

# The Mapleleaf

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A publication of the Maplewood Citizens Association, Inc. (MCA)  
[www.maplewoodcitizens.org](http://www.maplewoodcitizens.org)

Become informed: Come to the next meeting of the MCA! Wednesday, September 24th, 2008 7:30 p.m. American College of Cardiology 9111 Old Georgetown Road

### AGENDA

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

In-Fill and Redevelopment Presentation (40 minutes)

BRAC Update (5 minutes)

Heart House Property Update (5 minutes)

FAES property redevelopment (5 minutes)

Donation To Bethesda Fire Department for the April 2008 Spring Social Event (5 minutes)

Establishing a Neighborhood Watch (5 minutes)

## Message from the President

I hope that all residents of Maplewood had a pleasant summer. With the high cost of gasoline, it seemed to me that more people were around their homes this summer than in previous summers.

As we begin the 2008-09 MCA year, there are two major development issues in Maplewood. First, a

school has approached the American College of Cardiology (ACC) about purchasing its property. ACC has put its plans to redevelop the property on hold until it knows if it will sell the site to the school. More information on this subject may be available at our September 24 meeting. Additionally, the

Foundation for The Advance Education in the Sciences (FAES) has notified MCA of its plans for development of its property next to Carriage Hill Rehab and bordered by W. Cedar La, Cypress Ave and Acacia Ave. Please see page 3 in this news-

*Continued on page 3*

## The Hills Are Alive with the Sound of ....Construction

*BRAC Update*

**Dump trucks are roaring up Rt. 355! The geese are sharing their habitat with construction tools! You can readily see the construction activity on the grounds of the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) these days as the federally mandated plans to move a good part of Walter**

**Reed to NNMC move forward.**

August 8, 2008 saw the NNMC release of its Draft Master Plan update and Traffic Management Plan (see the *Walter Reed/EIS* page at: [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/BRAC](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/BRAC)). The current NNMC Master Plan, completed in 1990, is required to address future anticipated development including the

BRAC merger of Walter Reed/NNMC which will be known as the *Walter Reed National Military Medical Center*, the premier military medical facility. The Draft Master Plan and Traffic Management Plan (TMP) will be finalized by the Navy later this year after public hearings by the National Capital Planning Commission and the County's

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### Maplewood Citizens Association

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## Criminal Activity in Maplewood

Recently, two residents of Spruce Tree Village were assaulted and robbed in front of their home. Below is a copy of police incident report concerning the assault:

09/01/2008 @ 1345 hrs Unit block of Spruce Tree Court

Robbery / strong arm / street

Suspects: Two unknown black males - 20-25 years old with very short close cut hair cuts. Operating a dark blue American



made 4 door sedan - no further description.

On the above date and time the victim's, an elderly husband and wife, returned home. They were accosted in

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## BRAC Message *Cont. from page 1*

Park and Planning Commission.

Legislatively, the full House of Representatives passed the FY 2009 Military Construction/Veteran Affairs Appropriations bill on Aug 1. It includes language that strongly supports the Defense Access Road (DAR) funding that would pay for some traffic mitigation measures outside the Navy fence along Rt 355. This bill has yet to be considered and approved by the Senate, however.

At the July 08 Montgomery County BRAC Implementation Committee (BIC) meeting, the Maryland Dept of Transportation's State Highway Administration (SHA) presented a position paper explaining why a dedicated I-495 slip ramp is not worthy of consideration. This detailed paper is available on the Transportation Page of the above noted web site.

The Coalition of National Military Medical Center Neighbors, of which Maplewood is a member, continues to focus on holding elected officials at all levels accountable for this BRAC from planning, implementation and fiscal standpoints. In the inter-

est of a smooth and successful BRAC, the Coalition aims to communicate its member community perspectives and concerns to authorities and insure that short and long-term traffic mitigation solutions are identified and acted upon all with the goal



of maintaining the livability of and accessibility to the neighborhoods.

The BIC is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, September 16, 2008 (usually 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month) at 7:30pm in the B-CC Regional Service Center (near Bethesda Metro) at 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda. The Draft Master Plan/TMP will be discussed and SHA will provide an up-

date on their plans for traffic mitigation in the area near NNMC as it relates to BRAC.

[www.bethesda.med.navy.mil](http://www.bethesda.med.navy.mil)

[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/brac)

BIC = Montgomery County BRAC Implementation Committee

BRAC = Base Realignment and Closure (federal mandate related to military bases)

CNMMCN= Coalition of National Military Medical Center Neighbors (Bethesda Parkview Citizens Assn, Chevy Chase View, East Bethesda Citizens Assn, Glenbrook Village Homeowners Assn, Locust Hill Estates Citizens Assn, Maplewood Citizens Assn, Stone Ridge School)

EIS = Environmental Impact Statement

NNMC = National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD

SHA = Maryland State Highway Administration

WRAMC = Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC

WRNMMC = Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (new name of merged NNMC/WRAMC)

## In-Fill Development to be Focus of September MCA Meeting

In-fill development or remodeling – whichever term you select - is bound to stir up controversy amongst those who desire to do it and those who feel that it changes the character of the neighborhood. To help you better understand the issues, the September 24<sup>th</sup> MCA meeting will feature two guest speakers. Chuck Sullivan is an independent developer with Renewing Montgomery ([www.renewingmontgomery.com](http://www.renewingmontgomery.com)), which is a communications initiative started by a group of independent neighborhood builders in

Montgomery County to improve the dialogue among homeowners, neighbors and homebuilders on issues relating to home construction and remodeling in established neighborhoods. The goals of Renewing Montgomery are to identify reasonable solutions to challenges associated with neighborhood building, to encourage considerate and responsible neighborhood renewal and to communicate the impact current and proposed regulations may have on property owners and neighborhoods. The second guest



speaker will be a representative, Miti Figueredo, from Montgomery County Councilmember Roger Berliner's Office. Councilmember Berliner has introduced legislation intended to address redevelopment height and lot coverage issues.

