

The Council Report

2012 Annual Report & Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2014



MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Mayor*
MAURICE J. TREBACH, *Chairman*
ELIZABETH DEMETRA HARRIS, *Secretary*
ALVAN M. MORRIS, *Treasurer*
ROBERT M. SCHWARZBART, *Parliamentarian*
LEONARD J. GRANT, *Historian*

Channeling Chip

Melanie Rose White, Mayor

One day while visiting my mom in Pennsylvania during the December holidays, I took a break from baking cookies and read an editorial in her newspaper. The columnist was making a case for less stressful holidays—that not everything you do has to be perfect at such a crazy-busy time of year. In other words, it's perfectly alright if some jobs you do are “good enough.” At that moment, I glanced down at my jeans streaked with flour, noticed a stack of greeting cards that needed to be written, considered the benefits of creating a wreath from boxwood, and wondered if this columnist seriously was on the right track. Is it really necessary to aim for perfection in every single task we take on, whether at Christmas or another season? I read the article to my mom (she's 92) and waited for her reaction. She didn't say too much, just sort of sniffed and looked at me over her eyeglasses, as if to ask, “Which of your many jobs are you *not* going to give 100% to this year?” I smiled . . . and promptly went Back. To. Work.

In truth, I do enjoy preparing for all the holidays and carrying on the traditions that my family cherishes. This year, though, while completing some of the simpler tasks that allow your mind to wander, I found myself thinking about my fellow Council member and friend, Chip Mudd. Chip passed away on December 2, and it's hard to imagine him not being with us anymore. I served with him on the Council for more than 11 years and became good friends with him and Dorothy shortly after he was first elected. As a public servant, Chip was devoted to making our village an outstanding community, unparalleled in Montgomery County. As a friend, Chip loved sharing his Southern Maryland

heritage and showing me the best of his 1940s dance moves. That phrase, “good enough” rarely, if ever, was expressed by Chip. He was Old School: Do the job correctly the first time, no matter how long or difficult it might be, and you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you did it right. Whether it was overseeing the reconstruction of Humphrey Park or fixing a sidewalk crack, Chip took on every assignment with the same degree of care and dedication. He loved his volunteer work as our “resident engineer” in the Village, and it showed in his tireless efforts to keep our infrastructure in top shape. Chip was without a doubt a perfectionist, but he also had a zest for life that rivaled many of my younger friends' and a charm that was endearing.



Leonard “Chip” Mudd, 1924–2012

As you read through the rest of this Annual Report, I hope you'll see many more examples of the drive for excellence that Chip modeled. Our talented and dynamic village staff work hard every day to ensure that our residents enjoy the very best that Friendship Heights can offer. From our extensive array of programs, classes, and events, to a community

that is well-maintained, safe, and vibrant, Friendship Heights shows what's possible when everyone aims high.

Along with a dedicated staff and a team of hardworking volunteers, your tax dollars allow the Village to offer such a broad range of services and amenities. Please read the Treasurer's Report by Dr. Alvan Morris on page 5 where you'll see that this is the **eighth consecutive year that the proposed tax rate is 4¢ per \$100—the lowest our Charter allows!** Our budget is balanced, and we have the financial resources to keep making our village a special place to work and live, in a manner that Chip was so proud of and committed to maintaining.

On behalf of the Council, I extend my warmest wishes to you and your family for a healthy and successful 2013. I hope we see you soon at the Village Center.

2012 Village Report

Julian P. Mansfield, Village Manager

The Village of Friendship Heights is a special tax district created by the State of Maryland in 1914. It is governed by a seven-member all-volunteer Council elected every two years. Each Council member serves as an officer: Melanie Rose White, Mayor; Maurice Trebach, Chairman; Leonard "Chip" Mudd, Vice Chairman (passed away in December 2012); Elizabeth Demetra Harris, Secretary; Alvan Morris, Treasurer; Robert Schwarzbart, Parliamentarian; and Leonard Grant, Historian.

We rely on a large number of volunteers from the community to help us at the Village Center every day. My special thanks to them and to our wonderful staff.

