

The Mapleleaf

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A publication of the Maplewood Citizens Association, Inc. (MCA)

Become Informed: Come to the next meeting of the MCA!

Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2007

7:30 p.m.

**American College of Cardiology
9111 Old Georgetown Road**

AGENDA

1. BRAC update with guest speaker
2. Treasurer's and Annual Audits Report
3. Secretary's Report
4. Old Business
 - A. Revision to the French International School's Traffic Management Plan (15 minutes)
 - B. Update on the development plan of The American College of Cardiology (30 minutes)
5. New Business
 - A. Amendment to MCA Bylaws

Message from the President

Welcome to the 2007-08 membership year for the Maplewood Citizens Association. We have a busy year ahead. We begin the year as we ended last year with two major development projects proposed for the neighborhood. The American College of Cardiology is moving forward with its plans for single family housing on its property and will present its latest plans to us at our September meeting (see related article). Also, the Foundation for the Advancement of Education in the Sciences (FAES) is reviewing the possible uses for its property. FAES hopes to have something to show to us at our November meeting. Lastly, the clock is ticking on the proposed merger of Walter Reed Army

Hospital with the National Naval Medical Center. A draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is scheduled to be released sometime in December. We will spend part of our September meeting discussing this important neighborhood issue. Please read the related article by Montgomery County BRAC Member (and new MCA Vice President) Janet Maalouf.

With all this activity, we need a strong Association. We become strong by having a large membership and dedicated volunteers. Not all the volunteer efforts are work. Some are play. I'm referring to the social events that MCA has hosted in previous years in the fall and

the spring. Volunteers are needed to chair and to be members of the social committees that put these events together. If you are interested in volunteering to help MCA in any capacity, please contact me via either the MCA phone number (301) 530-6080 or our website, www.maplewoodcitizens.org. Please use either of these methods to communicate with the officers of your association at any time.

I hope to see many of you at our September meeting. The agenda for this meeting is at left.

Allen

Maplewood Citizens Association

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Kensington, MD
20891-2483**

Phone #: **301-530-6080**

Website: **www.maplewoodcitizens.org**

President: **Allen Myers
Allenm@maplewoodcitizens.org**

Vice President: **Janet Maalouf
Janetm@maplewoodcitizens.org**

Secretary: **Carol Linden
Carol@maplewoodcitizens.org**

Treasurer: **Joe Levin
Joel@maplewoodcitizens.org**

Walter Reed/Bethesda Naval BRAC Merger Impact Reviewed

The local communities are awaiting release of the Dept of Navy's Environmental Impact Study (EIS) as it relates to the scheduled BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) move of Walter Reed Army Medical Center to the Bethesda National Naval Medical Center scheduled for 2011. The EIS, originally anticipated to be released in September 2007 and which

is expected to be delayed, will provide detailed information on the environmental impact of the consolidation, with traffic being a major focus. The EIS will be subject to an organized 45-day public comment.

A County website devoted to the BRAC issues both locally and throughout Maryland is under construction and will facilitate community understanding of

BRAC-related issues.

The Montgomery County BRAC Implementation Committee will hold its next monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 18 at the B-CC Regional Service Center (near Bethesda Metro) at 4805 Edgemoor Lane at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Time is allowed at the end of the meeting for public comments.

Interested in BRAC? Maplewood is forming a committee of residents to monitor the 2011 BRAC move of Walter Reed AMC to Bethesda NNMC. If interested, please e-mail janetm@maplewoodcitizens.org.

New Traffic Management Plan Implemented at the French International School

Following major remodeling of its primary campus on Forest Rd., the French International School has devised a new Traffic Management Plan (TMP). Pending approval by the MCA and Board of Appeals, this TMP will supersede the existing one, which dates from 2003. The new plan has been in effect for over a year on a trial basis, and the feedback from the neighbors heard by the Neighborhood Liaison Committee has been very positive. In addition, despite the fact that the school operates the most extensive and highly utilized bus service of all of the private schools in the Washington area, the number of daily bus trips is anticipated to drop.

The essential elements of the new plan are summarized below. The MCA membership will vote on its approval of the plan at the upcoming meeting on September 19.

Cars:

Primary access to the campus by carpooling parents, some faculty, student drivers and administrative staff is via Montgomery Drive. When picking up students, drivers enter via Montgomery Drive, remain in their cars, and wait in queuing lines along Access Road. Security guards direct cars while drivers wait for students to arrive at the shelter on Access Road for pickup. If a driver prefers to park, s/he may do so in the parking lot adjacent to the shelter. No right turn onto Forest Place is permitted upon exiting the campus.

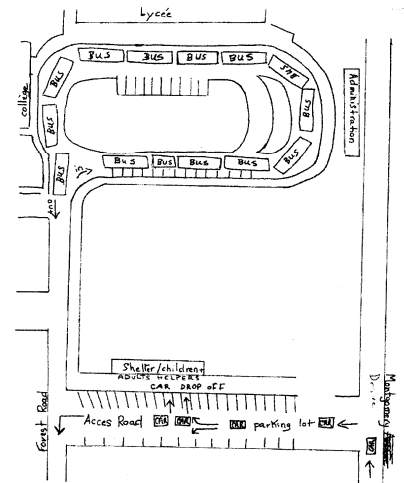
Some faculty arrive via Forest Road. Secondary access by visitors, buses and temporary pickup is also via Forest Road.

Buses:

The French International School transports over 55% of its total enrollment. The anticipated number of daily bus trips for 2007/08 is 80, excluding field trips and

extra-curricular activities. This drop reflects a consolidation of two routes.

Drop-off and pick-up is done around the central circle. A shuttle bus that circulates between campuses makes a brief stop on Access Rd. prior to dropping students on the circle. No buses are parked on the school premises.



Heart House Development Plans to be Revamped

In July, the preliminary draft plans designed by the American College of Cardiology were presented to the Development Review Committee of the Park & Planning Commission. The Committee is comprised of Planning staff members and representatives from other Montgomery County departments. The draft plan was severely

criticized in several areas including lack of parking, lack of emergency vehicle access, storm water management, and site forestation. Most importantly for Maplewood, the Committee recommended that Camberley Avenue be cut through the property to Alta Visa Road or made into a cul-de-sac on the property. The College is revising its

plans to take into consideration the concerns of the Committee and hopes to present the revised plans to Park & Planning in October. Cathy Gates, the College's facilities manager, will present the revisions at September MCA meeting.

Proposed Bylaw Revision Would Affect Auditing Times

Article X, Section 5 of the MCA bylaws states: **The financial records and reports of the Association shall be audited, immediately prior to the May annual meeting, by a qualified person, appointed by the President. The latest bank statements of the Association shall be attached to the audit**

report. The audit report shall be submitted to the Executive Committee and shall be available for inspection by interested members.

The MCA Executive Committee recommends that the audit required by this Sec-

tion be changed from prior to the May meeting to prior to the September meeting. A decision on this proposed bylaw revision will be made by the membership at the September meeting.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad Annual Open House

Saturday, October 6, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Station Tours * Live Demonstrations of Emergency Equipment * Free Children's Firefighter Hats
Moon Bounce * Visit by Rescue Helicopter * Meet Flight Medics



Are You “Going Green”?

Can Maplewood Be a Community Leader in the Campaign to Save Energy? By Ron Goor

Nancy and I have gone green! This has not been an overnight conversion, but rather a more gradual awakening. We are birders and insect enthusiasts; during years of casual field observations, we have noticed a decline in the variety and numbers of both of these kinds of animals and have always attributed it to pollution. We look on them as the canaries in the mine, so to speak. But it was not until we saw Al Gore’s “An Inconvenient Truth” that we became more hardcore believers in the urgent necessity to cut carbon emissions and conserve and protect our water sources.

In February, we traded in our car for a Toyota Prius hybrid electric and have been getting about 50 miles per gallon of gasoline. We love it! We have replaced our older appliances with Energy-Star appliances. We are having solar panels installed on our roof and hope to generate about 70% of our electricity use.

If you’re looking for ways to save energy and reduce emission of heat-trapping and climate-changing carbon into the atmosphere, here are some ideas:

*Turn off lights when you leave a room.

*You probably have been told that it is better for your computer to keep it on at all times; this is not true. Turning it off will not harm it but will tremendously reduce its energy expenditure.

*Even when only plugged in but not turned on, computers and TVs use elec-

tricity. To prevent this unnecessary expenditure of energy, unplug or use a switch to prevent the trickle of current to both your computers and TVs when not in use.

*Replace incandescent bulbs with energy-saver (compact fluorescent) bulbs; they use about 75% less electricity as regular bulbs of the same effective wattage. New compact fluorescent bulbs come in a variety of sizes and types that can be used inside enclosed glass globes, as floodlights for use in recessed lighting. There are even bulbs that can be controlled by dimmers and by timers.

*Replace older top-loading clothes washers and older dishwashers with new Energy-Star appliances. In the case of washing machines, front loaders use much less water and are much gentler on your clothes, making them last longer. We noticed a dramatic drop (to almost none) in lint produced during the washing and drying of the clothes when we switched from a top-loading to a front-loading washer.

*Finally, WGES (Washington Gas Energy Services) offers the option of buying up to 100% of your electricity from non-polluting renewable wind power generated by wind turbines in Pennsylvania. The cost of green electricity is slightly higher than coal-generated electricity, but Montgomery County reimburses almost all of the

cost. You will still get only one electric bill (from Pepco) that will include the charge for the green electricity AND the rebate from Montgomery County. By choosing this option you are making green energy options more viable by providing a market and attracting future investments. You can learn more about this wind energy and also choose this option at <http://www.wges.com/page/wind.php>.



If you are interested in learning more about energy saver bulbs and/or have suggestions for other green activities you think the community should consider, please write me at goor@choicediets.com. We would love to hear your ideas!

ADVANCE NOTICE: SALE ON CFLS OCTOBER 9-21 AT STROSNIDER’S

Strosnider’s Hardware, at 6930 Arlington Road in Bethesda and other two locations in Silver Spring and Potomac, will have a major sale (up to 40% off) off 3-4 types of GE Brand Energy Star soft white spiral compact fluorescent bulbs.

Did you know that GE Energy Star-qualified CFLs use up to 75% less energy than incandescent light bulbs, last up to 10 times longer, and provide a quick return on the initial cost? For additional information, check out http://www.strosniderson.com/compact_fluorescent.

Let’s Lower Maplewood’s Pressure – Water, That Is!

MCA has learned that some homes may have water pressure that considerably exceeds the 50 to 70 psi recommended level for appliances that use water as well as water valves. The higher than recommended pressure may shorten the life of

these appliances and valves as well as cause pipes to burst. Water pressure reduction regulators are available from local plumbers. However, these regulators may cost several hundred dollars to be purchased and installed. MCA is exploring

options to permit residents to determine their water pressure and, if desired, to get reduction valves without a large expenditure. More information will be published in future editions of *The Mapleleaf* as it becomes available.

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

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ email _____

CHECK ONE: *New Member* _____ *Renewal* _____

Today's Date _____

Dues are \$25 for one year, payable by check to "Maplewood Citizens Association". (Dues paid now will provide membership until September 2008.) Please send your completed membership form and check to:

*Joe Levin, Treasurer
MCA
P.O. Box 2483
Kensington, MD 20891-2483*

Maplewood Football Finalizes Fall Schedule

Maplewood Football has provided the MCA with its Fall '07 schedule, which is as follows:

PRACTICE SCHEDULE

Younger teams (7 through 10 year olds) will practice Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Older teams (11 through 13 year olds) will practice Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

This schedule was created with the goal of easing the overcrowding and parking issue. Practices will run through mid-November depending upon how the teams do.

GAME SCHEDULE

As with last year, there will be some weeks that MF have home games and others where our "National Division" teams play five games but there are no concessions. During the home games, there are usually seven games beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 6 p.m. with full concessions. During the "National Division" weeks, there will be usually four or five games beginning at 9a.m. and ending by 3:15 p.m. with no concessions. The schedule is as follows:

September 8	National Division	September 15	Home game	September 22	National Division
September 29	Home game	October 6	Home game	October 13	Home game
October 20	National Division	October 27	National Division	November 3	Home game



Effective spring 2008, the polling location for residents of Maplewood has been changed from Davis Library to St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church. Residents will receive official notice of the change from the Supervisor of Elections prior to the spring primary.