



The Mapleleaf

Volume 0910 No. 3
January 2010

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

Meeting: 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 27 th, 2010

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

AGENDA

Call To Order

Secretary's Report

Treasurer's Report

State Highway Admin Presentation
(45 min)

Hearing Examiner's Opinion on FAES
request to rezone property from R-
60 to RT-8 (5-minutes)

Proposed Bylaw Amendment recom-
mended by the Executive Committee
(15 min)

Proposed elimination of Ride-On
Route 30 (15 min)

Expenditure Approval for additional
Neighborhood Watch signs (5 min)

ADJOURN

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I wish to humbly apologize for failing to reserve the Heart House for our November 2009 meeting, which resulted in the meeting being cancelled. In the hustle and bustle of all that was going on in Maplewood, it simply slipped my mind to request the use of the facility. I'm going to use that failure as a "learning experience" to make sure it never happens again!

We have rescheduled the speakers from the State Highway Administration to return for our January 27th meeting. MCA believes that it is important for residents of Maplewood to be kept aware of the evolving intersection modifications that are being proposed as a result of the merger of Walter Reed Hospital and the National Naval Medical Center. Two of these intersections, West Cedar Lane and Old George-

town Road and West Cedar Lane and Rockville Pike, are immediately adjacent to our neighborhood. Please come to hear this important presentation. [See the related article on page 3.

As this issue of The Mapleleaf goes to press, MCA is waiting for the Hearing Examiner's opinion on the proposal by the Foundation For Advanced Education In The Sciences (FAES) to rezone, for townhouses, property it owns in Maplewood. FAES would like to provide housing to graduate students who work at NIH. Although MCA anticipated receiving the examiner's opinion prior to our general membership January 27th meeting, it now appears that it will not be available by that date.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on January 27th.

Allen

INCLEMENT WEATHER ON JANUARY 27th ??

Please call the MAPLEWOOD HOTLINE that day at 301-530-6080 to see if the meeting is being held, cancelled or postponed.



TIP: If a public announcement of a SNOW EMERGENCY is declared, you are prohibited from parking on SNOW EMERGENCY designated roads like W. Cedar Lane.

Maplewood Citizens Association

Mailing address: **MCA
P.O. Box 2483
Kensington, MD**

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

Website: **www.maplewoodcitizens.org**

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

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

Secretary: **Barbara Harrison
bar-**

Treasurer: **Hugh Barteman
HughB@maplewoodcitizens.org**

WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD?

BECOME A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK CAPTAIN:

- No experience necessary
- Great way to meet your neighbors
- Help protect Maplewood from crime—It is in your interest!
- Very little of your time is required

MAPLEWOOD'S NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH WILL ONLY BE SUCCESSFUL IF YOU PARTICIPATE!

Frank Leibsly is ready to answer your questions: leibslyf@saic.com or 301-493-4256 (evenings).

See Neighborhood Watch Tips on p.2.

CAN WE COUNT ON YOU?

Maplewood needs your membership! Please send in your dues which are our only source of funding as we keep you informed of issues affecting Maplewood and address issues that affect the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Maplewood needs your participation in the upcoming April Spring Social.

See the opportunity on page 4.

Maplewood needs an Advertising Manager for The Mapleleaf.

Maplewood needs a newsletter editor.

Maplewood needs a newsletter delivery volunteer to coordinate the Mapleleaf Newsletter hand deliveries 4-5 times per year.

Maplewood would love to have ideas for activities and volunteers to implement them.

Any civic organization is only as good as its volunteers. We look forward to your contacting us to let us know what you would like to do!

Contact any of the officers listed on page 1 to offer your assistance!

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR MAPLEWOOD STUDENTS - AGES 12 AND UP

Need some pocket money?

The MAPLEWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD HELPERS LIST is a very popular resource for fellow neighborhood residents looking for help with: Dog walking, babysitting, pet sit-

ting, housesitting, lawn mowing, raking leaves/shoveling snow & gardening.

Next list: MARCH 2010 issue of the *Mapleleaf Newsletter*.

To be on the list or for questions : call

Janet Maalouf at (240) 694-0204 or e-mail janet.maalouf@verizon.net

Deadline: 28 February 2010

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH TIPS FOR JANUARY: PROTECT YOUR HOME

Courtesy of Frank Leibsly, Coordinator

Remember, if you see anything suspicious, please report it to the Montgomery County Police Department non-emergency number (301) 279-8000.

If you see a crime being committed, call 911.



Remember to check doors, locks, windows, lighting, garage, and appearance.

Doors:

Install good quality deadbolt locks on all exterior doors and any doors from attached garages.

Windows:

Window locks or bars may be used to increase security, especially on all windows that are accessible from the ground.

Use window coverings such as curtains or mini-blinds to decrease visibility into your home.

Lighting

Use automatic timers all of the time, not just when you are away.

Utilize specialty lighting in high security areas.

Consider installing motion detectors.

Illuminate grounds and house including doors, porches, windows, garage and all points of entry.

Appearance

Direct visitors by means of fences, walkways and shrubs.

Plant thorny bushes around windows to make illegal entry more difficult.

Trim shrubs and trees that could conceal criminals.

Cut back tree limbs that might allow thieves to climb into windows.

Use landscaping to provide maximum visibility of the house.

Garages

Always lock the house door from an attached garage.

When at home always park your car in the garage with the door closed.

Install automatic openers that will allow you to stay in your car until safely parked in the garage.

General

When you are not at home, make it look like as though somebody is there.

Never let people know when your home will be empty.

Avoid advertising expensive purchases.

Don't let burglars use your spare key. They are clever at knowing all the hiding places.

Next issue topic: Ruin a pickpocket's day!

Join the MCA Listserv!