REMEMBERING CHIP MUDD

The Village lost a beloved Council member and resident with the passing of Leonard "Chip" Mudd in December. Following a successful career in engineering, Chip moved to the Village and devoted his time and expertise by serving as Treasurer and then President of The Elizabeth Condominium Board. In 2001 he was elected to the Village Council, serving first as Historian, then as Vice Chairman.

Chip was honored at the 2004 Community Day celebration for his direct role in the renovation of Hubert Humphrey Park. A plaque in honor of his dedication and service to the community was installed at the entrance to the park near Friendship Boulevard. The plaque reads simply: "To Chip Mudd for his wisdom and oversight." Over the years Chip was involved in

many other projects that required engineering expertise, including the repaving of Village streets.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In September we participated in the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day program for the first time. Sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the program addresses a vital public safety and health issue. Montgomery County Police officers came to the Center to collect and safely dispose of unwanted



Prescription Drug Take-Back Day attracted many residents disposing of prescription drugs. Photo by Joel Williams

or expired prescription drugs. Because of the positive feedback we received we will repeat this program in the fall. We also continued our popular shredding service for residents with two community shred dates. Check our newsletter for an announcement of the next shredding date in spring 2013.

The Council continued its active role in the Friendship



The Village's holiday lighting display in Humphrey Park won first place in a national decorating competition sponsored by ValleyCrest Landscape Maintenance company.



As part of our centennial celebration in 2014, we are collecting photos of the old houses that predated the highrise development. This photo from the 1970s was taken on Willard Avenue facing north (with the Elizabeth in the background), the current site of Moussa Moaadel Realty.

Photo from Thelma Edwards archive



Tulips on display around the sundial at Willoughby Park.

Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee. Council member Bob Schwarzbart completed his final term and was succeeded by John Mertens, a resident who also serves as Chief Judge for the County Board of Elections at our precinct. The Committee advises the County on a range of traffic and transportation issues, including pedestrian safety. In July

Bob Schwarzbart was appointed to serve on the Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board.

Our email alert group continues to grow. The group receives monthly messages about our website updates and special program announcements. If you haven't yet signed up, send an email to jmansfield@friendshipheightsmd.gov.

We also continued our affiliation with the Maryland Municipal League, attending meetings with the County Executive, County Council and Maryland legislators. I serve as Treasurer of the Montgomery County Chapter.

NEIGHBORHOOD UPDATES

WSSC began a project to replace aging water pipes on Willard Avenue. In June WSSC representatives came to our Council meeting to give us a briefing. The project will include replacing a large section of pipe under Friendship Boulevard between Willard and North Park Avenues. This section was repaired following a water main break in December 2010 that caused a sinkhole in Friendship Boulevard. That same section will now be replaced. We will provide more updates as the work progresses this year.

MVA ON WHEELS GETS SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration's Mobile Office continues to be a tremendously convenient and popular service in the Village. Last July 4 the Village Council selected the MVA Mobile Office to receive the Elizabeth Scull Outstanding Community Service Award in recognition of the tremendous staff on the MVA bus. The bus comes once a month and parks on Friendship Boulevard, next to the Village Center, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All of the services provided at the

MVA Express Offices are available on the bus, including renewing driver's licenses, renewing vehicle registrations, renewing MD photo identifications, obtaining disability placards, and returning tags.



MVA Mobile Office staff Donald Clark, Kathy Wiederock and Sandy Bathurst are an efficient and friendly team. Not pictured is Rea Dimler, who should rejoin the staff soon.



Mayor White presents the Elizabeth Scull Award to the MVA Mobile Office, represented by Sean Adgerson, MVA Deputy Administrator.

Photo by Joel Williams

MVA Bus Schedule for first half of 2013 (Mondays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.):
January 28, February 25, March 25, April 22, May 28 (Tuesday), June 17

PREPARING FOR THE VILLAGE'S CENTENNIAL

The Village Council established a committee of residents to work with staff and Council members in preparation for our community's 100th anniversary in 2014. The Centennial Committee met regularly throughout the year and will continue planning for a series of festivities and special programs about the history of our unique community. Look for periodic updates in the Village newsletter.

VILLAGE HONORS RESIDENTS

Every year the Council recognizes Village residents for their contributions to the community. At our Community Day celebration, Mayor White honored two outstanding volunteers, Ken Niles and Tobi Esler (Library Committee). Gertrude Slifkin (Taste of Friendship Heights, Program Advisory Committee) and Stephanie Olshan (Center front desk, Centennial Committee) were presented with Community Service awards at our July 4

celebration. We also recognized two Village Centennarians, Claire Halperin and Marianne Cook. Marianne has played piano at our Tuesday Tea program for many years. She also received a proclamation from the State of Maryland.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE FIELD OFFICE

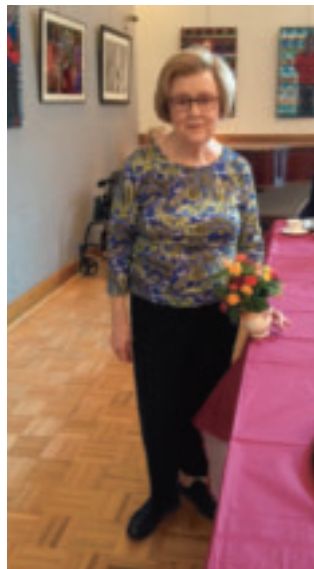
Now in its 16th year of operation, the Police Field Office at 4602 North Park Avenue is a terrific partnership between the Village and the Montgomery County Police Department's Bethesda District, headed by Captain David Falcinelli. The facility provides increased police presence and visibility in the community.



Photo by Joel Williams

TUESDAY TEA AT THE CENTER

Every Tuesday a group of dedicated volunteers comes to the Center for several hours to prepare an assortment of tasty treats for our residents. Marianne Cook, honored at our July 4 celebration by Mayor Melanie White (at left), plays the piano faithfully. She was profiled by the *Washington Post* for her many years of talented service. Also shown are volunteers Ron Irion (right), Helen Davis (below right), Sarah Sandstrom (below center) and Elizabeth Noyes (below left). Not pictured is Barbara Salter, one of the original Tea volunteers who continues to help out.



Treasurer's Report

Dr. Alvan Morris

By most accounts, the economy continues to improve. Depending on who is interpreting the statistics the pace of growth may be on target or painfully slow, but barring a full slide into recession due to congressional action or inaction, the trend seems to be up.

In Friendship Heights, the all important marker is income tax revenue. We were greatly relieved in FY2012 when receipts came in significantly higher than FY2011



numbers would have allowed us to anticipate. In FY2013 we are seeing similar growth, and are anticipating a surplus of over \$200,000 for the fiscal year. A great beginning to our centennial celebration.

For FY2014 we continue to budget conservatively, but are still projecting a surplus of over

\$150,000. While we will not see an increase in property tax revenues until properties are reassessed (if then), and interest income is still way down, income tax is expected to remain constant. The Village continues to maintain substantial reserves and has no debt. **We are therefore confident about leaving the tax rate at 4¢ per \$100, the lowest rate allowed by our charter, for the eighth consecutive year.**

The proposed Village budget for FY2014 follows, along with an explanation of the various categories. As always, the narrative only hits certain highlights of the budget, and the footnotes at the end should be consulted for a more complete explanation of the indicated categories. Public hearings will be held on the proposed FY2014 budget in February and March.

REVENUES

For FY2014, income taxes are budgeted at \$1,200,000 which is the same amount we are expecting to receive in FY2013. We are basing our expected property tax revenues on the assessed valuation as of November 2012 and are leaving the number the same as this year.

No increase is expected in interest income. Parking violation income has stabilized over the past two years. Municipal Revenue Sharing and the Gas/Highway tax continue to be debated by the political entities involved. We are leaving the amounts expected the same as in the current budget.

EXPENDITURES

General Government: This category is being increased 2% over the FY2013 budget and is essentially the same as the estimated actual amount. We expect to replace a substantial number of the auditorium chairs in FY2013. A 3% salary increase for staff is also included.

Public Safety: A small increase is anticipated in the security contract.

Public Works: Per contract, the cost of the bus will rise in FY2014. The cost of providing the summer flower baskets in FY2013 reflects the lower price in this year's grounds maintenance contract. We are allowing an additional amount for FY2014. A substantial number of the metal support baskets will also be replaced.

Health/Education/Social Services: Any expenditures for the Rothstein Scholarship will be funded by a reserve set up with excess funds several years ago. The cooperative housing program ended this fiscal year (see note 25).

