

The Council Report

2015 Annual Report & Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2017



CLARA M. LOVETT, *Mayor*
JOHN R. MERTENS, *Chairman*
MICHAEL J. DORSEY, *Vice Chairman*
PAULA DURBIN, *Secretary*
KATHLEEN COOPER, *Treasurer*
DAVID LEWIS, *Parliamentarian*
MELANIE ROSE WHITE, *Historian*

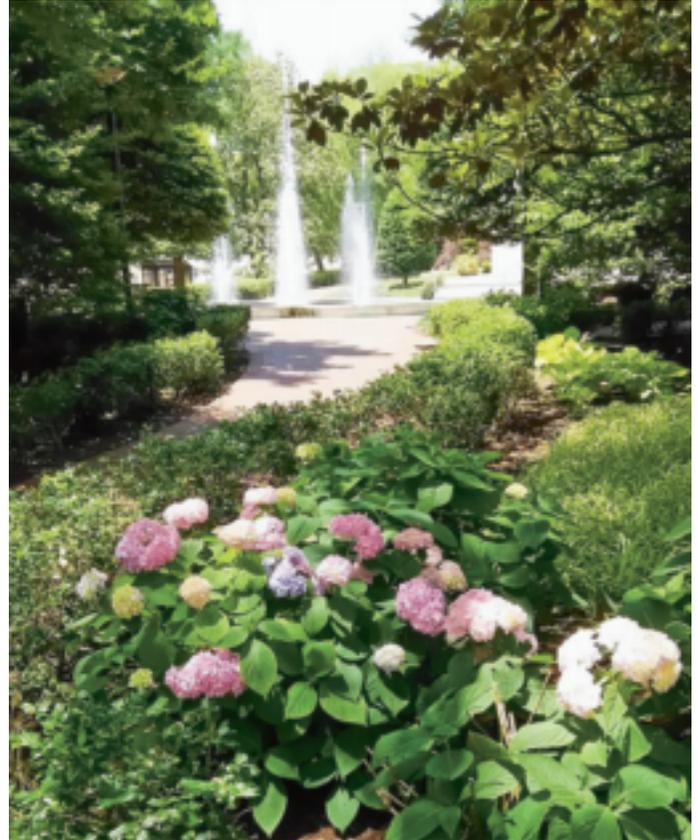
A Year of Transition

Clara M. Lovett, Mayor

I don't like clichés, but sometimes they come in handy. 2015 was a year of transition in the life of our Village. As Mayor Melanie White noted in last year's report, we transitioned from celebrating our past to writing new chapters. The transition turned out to be more spirited and complex than either she or I expected. But it was also evidence of a vibrant community open to change.

Since the May 11 election, Village-wide projects, such as the renovation of our 30-year-old Village Center and the recasting of our dated website have provided opportunities for all seven Council members to write new chapters. Many more opportunities for leadership lie ahead as we continue to work on infrastructure and communication issues and also address larger challenges, including long-term planning, Village governance, and possible development of Parcel 6.

I close with thanks to residents and colleagues outside the Village who provided resources and counsel during the past year. Please continue to support your Council while holding it accountable, and by all means continue to raise the bar on performance and transparency.



Hydrangea blooms are a welcome sight every summer in Humphrey Park.

Photo by Bob Joiner



A rare event: A mild December allowed us to keep the fountain on in Humphrey Park while the holiday lights were up.

2015 Village Report

Julian P. Mansfield, Village Manager

Four new Council members—Kathy Cooper, Mike Dorsey, Paula Durbin and David Lewis—were elected in May, and the Council selected a new mayor, Clara Lovett. Clara Lovett, John Mertens and Melanie White



Kathy Cooper (seated); standing left to right, John Mertens, Clara Lovett, Mike Dorsey, Paula Durbin, Melanie White, David Lewis.

were re-elected to the Council. All seven members of the Council are up for election every two years.