## FAES Property

The Foundation For The Advanced Education In The Sciences (FAES) has notified MCA that it would like to construct 31 townhomes to house students who are obtaining advanced education degrees through the National Institutes of Health. The townhomes would be constructed on property owned by FAES

bordered by West Cedar Lane, Cypress Ave, and Acacia Ave. There are many zoning, environmental, design, and habitability issues associated with the FAES proposal. MCA would like to invite interested Maplewood residents to join a committee that will address these issues and moderate

MCA's response to them. To join the committee, please contact MCA president, Allen Myers [e-mail [Allenm@maplewoodcitizens.org](mailto:Allenm@maplewoodcitizens.org)]; by leaving a message on the MCA hotline, 301-530-6080, or by signing up at the September 24<sup>th</sup> MCA meeting.

## Criminal Activity *Continued from page 1*

front of their home. The husband was struck in the head and his wallet taken. The wife's purse was also taken. The husband's injuries were not life threatening.

The suspects were observed entering the vehicle, described above, and fleeing onto Spruce Tree Avenue towards Old Georgetown Road.

This crime appears to be opportunistic in

that there was nothing to suggest that there was any connection between the victims and the perpetrators.

Please encourage the reporting of any suspicious persons or vehicles immediately to either our non-emergency number [301 279-8000](tel:3012798000) or [911](tel:301911). Anyone with any information concerning this crime please contact the Bethesda Investigative Section at 301 657-0112.

**MCA comment:** A number of Maplewood residents have reported that their cars were broken into over the summer. Among numerous reports of car vandalism is a September 7 incident on Acacia Ave near Bardon where a flower pot was used to break the back window of a car parked on the street. Residents who are interested in implementing Neighborhood Watch in our community are asked to contact the MCA President.

## Message from the President *Continued from page 1*

letter for more details.

I would like to thank Barbara Harrison for volunteering to serve as MCA secretary for this coming year. After Barbara volunteered, I learned that her mother, Margaret, was a former president of the East Bethesda Citizens Association (EBCA). In 1978, Margaret encouraged me to become involved with EBCA. And thus began my 30-year "career" as a civic activist! "What goes around, comes around" as they say! Maplewood is very lucky to have Barbara's expertise and I am delighted



to see her following in her mother's footsteps of civic duty on behalf of Maplewood.

Please take a moment to become a member of MCA. The dues are the only source of revenue for MCA. With your membership and participation, MCA will be a vibrant organization and responsive to the challenges ahead. Also, MCA al-

ways welcome volunteers. If you are interested in insuring that Maplewood continues to be a great place to live, I look forward to hearing from you. Please contact any of the MCA officers [their e-mail addresses are listed on the front page] or call the MCA hotline at (301) 530-6080 to leave a message.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting, Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at the American College of Cardiology.

### Join the MCA Listserv!

**Send a message to [maplewood-citizens-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:maplewood-citizens-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)  
and be sure to include your name and address.**

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!

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**MEMBERSHIP FORM — Maplewood Citizens Association**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK ONE: *New Member* \_\_\_\_\_ *Renewal* \_\_\_\_\_

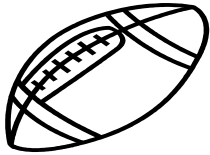
Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

**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**

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## FALL ATHLETIC EVENTS MAY CAUSE PARKING CONGESTION



Each fall, various organizations hold athletic events at the Maplewood - Alta Vista Park that have in the past resulted in parking

and traffic congestion on Maplewood streets near the park. MCA has been informed that Maplewood Football will host home games at the park on September 6, 13, and 27, and on October 4, and

18. Residents who encounter parking violations associated with organizations utilizing the park are encouraged to call the Montgomery County Police at (301) 279-8000.

## November Ballot Initiatives

On November 4, Montgomery County voters will be asked to vote on two state-wide ballot issues and three local issues. The two state-wide ballot questions are constitutional amendments, one on the Elective Franchise - early voting and polling places and one on Video Lottery Terminals - authorization and limitations. Of the three local questions, two

are charter amendments to repeal legally ineffective provisions of certain sections of the County Charter and to amend the County Charter to change the number of Councilmember votes needed to override the annual limit on property tax revenue. The third is a referendum on the Gender Identify Discrimination

laws recently enacted by the County Council. On October 13, 2008 the Montgomery County Civic Federation will present an unbiased discussion of the initiatives. The meeting will be held from 7:45 to 10:00 p.m. in the 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Auditorium, Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave in Rockville.

## BETHESDA-CHEVY CHASE RESCUE SQUAD OPEN HOUSE

This event will be held rain or shine on Saturday, October 4, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m and will feature tours of the squad's station, demonstrations of emergency medical, rescue and firefighting equipment as well as a close-up view of a medevac helicopter. Free firefighting hats will be given to children



and there will be a moonbounce. Since on-site parking will not be available, visitors are encouraged to use nearby County parking garages. Further information on the event is available at [www.bccrs.org](http://www.bccrs.org) or by calling (301) 652-0077.