Recreation & Parks:

The Village Centennial celebration will occur in 2014. Additional money has been included in the "Center special events" category for expenses related to this happy celebration.



Once again, I am pleased to say that the Village's strong financial condition, combined with careful management, has allowed us to continue to navigate through a difficult economic environment while keeping services intact and the tax rate at the lowest possible level allowed by our charter. We are proud of our accomplishments and will continue to strive to keep the Village a wonderful place to live and work.

Friendship Heights Village: Proposed Budget for FY2014

REVENUES:	Actual FY12	Budget FY13	Est.Actual FY13	Budget FY14
Property tax ¹	\$498,484	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$500,000
Income tax ²	1,099,170	1,050,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
Municipal Revenue Sharing ³	73,944	74,000	82,625	82,000
Gas/highway tax ⁴	19,707	12,000	12,000	12,000
Parking violation income ⁵	311,940	275,000	300,000	300,000
4602 N. Park Ave. rental	44,000	48,000	48,000	49,320
Interest income ⁶	12,186	12,000	12,000	12,000
Village Center rental income	19,920	20,000	20,000	20,000
Permit and License fees ⁷	15,749	15,000	15,000	15,000
Newsletter ad income	33,270	40,000	40,000	40,000
Village Center program/misc income ⁸	6,623	10,000	7,000	7,000
TOTAL REVENUES	\$2,134,993	\$2,056,000	\$2,236,625	\$2,237,320
EXPENDITURES:	Actual FY12	Budget FY13	Est.Actual FY13	Budget FY14
General Government				
1 Elections	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
2A Financial admin. and accounting ⁹	9,481	10,000	10,000	10,000
2B Administrative costs ¹⁰	7,592	9,000	9,000	9,000
2C Memberships and conferences ¹¹	13,062	20,000	20,000	20,000
2D Legal counsel and consultants	6,043	10,000	10,000	10,000
2F Village Council reports	2,714	3,000	3,000	3,000
3A Salaries ¹²	575,758	602,500	602,500	620,575
3B Health and Life Insurance ¹³	100,859	110,000	110,000	115,000
3C F.I.C.A.	44,541	47,000	47,000	48,400
3E Retirement Contribution ¹⁴	43,871	47,000	47,000	48,400
4A Xerox copiers	742	1,000	1,000	1,000
4B Aquarium	1,800	1,900	1,900	1,900
4C Heating and cooling maintenance	9,761	12,000	25,000	12,000
4D Bldg. security system maintenance	2,549	3,000	3,000	3,000
5C Bldg/General liability insurance ¹⁵	33,450	29,500	29,500	28,740
6 Telephone and utilities	37,115	45,000	45,000	45,000
7 Hospitality and special events ¹⁶	16,502	17,000	17,000	17,000
8A Equipment and supplies ¹⁷	14,147	15,000	15,000	15,000
8B Office and building furniture	0	0	10,000	0
8D 4602 N. Park Ave. maintenance	1,130	5,000	5,000	5,000
8E Computer equip/supplies	2,146	3,000	3,000	3,000
8F Center maintenance - repairs	8,424	20,000	20,000	20,000
8G Maintenance service ¹⁸	106,542	115,000	115,000	118,000
Total General Government	\$1,038,229	\$1,130,900	\$1,153,900	\$1,154,015
Public Safety				
9A Security Patrol contract	\$81,501	\$89,000	\$89,000	\$90,000
9B Police Field Office ¹⁹	2,428	4,000	4,000	4,000
9C Security vehicle maintenance ²⁰	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400
Total Public Safety	\$94,329	\$103,400	\$103,400	\$104,400

	Actual FY12	Budget FY13	Est.Actual FY13	Budget FY14
Public Works				
10 Bus contract ²¹	\$407,317	\$419,000	\$419,000	\$432,000
11A Street maintenance	0	0	0	0
11B Sidewalk maintenance	0	5,000	5,000	5,000
11C Snow removal	3,665	35,000	35,000	35,000
11D Storm drain maintenance	0	0	0	0
12A Waste collection ²²	16,043	16,000	17,000	17,000
12B Recycling	2,355	3,000	3,000	3,000
13 Street lighting	17,009	20,000	20,000	20,000
14 Street signs	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
15 Trees	2,385	2,000	3,500	2,000
16 Villagescape ²³	25,105	30,000	18,000	30,000
Total Public Works	\$474,879	\$531,000	\$521,500	\$545,000
Health/Education/Social Serv.				
17B Health/Social services ²⁴	8,755	12,000	12,000	12,000
17C Housing Program ²⁵	4,920	5,000	2,050	0
17D Scholarship Program ²⁶	0	0	0	0
Total Health/Education/Social Serv.	\$13,675	\$17,000	\$14,050	\$12,000
Recreation and Parks				
18C Lecture fees	1,659	2,000	2,000	2,000
18D Musicians' fees	20,118	20,000	20,000	20,000
18E Instructors' fees	(7,707)	0	0	0
18F Trip fees	(10,875)	0	0	0
18G Art/theme shows	337	3,000	500	3,000
18I Consumable supplies	6,478	5,000	5,000	5,000
18K Lunches, Brunches, Teas & Dinners	9,018	10,000	10,000	10,000
18M Center special events ²⁷	33,707	35,000	35,000	65,000
19 Reading Room Materials	2,282	4,000	4,000	4,000
20C Village newsletter	34,209	40,000	40,000	40,000
21A Village Parks: Electricity	1,006	2,000	2,000	2,000
21B Village Parks: Water	7,204	6,000	7,000	7,000
21C Village Parks: Fountain Maint.	12,004	15,000	15,000	15,000
21D Village Parks: Lighting Maint.	272	3,000	3,000	3,000
21E Village Parks: Furniture	0	2,000	2,000	2,000
21F Village Parks: Walkway maint	0	0	0	0
21G Art fund	0	0	0	3,000
23 Landscaping contract	80,950	75,000	75,000	75,000
24 Arborist contract	1,696	5,000	10,000	10,000
Total Recreation and Parks	\$192,358	\$227,000	\$230,500	\$266,000
Total Operating Expenditures	\$1,813,470	\$2,009,300	\$2,020,350	\$2,081,415
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$321,573	\$46,700	\$216,275	\$155,905
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,134,993	\$2,056,000	\$2,251,625	\$2,237,320
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$4,425,556	\$4,472,256	\$4,641,831	\$4,797,736
CAP. IMPROV. FUND BALANCE²⁸	\$36,298	\$36,298	\$36,298	\$36,298
OPEB TRUST FUND RESERVE²⁹	\$174,780	\$137,128	\$137,128	\$86,428



FOOTNOTES

Revenues

- 1 The special tax rate for the Village of Friendship Heights (not less than 4¢/\$100 nor more than 20¢/\$100 on assessments based on 100% of value), set by the Friendship Heights Village Council, was 4¢/\$100 in FY2013, and is proposed to be 4¢/\$100 for FY2014, which begins July 1, 2013. Based on Montgomery County's estimate of assessable base of \$1,261,249,075 (11/12).
- 2 Estimate reflects the portion of the county tax rate returned to the Village from state filings.
- 3 An agreement between the county and municipalities (including special tax districts) requires the county to reimburse special tax districts for a portion of certain expenditures, which currently include park maintenance, health services, and road maintenance.
- 4 This amount is derived from a state formula based on the number of registered vehicles at Village addresses.
- 5 Parking violation income is collected by Montgomery County. The Village revenue share is 75%.
- 6 Interest is from Village funds placed in state approved investments. Interest on the Capital Improvements and OPEB Funds, included in the audit figure, is not included in the budget.
- 7 Permit fees are paid by contractors who occupy public rights-of-way (streets and sidewalks). By law, the fees defray only the reasonable administrative costs of maintaining the permit system and are currently \$250. Certain license fees are also received from the state.
- 8 Includes a percentage of art sales and commission from produce market sales.

Expenditures

- 9 Includes the annual audit and financial statements required by law.
- 10 Includes taking of the minutes for the monthly public Council meetings, postage, and stationery.
- 11 Includes Maryland Municipal League dues and conferences attended by Council and/or staff.
- 12 Salaries of 5 full-time and 5 part-time employees. (The Center is open seven days a week and four evenings until 9 p.m.) Volunteers provide additional support to staff.
- 13 Covers costs of health insurance, life insurance, and other benefits provided to qualifying employees.
- 14 Council contribution to employee retirement plan.
- 15 Includes Worker's Comp, Public Officials Liability, Fidelity Bond, and Building/General Liability.
- 16 Volunteer/staff annual appreciation dinner, condolence flowers, and holiday decorations.
- 17 Includes general cleaning products, restroom paper supplies, copier paper, and office supplies.
- 18 Contract for maintenance staff at Village Center. Includes cleaning, minor repairs, setups and takedowns of equipment, street cleaning, and 4602 North Park Police Field Office cleaning.
- 19 Cost to maintain Police Field Office at 4602 North Park Avenue.
- 20 Cost of security vehicle provided by security contractor.
- 21 Contract for operation of shuttle bus, including vehicle, drivers, maintenance, insurance.
- 22 Includes collection of Center trash and recyclables and park trash six times per week. A community shredding service, twice per year, is also included.
- 23 Cost to install and maintain flower baskets on streetlight poles.
- 24 Includes cost of 4-part program with Suburban Hospital and other health related services.
- 25 Cooperative program with county and Village landlord for transitional housing for one needy family. This program ended in FY2013.
- 26 To fund educational scholarship(s) or community education. Recipient(s) selected by the Council.
- 27 Cost of four major seasonal events each year. An additional amount has been included this year for Centennial celebrations.
- 28 The Council will be considering enhancements to playground equipment in FY14. No estimate of cost is available at this time.
- 29 Reserve for payments into Montgomery County Trust for retiree health benefits.

2012 Program Report

Jennie Fogarty, Associate Program Director
Anne O'Neil, Associate Program Director

There is always something happening at the Village Center! In 2012, Village residents participated in art, exercise, language, bridge, composition, yoga and photography classes as well as discussion groups, Scrabble, book and bridge clubs, movies, a children's art camp, a farmers market, health programs, lectures, concerts, storytelling, and, trips. A new group for Baby Boomers began in the fall and has had several successful gatherings. An aphasia support group called "Express Yourself" began in June for people who have impaired speech due to health-related issues or who need help processing information.

CLASSES

The Center continues to offer art classes for all ages and skill levels. Acrylic or Oil Painting, Still Life Painting, Multi Media, Basic Photography and, Portraiture in Pencil and Pastel. In addition, Millie Shott (the Village art curator) again offered an art camp especially designed for children.

Exercise classes remain in demand, and we offered a variety of them. For the first time all exercise instructors offered one free demonstration class in early September. This was well-received and attracted some new students. Current exercise classes at the Center include:

- **Chair Exercise and Chair Yoga**
- **Fall Prevention**
- **Mat Pilates**
- **OASIS Resistance Training for Seniors**
- **Strength Training**
- **Tai Chi**



Katherine Bernard and Barbara Kline, from "the 2BoomerBabes Radio Hour" came to speak in December.



Dale Chihuly's glass art was featured on our trip to Richmond in November.

- **Walking Club**
- **YMCA Fit 4-Ever**
- **Hatha Yoga**

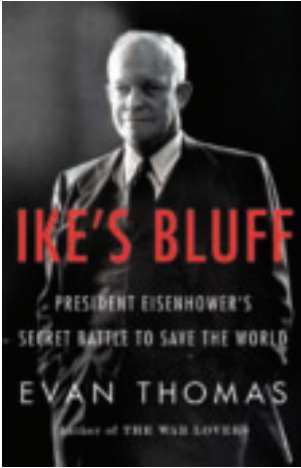
Classes in Italian, through the Italian Cultural Society, and Yiddish continued and were well-attended. Bridge and memoir-writing classes were also popular, and the Village Bridge Club and Book Club meet regularly.

BOOK SIGNINGS AND LECTURES

Speakers at the Center in 2012 included Village resident Reza Parvaresh who spoke on Iran; resident Amb. William Bodde on Germany; Dr. Jerrold Post on the psychology of terrorism; Daryl Davis on the early days of Rock and Roll; Joan Hart on Mark Rothko in January and on Van Gogh in March; Karen Stewart on healthy aging; Sandra Hughes and Barbara Beizer on Rethinking Retirement; "The Boomer Babes," Katherine Bernard & Barbara Kline, on their favorite radio guests; Elaine Flynn on America's First Ladies; Bill Lebovich on local architecture; Carol Bessette on Washington, DC, during World War II; and, Candace Ridington performed a one-woman show about Civil War nurses. A popular pro-



"Sperryville Quilts Truck" by Susan Lenczowski was featured at the Friendship Gallery in November.



Evan Thomas discussed his bestselling book at the Center in November.

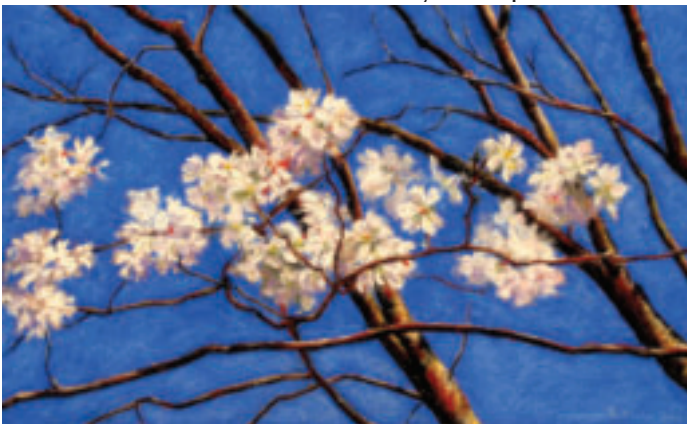
gram in May was the “Friendship Heights Roadshow” with Tom and Mark Weschler. The Baillie Players performed *The Taming of the Shrew* in July. The Maryland School of Public Policy’s Brody Public Policy Forum presented a panel discussion on the ballot referenda shortly before Election Day. Rep. Chris Van Hollen and County Executive Isiah Leggett both held town hall meetings at the Center during the year. Rep. Van Hollen returned in June to convene a Congressional Field Hearing on implementation of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. Former Rep. Patrick Kennedy also attended. Bill Bronrott, a Deputy Administrator at the U.S. Department of Transportation, held a “White House Roundtable” in February. Café Muse, a monthly poetry reading, continued to draw good audiences.

Authors who appeared at the Center during the year included:

- Walter Isaacson
- Douglas Kamerow
- Wilbert Luck
- Saralyn Mark
- Cecelia Hopkins Porter
- Evan Thomas
- Kenneth Walsh

ON THE GO

Overnight trips included a three-day retreat in Tidewater, Va. and a three-day trip to Pennsylvania with visits to Bucks County and the Barnes Foundation in Philadelphia. Other outings included day trips to Richmond, Baltimore, Charles Town, Philadelphia and Rehoboth Beach. We also visited the nearby Phillips Collection,



“Cherry Tree” by Barrie Ripin, part of our art show in June.



Our trip to Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in October included a visit to Fonthill in Doylestown.

the new Glenstone Museum in Potomac, Oatlands in Middleburg, Va., the Franciscan Monastery, the News-um, the Masonic Temple in Alexandria, and the Amish Market in Laurel. Villagers enjoyed Nationals baseball and performances at the Shakespeare Theatre, the John F. Kennedy Center, and Arena Stage.

FOR THE KIDS

The Village Center continued to offer a variety of programs for children, ranging from art to storytelling to splash parties in the park. Among the highlights was a week-long summer art camp for kids, led by our curator Millie Shott. In the fall, Village children dressed up and played bingo for great prizes during our annual Halloween Party. We also continued our weekly drop-in Village Playtime. Throughout the year, children from toddlers to teens enjoyed musical programs ranging from Marsha Goodman Wood’s musical mornings to Mariachis de los Compadres. Family-friendly movies ranging from *Dolphin Tale*, and *We Bought a Zoo*, to *The Muppets*, and *The Lorax*, had special appeal for children. In 2013, look for chances to take classes with your children, as well as an array of music and cultural events for children.

CONCERTS

The Wednesday Evening Concert Series continued to feature the best of local and national performers. Audiences enjoyed performances of classical music by Edita Vinnitskaya, Ellen Tenenbaum, and Thomas Pandolfi. Audiences were also treated to vocal performances including concerts by Seraphim, Eric Byrd, and Barbara Martin. The Landon Symphonette Chamber Ensemble Series continued with performances in January, May and



Artist Mark Rothko was featured in several of our programs and trips.