Send a message to maplewood-citizens-subscribe@yahoo.com and be sure to include your name and address.

PROPOSED BYLAW RESVISION

In 2002, MCA undertook a substantial revision of its bylaws. A committee established for this purpose recommended that the bylaw dealing with membership eligibility be changed to permit residents of townhouse communities within the boundaries of MCA to become eligible for membership. This amendment was defeated. However, in recent years, MCA inadvertently accepted memberships from residents of townhouses. The MCA executive committee feels strongly that

residents of the townhouses have common issues and concerns with residents of the detached homes in Maplewood. For example, residents of Bethesda Crest recently sought assistance from MCA officers in dealing with the proposal by the State Highway Administration to take Bethesda Crest property on Rockville Pike as part of the intersection improvements for the interchange with West Cedar Lane. Accordingly, the Executive Committee has

requested that the membership review the following bylaw at its January 2010 meeting and amend it by removing the word in brackets.

“Membership in the Association shall be open to all owners and residents of single-family [detached] houses within the boundaries of Old Georgetown Road, West Cedar Lane, Rockville Pike, and I-495.”

BRAC UPDATE: *Move of Walter Reed to National Naval Medical Center*



As a result of significant Congressional interest in the Bethesda BRAC on the part of Rep. John Murtha (D-PA), Rep Christopher Van Hollen (D-MD) and other Maryland Congressional representatives, the FY 2010 Defense Appropriations bill which included a \$300 million appropriation to be used specifically for BRAC-related transportation infrastructure improvements at National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) and Ft. Belvoir was signed into law by President Obama on December 19, 2009. How much of that \$300 million will come to Bethesda and what impact the money will have on road improvements in Bethesda is unknown at this time.

Discussions continue among the various County and State government levels including National Institutes of Health and NNMC regarding road improvements. The Montgomery County Dept of Transportation (MCDOT) recently announced a new plan for a multi-modal crossing at Rockville Pike (MD

355) between the Medical Center Metro Station and NNMC. Details are expected to be unveiled at a Public Meeting at 6:30pm on January 19 prior to the monthly County BRAC Implementation meeting (BIC).

Maryland State Highway (SHA) staff will be our guest presenters at the MCA general membership meeting on January 27, 2009 at 7:30pm at the (former) American College of Cardiology (Heart House). Discussion will focus on proposed intersection improvements closest to Maplewood: Old Georgetown Rd and W. Cedar Lane and Rockville Pike and W. Cedar Lane, the latter of which is at the top of the 4 intersections SHA priority list.

The article “Ride-On Bus Route 30 May be in Jeopardy”, page 4, focuses on action being taken on a County budget crunch relief proposal to eliminate certain ride-on buses. This County proposal is in stark contradiction to necessary traffic mitigation measures which should be encouraging the use of

public transportation in anticipation of BRAC. If you support continuation of the Ride-On # 30 bus:

- You are encouraged to testify at the Montgomery County Dept of Transportation/ Division of Transit Services hearing on February 1 at 6:30 pm at the County Executive Office Building cafeteria, 101 Monroe St, Rockville;
- Sign the on-line petition to save Route 30: <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/1/save-bus-30>
- Join the <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RideOnRoute30/>;
- Show your concern and your support for the #30 bus by e-mailing The offices of Ride On, Berliner, Floreen & Leggett: modot.ideonpublicforums@montgomerycountymd.gov
councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov
councilmember.floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov
coemail@montgomerycountymd.gov

You can keep current on BRAC and the intersection improvement picture through:

- The monthly BIC meetings (generally the 3rd Tuesday of every month; next one is January 19) at the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Ln, Bethesda (near Bethesda Metro),
- Montgomery County website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/BRAC

RIDE-ON ROUTE 30 MAY BE IN JEOPARDY



To help reduce the County's budget deficit the County Executive, Ike Leggett, has proposed the elimination or cutback of a number of Ride-On routes. Route 30 which traverses a portion of Maplewood (Linden

and Beech Avenues between Pooks Hill Road and Old Georgetown Road), is on the list to be eliminated. The County has scheduled a hearing for February 1st at which residents and neighborhood associations will have the opportunity to comment on County Executive

Leggett's proposals. At the January 27th MCA general membership meeting residents will be asked to consider whether MCA should testify on the Route 30 proposed elimination and what form the testimony will take. Please attend to express your opinion.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING SET FOR SPRING SOCIAL

There will be a planning meeting for the Maplewood Spring Social on February 2, 2010 at the home of DeeDee Lynch, 5424 Alta Vista Road at 7:00 pm. If you are willing to be really involved or slightly involved, we'd love to have your

help/support. If you are unable to offer time to make this event happen, but willing to help underwrite some of the costs, we would be thrilled to have your support as well. The date of the Spring Social (around end of April) will

be announced in the March *Mapleleaf*. Please contact DeeDee Lynch about supporting Maplewood's Spring Social: deedeemartt@hotmail.com or 240-478-0651 cell.

HELP WANTED - ATTENTION: STAY AT HOME MOMS/DADS

Maplewood residents/business owners are looking for a stay at home Mom/Dad to work two days per week (Mondays & Thursdays from 9:00AM to 5:30 PM) from your home to provide support for our business: answering phones and providing customer assistance to our clients. The work is mostly low key telephone/technical contact with the occasional busy day. Pay is \$15/hour. Our business is built on customer service, availability of customer support, and overall attention to our very valuable clients. Job requires reliability, professional manner, and computer skills such as file searching, word processing, and some understanding of computer networks. Another important part of the job is coverage for the business owners while they are away from the office (3-4 weeks/year). For more information contact Jim or Mary Ann Winkler at 301-530-1294 or by email: wilsonelastic@gmail.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

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 2010.) Please send your completed membership form and check to: