



The Mapleleaf

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

VOLUME 1920, NO. 1 SEPTEMBER 2019

Meeting:

Wednesday, Sept. 18, 2019

7:30 p.m.

Knights of Columbus/Rock Creek Mansion

5417 W. Cedar Ln.

Bethesda, MD 20814

AGENDA

- Call To Order
- Presentation by Montgomery County Division of Parking on Digital Residential Permit Parking System in Maplewood (1 hour)
- Business Meeting
 - * Secretary's Report
 - * Treasurer's Report
 - * Updates from the MCA President
 - * 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: Joe Aukward
vp@maplewoodcitizens.org

Secretary: Jason Padgett
secretary@maplewoodcitizens.org

Treasurer: Alan Goldhammer
treasurer@maplewoodcitizens.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Welcome to the Maplewood Citizens Association (MCA) new membership year, 2019-2020. As you can see from the membership form on page 4, MCA "provides a public forum to discuss neighborhood concerns, solve problems and promote community". The MCA officers and many volunteers work hard on the behalf of all residents in Maplewood to create a friendly, neighborly, informed and active community with a variety of volunteer-run activities for all ages. MCA communicates via its list serv (see page 3 on how to join) and its volunteer hand-delivered newsletter, *The Mapleleaf* newsletter that is published in September, November, January, March and May. The updated version of The Neighborhood Helpers List is included in the September and March issues. MCA's website is maplewoodcitizens.org and its hotline is 301-530-6080. Dues help cover the expenses involved with these methods of communication.

We welcome all residents to become MCA members (and become volunteers, too) in the hopes that you appreciate living in a neighborhood that is friendly, safe and focused on resolving issues that affect the residents. Any Maplewood resident is encouraged to

attend MCA's five neighborhood meetings throughout the year, but only those residents who have paid their dues are allowed to vote on matters that might come before MCA. MCA's only source of revenue to cover expenses are the yearly dues.

As you can see from the various articles in this issue, there are many unresolved issues in Maplewood. MCA is pleased to announce that long-time resident Joe Aukward (Balfour Dr.) volunteered over the summer to be Vice-President of MCA in place of the previous Vice President who moved out of the neighborhood. I welcome his support and help.

Two Montgomery County Department of Transportation representatives, Jose Thommana, Chief of the Parking Management Division and Scott Reinmann, Chief of Parking Operations will address the issue of the digital residential permit parking system that affects many streets in Maplewood at the MCA neighborhood meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2019. See page 2 for details on the issue. Come meet your fellow neighbors over refreshments before the meeting!

Allen

A PICTURE IS WORTH A 1,000 WORDS

PLEASE **SLOW DOWN** WHEN DRIVING IN MAPLEWOOD. THESE SIGNS HAVE BEEN POPPING UP THROUGHOUT THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND ARE INDICATIVE OF PARENT CONCERN FOR THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN OF ALL AGES.



WHAT IS LEFT BEHIND STAYS BEHIND.

Unfortunately

Dog poop report: This remains a problem in the neighborhood.

SOLUTION: **Responsible dog owners!** Thanks!





MAPLEWOOD

Needed:

Volunteers to join the Mapleleaf Newsletter delivery team in September, November, March and May.

Contact Barbara Harrison (lakestargirl@gmail.com)

RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING CONTRACTOR CHANGE CAUSES CONFUSION IN MAPLEWOOD

County to attend MCA neighborhood meeting on September 18, 2019

Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) recently selected a new contractor to run the digital residential permit parking program that affects numerous (not all) streets in Maplewood. The residential permit parking program is designed to discourage commuter parking in neighborhoods near a Metro stop and near large employers in various parts of Montgomery County. Maplewood was the first community to use the digital permit system several years ago and it is now the first community to deal with the new contractor. All has not gone well as many Maplewood residents have already discovered. The county's Division of Parking and the new contractor are working to resolve the interface problems as soon as possible.

The Chief of the Parking Management Division, Jose Thommana, and the Chief of Parking Operations, Scott Reinmann will attend the September 18th Maplewood Citizens Association (MCA) neighborhood meeting to present an overview of the system and answer questions. **All Maplewood residents who reside on a street with residential permit parking are encouraged to attend this presentation to learn how to register their vehicles and obtain visitor permits.**

PROPOSED FRENCH INTERNATIONAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN MAPLEWOOD

"We are continually coordinating with both the County and the applicant and will continue to keep you in the loop with any future developments," is the September 4, 2019 reply from the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) to MCA's request for the status of the French International School's proposed new elementary school on the FASEB property just south of Pooks Hill Rd on Rockville Pike/Rt. 355.

POOKS HILL MARRIOTT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR SALE

Quadrangle Construction's site plan for the vacant property adjacent to the Pooks Hill Marriott Hotel on Pooks Hill Road was approved in 2018 by the Montgomery County Planning Board. The plan was for two 16 floor high rise apartment buildings. Quadrangle has apparently decided not to pursue their plan and the property is for sale. Any new owner would be bound by the terms of the site plan previously approved by the County Planning Board but it is also not prohibited from seeking modifications to that plan.

BEECH AVENUE VACANT PROPERTY UPDATE

The current owner of this property, Brad Bernstein, has informed MCA that he has a potential buyer for the property located along Beech Avenue between Page Avenue and Linden Avenue. If the sale is completed prior to the September 18th MCA neighborhood meeting, MCA will be informed about who is the new property owner. The new owner is expected to develop the site in accordance with the plans that Mr. Bernstein has previously presented to MCA. However, this is not mandatory. MCA plans to invite the new owner to an MCA neighborhood meeting to detail the plans for the property and to obtain feedback from Maplewood residents. MCA will keep residents apprised of the future use of this property.

MAPLEWOOD VILLAGE NEWS

Maplewood Village is an ongoing volunteer initiative, providing a variety of opportunities for neighbors to meet and, in conjunction with the Wyngate Village, offering free volunteer services to any residents in Maplewood. To request assistance, call 301-388-5112 or e-mail wnhn.help@gmail.com to reach a volunteer coordinator who will handle your request.

Maplewood Village is pleased to announce that it recently received a small grant from Suburban Hospital to extend our outreach and activities. To learn more or help with the planning, contact Marion Zatz at marionzatz@gmail.com.

Here are just a few of the regular activities open to all ages except where noted:

- Happy Hour the second Wednesday of each month, 6 - 8 p.m., at the Knights of Columbus, 5417 W. Cedar Lane. Must be 21 years of age to attend.
- Walking Groups start at the entrance to Maplewood - Alta Vista Park on Alta Vista Rd at 9 a.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- The next Maplewood 55+ Lunch Bunch is Monday, Sept. 16th at noon at Cooper's Mill restaurant in Bethesda Pooks Hill Marriott. Please RSVP to Narda Ehrlich at nardaehr@yahoo.com if you plan to attend. There is complimentary validated parking and a 20% senior discount. Good food and lively conversation are guaranteed.
- The Maplewood Garden Group consists of Maplewood residents who have an interest in sharing plants and/or information about gardens in the company of neighbors. Please note that no special expertise or gardening skill is required - all are welcome. Contact Barbara Harrison at lakestargirl@gmail.com to learn more.
- Neighborhood Knitters: contact Sandi Komarow, sandikomarow@gmail.com.
- "News and Schmooze": A lively discussion on current events topics selected by the group. Contact Narda Ehrlich at nardaehr@yahoo.com.

Get involved! This is YOUR Village! Contact Mary Jo Deering at mdeering@starpower.net with questions or suggestions or to help with activities. See photos on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MaplewoodVillageBethesda/>.

NEW TO MAPLEWOOD?

If you have moved into Maplewood anytime in the past twelve months and have NOT received a "Welcome Wagon" visit (welcome package with information, a map, etc.) a Maplewood Village volunteer would be happy to arrange a visit. Please contact Sandy Callier at calliers@gmail.com.

"FRONT YARD FRIDAYS"

A New Tradition

Being new to the neighborhood with elementary aged children, Heidi Tackill was anxious to meet her neighbors and to provide her children with some friendly faces to start the new school year. Heidi stepped up to organize the first "Front Yard Friday" (FYF) at her home in Maplewood. FYF had been a big success in her old neighborhood. About 25 people of all ages (long-time residents, grandparents, even a 3-month-old) turned out for Heidi's FYF. Numerous Maplewood families have subsequently signed up for FYF's.

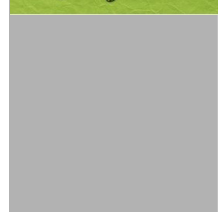
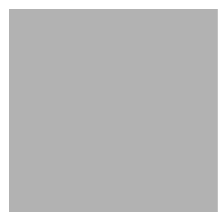
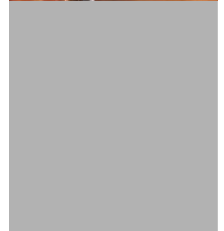
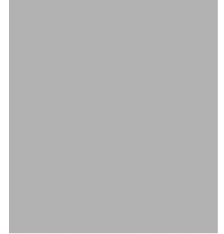
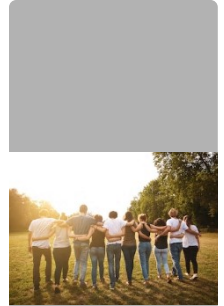
Families sign up at www.signupgenius.com to host a FYF at their outside space (front yard, driveway, side or back yard, etc.) for neighbors to meet, nosh, and share spirits. The host gets the party started with a table, appetizer and whatever else they would like. Neighbors bring food or drink to share, a party game or activity for the little ones.

Signups will continue until the weather is too cold and then start back up again in the spring. Please consider hosting and/or coming to an event-- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0845A4A62AAFF2-front>

Questions? Please contact Heidi Tackill at hbtackill@gmail.com. Welcome to Maplewood, Heidi and family.

Join the MCA Listserv

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



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

A CONNECTION BETWEEN MAKING YOUR BED AND LOCKING YOUR CAR DOORS?

A SIMPLE MATTER OF HABIT

The title of U.S. Navy Retired Admiral William H. McRaven’s 2017 book, “*Make Your Bed... Little Things That Can Change Your Life... And Maybe The World*”, is thought provoking. Although he was not talking about crime, Admiral McRaven was highlighting the simple habit of making your bed as one of 10 lessons he learned from Navy SEAL training. Can Maplewood residents get in the habit of locking their car doors, too?

Crime in Maplewood is typically a crime of opportunity: leaving car doors unlocked and leaving items of interest to thieves such as phones, electronic devices, wallets, etc. Leaving keys to cars and homes in cars is an open invitation for trouble.

If you are the victim of any crime including vehicle vandalism, please REPORT it to the police. The non-emergency number for the Bethesda 2nd District is 301-279-8000. In case of an emergency, dial 911. The webpage, https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OPI/make_right_call.html,

provides great information on which number to call depending on the situation.

Posting an incident on Maplewood’s listserv provides an additional way for fellow residents to be informed (steps to join the list serv are on page 3).

Neighborhood Watch questions: contact Allison Peppelman at apeppelman@gmail.com .

Maplewood’s Halloween Family Costume Parade and Party

October 27, 2019

Maplewood Alta-Vista Park (5209 Alta Vista Rd.)



Join in the annual Maplewood Halloween costume party and parade Sunday, October 27, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. at Maplewood Alta-Vista Park. After a short parade down the sidewalk, there will be pizza donated by the Maplewood Village. Bring your own beverages and any candy you would like to share. All ages welcome!

Rock Creek Dance has offered again this year to host a post-parade dance party for all ages – you are never too old to dance!

Rock Creek Dance offer ballet, jazz, tap and lyrical for ages 4 through adult in a nurturing, non-competitive environment. Their website is:

<http://rockcreekdance.com>

NOT TO MISS.....

“**Our Food is Killing Too Many of Us**”, an August 26, 2019 New York Times opinion piece by Dariush Mozaffarian and Dan Glickman. Mozaffarian is dean of the Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy. Glickman was the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture from 1995 to 2001.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/26/opinion/food-nutrition-health-care.html>

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, 2019 - August 31, 2020** payable by check to “MCA”. Please send your completed membership form and check to: **Alan Goldhammer, Treasurer, MCA, P.O. Box 2483, Kensington, MD 20891-2483 OR through PayPal at maplewoodcitizens.org .**