September. One spring-time performance featured a selection of arias while December brought the Georgetown Visitation Madrigals. Throughout the year, jazz performances included concerts by Rick Whitehead and Susan Jones' Caliente. The Dixie Power Trio, Jack Stanton, and Ericka Ovette featured music ranging from Dixieland to Broadway to songs from the Great American

Songbook. International sounds spanning the musical globe included performances from Machaya Klezmer, the Brothers Flanagan, IONA, and Mariachis de Los Compadres. International dance performances ran the gamut from Israeli folk dances from the Kinor Dancers to Hawaiian moves from Hui O Ka Pua 'Ilima. Rousing performances of klezmer by Jinny Marsh's Hot Kugel Band and doo-wop by the legendary Orioles added to the fun.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Pneumonia and flu shots were given by the Visiting Nurse Association in October. Suburban Hospital continued to provide weekly blood pressure checks and nurse consultations, as well as monthly health lectures. Family & Nursing Care presented two programs in the fall: one on the warning signs of Alzheimers and the other on the benefits of making art. AARP Safe Driving workshops, offered in the spring and fall, were filled, as always. The Vision Support Group, a partnership between the Prevention of Blindness Society and the Village, continued with good speakers and fellowship. In November, the two organizations sponsored a panel of seven physicians who discussed the latest thinking on the eye-brain connection. The Saturday program was an enormous success. The University of Maryland's Cooperative Extension Service continues to provide free health insurance assistance to seniors at the Center.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Our special community events—Community Day, July 4th, Taste of Friendship Heights, and New Year's Day Open House—were festive and provided an op-



Maggiano's and other area restaurants participated in our annual Taste of Friendship Heights. Photo by Joel Williams

portunity to recognize volunteers who have given their time to activities at the Center. In October the Council sponsored a mini-walk to support homeless Veterans through the Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place. In January, the Centennial Committee held its first of many meetings to begin plans for the Village's 100th birthday in 2014.

ART EXHIBITIONS

Through the efforts of Millie Shott, Friendship Gallery features monthly art exhibits. In July, we again sponsored a community juried art show, attracting many local artists who incorporated the Fourth of July theme into their works. "A Holiday Affair," an artisan craft fair, took place again in November.

THANK YOU

Many volunteers contribute countless hours to assist with the programs at the Center. Our special thanks to the Village Council, our committees (including the Program Advisory Committee, whose valuable input is always appreciated), volunteers and staff for their dedicated efforts throughout the year.



Artists from the Art Gallery of Potomac were featured in Friendship Gallery in September.



able at the Center shortly for copying and filing with the IRS. Normal copy-ing charges apply. Call the Center in advance at 301-656-2797 to make sure the form you need is available.

Tax forms have been ordered and should be avail-

FEDERAL INCOME TAX FORMS AT THE CENTER



Photo by Joel Williams
Mayor Melanie White presented a certificate to Village Centenarian Claire Halperin (at right) on Community Day. Also recognized as a Centenarian was Marianne Cook.

COUNCIL RECOGNIZES VILLAGE CENTENARIANS

Notice of Public Hearings

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 66-2 of the Montgomery County Code (1984 Edition), notice is hereby given that the Friendship Heights Village Council will conduct public hearings on Monday, February 11, 2013, and Monday, March 11, 2013, at 7:45 p.m. in the Village Center, 4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, in connection with the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2014, based on a proposed tax rate of 4¢/\$100 assessed property value. The final tax rate will be determined after the two public hearings. The Village Council will vote to establish the tax rate for FY2014 and notify the Montgomery County Council of said rate on or before June 1, 2013, pursuant to Section 66-2 of the County Code. A copy of the proposed budget is available at the office of the Friendship Heights Village Council, 4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. Any persons desiring further information may call Julian Mansfield, Village Manager, 301-656-2797, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.



The Council Report

The Friendship Heights Village Council
4433 South Park Avenue
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

www.friendshipheightsmd.gov



2012 Annual Report and FY2014 Proposed Budget



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