to another opportunity to connect with the Maplewood community. When my children were young, I volunteered in Maplewood activities especially the Halloween parties. It is now my pleasure to serve as the Maplewood Citizens Association secretary for 2014-2015.

JoAnn Kline Batky



Maplewood Garden Club

As part of the Maplewood Village activities, an informal group of Maplewood residents has met on three Saturday mornings this season to enjoy the relaxed company of our neighbors and to visit each others' gardens. We also have been sharing our plants and exchanging ideas about the wide range of growing conditions and garden settings in Maplewood. The garden group plans to hibernate for the winter, but will begin meeting again in the spring-time. If you would like to be notified of upcoming get-togethers, please email Barbara Harrison at lakestargirl@gmail.com. All are welcome - no garden experience necessary!

Maplewood Village Games Party

Cards! Board games! Jig-saw puzzles! Not to mention companionship and food! These all characterized the first Maplewood Village games party held Saturday night, October 25th.

The event was attended by about 20 neighbors, and was hosted by Lisa and Bob Fisher. Party goers settled at any of several tables to play cards or board games or work on jig-saw puzzles. After playing for approximately 45 minutes, it was time for a break to chat. Then people moved around as they wished to try out a different activity. In addition to game playing, there was much schmoozing and munching.

Neighbors commented on how enjoyable the event was and several said that the party had allowed them to connect with people they had not previously known. The event appeared to be successful in promoting social ties within the neighborhood.

We plan for this to be a regular event. Furthermore, due to popular demand we will be organizing an intergenerational family game party to include adults, teens and children. Announcements for these events will be via the listserv.



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

**IF SO, EMAIL
LYNNE JOSELOFF**

ljoseloff@yahoo.com

Maplewood Village Update

Our **Walking Groups** continue with vim and vigor. They all start at the entrance to Maplewood Park on Alta Vista Rd, at 9 a.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Recognizing that November and December can be busy, we do not have any events scheduled. We will announce a new round of activities after the New Year.

Recent parties were a great success. The **Dessert Party** in September brought 40 adults and 10 kids to Ruth Sach's home for an amazing array of goodies. The **Wine & Cheese/Beer & Chips Party** in October was enjoyed by several dozen adults and 3 playful kids at Margaret Human's home. Our new **Board & Card Game Night** in October at Elissa Fisher's was a fun evening (see above). The **Garden/Plant Swap** group met in October at Sandy Callier's (see page 1).

If you would like to learn more or get involved in planning Village activities, please contact Mary Jo Deering at 301 530-4987 or mdeering@starpower.net. This is YOUR village! We use the Maplewood listserv for our main communications, so please sign up by sending a message to Maplewood-citizens-subscribe@yahoo.com, and include your address.

Join the MCA Listserv

Send an email to maplewood-citizens-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
and be sure to include your name and street address.

32nd Annual Thanksgiving Tradition: Turkey Chase



Maplewood will be alive with “turkey chasers” (also known as runners and walkers) on Thanksgiving Day morning, November 27, 2014 between 8 am and 11 am. The 32nd annual Turkey Chase 10 K

Race, 2 mile Fun Run/Walk, and 50 meter Tot Trot fundraiser will benefit youth and families in Montgomery County through the YMCA-Bethesda-Chevy Chase programs and local Rotary Club charities.

Turkey Chase participants will pass through Maplewood on the following streets: Old Georgetown Rd, W. Cedar Lane, Cypress Ave, Benton Ave, Holland Ave, Alta Vista Rd, Linden Ave, Pooks Hill Rd, and Rt 355. Race organizers will post signs in Maplewood by Monday, November 24. Residents on those streets mentioned above are kindly asked to help ensure race

safety by moving their cars into driveways or to side streets wherever possible between 8-11am on race day.

The Principals Prize of \$1,000 (private school) and \$2,000 (public school) are awarded to the schools with the highest participation rate in the Turkey Chase. Race participants can vote for their favorite high school when they register to run. Walter Johnson High School has repeatedly won the Principals Prize; WJHS uses the money for their Access to College program dedicated to students who are the first in their families to attend college.

Turkey Chase registration is at www.turkeychase.com. For a complete list of other public and private schools that are participating and for which you can vote please refer to the aforementioned website.

**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

Rock Creek Dance Academy, LLC Request To Lease Maplewood – Alta Vista Park Building

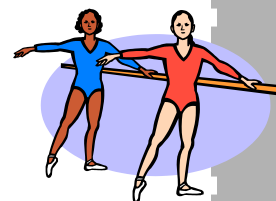
The Montgomery County Department of Parks closed the Maplewood – Alta Vista Park building along with several other County park buildings in 2010 due to lack of use and inadequate funds to continue to operate them. Subsequently, the County decided to make these buildings available to organizations interested in leasing them for a 5 year period.

The Rock Creek Dance Academy, LLC has requested to lease the Maplewood – Alta Vista Park building. The Dance Academy provides instruction in ballet, jazz, and tap dancing to students between the ages of 4 and 17 years old. Classes are held weekdays from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. during the school year. A summer program is also offered.

Current park regulations do not permit the use of amplified music in park buildings because of their proximity to neighborhood residents. The Dance Academy uses a small stereo system and the Department of Parks feels that its use would not impact residences near the Maplewood – Alta Vista building.

Representatives from the Rock Creek Dance Academy and the Department of Parks will attend the November 19th MCA meeting to explain the proposed lease and operations of the Dance Academy as well as answer questions and hear concerns about the proposed lease.

In addition, pursuant to the Department of Parks procedures, the department will meet with nearby residents on December 3rd at the Maplewood-Alta Vista Park building between 7:00 and 8:00 p.m.



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, 2014 - August 31, 2015 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**.

BUS RAPID TRANSIT IS PLANNED FOR ROUTE 355

County and State Planners are working on a **bus rapid transit (BRT)** network to improve accessibility and mobility throughout Montgomery County. BRT is similar to light rail operations, but runs on county roads. On December 18, 2013, the Maryland- National Capital Park and Planning Commission adopted the Planning Board Draft of the Countywide Transit Corridors Functional Master Plan, as modified by the County Council on November 25, 2013. This Plan provides enhanced opportunities for travel by transit to support Montgomery County's economic development and mobility goals in an environmentally sustainable way, and in a way that preserves existing communities. As a Functional Master Plan, it makes no changes to current planned land use or zoning, but recommends changes and additions to the transportation network that are needed to serve the County's most densely developed areas, areas planned for redevelopment, and areas planned for new dense development.

Montgomery County Department of Transportation is looking for residents and businesses to serve on the county's Rapid Transit System (RTS) Corridor Advisory Committees (CACs). These committees are part of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) and the State of Maryland's commitment to developing a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) System in Montgomery County.

These committees will provide community stakeholders (area residents, businesses, community organizations and others) the opportunity to participate in the BRT System planning process. By working with engineers, architects, land use professionals, and planners, these committees will advise MCDOT and the State in the decision process related to:

- General BRT concept designs
- BRT study assumptions
- Transit access and operations
- Coordination with other modes of transportation
- Public involvement planning
- Community needs

To maximize participation and maintain manageable meetings, each CAC committee will usually have up to 40 members. Once the committee members are selected, they will be notified about member orientation.

A nomination form to serve on a Corridor Advisory Committee may be found on-line at http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/RTS/Resources/Files/RTS_Member_Nomin_ver7_2-E.pdf

Residents may nominate themselves or be nominated by someone else. The nomination form must be submitted to and received by MCA President, Allen Myers at 9319 Fresno Road no later than November 21st. The MCA Executive Committee will select the Maplewood representative and will submit that name to the Montgomery County Department of Transportation by December 5th. Please consider volunteering for this important opportunity to serve your community.