Council members were sworn in on May 19 and then selected the following officers: Clara Lovett, Mayor; John Mertens, Chairman; Mike Dorsey, Vice Chairman; Paula Durbin, Secretary; Kathy Cooper, Treasurer; David Lewis, Parliamentarian; and Melanie White, Historian.

COUNCIL COMMITTEES

The newly elected Council created a new committee and activated two others. The Communications Committee, chaired by Paula Durbin, started meeting during the summer and is working on the redesign of the Village website. This committee also explores ways in which the Council and staff communicate with Village residents and develops strategies for keeping residents informed. The Capital Improvements Committee, co-chaired by John Mertens and Mike Dorsey, is overseeing planned renovations for the Village Center (see page 3). The Finance Committee, chaired by Kathy Cooper, worked with staff to develop the draft operating budget and reviewed it with the community in early January 2016 (see the Treasurer’s Report on page 5). The Personnel

Committee, chaired by Clara Lovett, reviewed staff evaluations and salaries and typically meets in June in executive session.

POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OF PARCEL 6

As the year came to a close, the Village held several community meetings to discuss Parcel 6 in light of interest expressed by developers. This approximately 1.25-acre piece of land is bordered by North Park Ave., Shoemaker Farm Lane, Willard Ave., and 4620 North Park Ave. The parcel includes the house owned by the Village at 4602 North Park, along with four other houses and two office buildings. The Village’s house is leased to a commercial tenant and also houses the County Police Field Office. Purchase of this property in 1985 gives the Village a voice in any future development plans. However, other owners do not need permission from the Village to sell, consolidate or develop their properties. The county, not the Village, reviews plans for development, although the Village Council and residents can provide testimony and influence the county’s approval process. Parcel 6 is entirely classified

as Commercial/Residential under the county zoning ordinance, which has been revised since the adoption of the most recent Sector Plan in 1998.

As of this writing, the two developers interested in Parcel 6 have not submitted plans to the county. In view of ongoing interest, however, the Council has secured the services of noted land use attorney (and Village resident) Norman Knopf.



Some properties on Parcel 6 as seen from North Park Ave.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In August the Council hosted a meet and greet at the Village Center for new residents. I convened a meeting



Casey Anderson

of residential building managers and will schedule a follow-up meeting in 2016. At the July 13 Council meeting, Mayor Lovett invited Casey Anderson, Chairman of the Montgomery County Planning Board, to speak about the trend to develop new “urban villages” in the county and where our Village fits in.

We also had Miti Figueredo, Vice President of the Chevy Chase Land Company, speak to us about possible changes to the Chevy Chase Center retail properties. In November, noted architect Roger Lewis discussed urban villages and transit-oriented development.

The Village continued its active participation in the Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee. The TMD advises the county on a range of traffic and transportation issues, including pedestrian safety. Council member John Mertens and former Council member Elizabeth Harris represent the Village on the committee. Ms. Harris was nominated in March to succeed Rachael Schacherer.

The Center again served as a host site for National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. This very successful program, sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, addresses a vital public safety and health issue. Montgomery County Police officers came to the Center to collect and safely dispose of unwanted or expired prescription drugs. The much-appreciated shredding truck service also continued. Check our newsletter for an announcement of the next shredding date in the spring.

The Village continued to be actively involved with the Maryland Municipal League and its Montgomery County Chapter, attending meetings with the County Executive, County Council and



Maryland legislators. I serve as Treasurer of the County Chapter. In June, a group of Council members and staff attended the annual MML convention in Ocean City. I continue to serve as President of the Montgomery Municipal Cable television station board.

Our email alert group continues to grow. Send an email to jmansfield@friendshipheightsmd.gov and you will receive regular messages about our website updates and special program and community announcements.

PLANS FOR VILLAGE CENTER RENOVATIONS

The Capital Improvements Committee began discussions on renovating the Village Center, which will turn 30 years



The Village Center under construction in 1986.

old this spring. To assist with the renovations, the Council retained the original architect of the building, Walton, Madden, Cooper, Robinson, Pones, Inc. In the works are updates to the kitchen, bathrooms, auditorium, lobby and hallways. The emphasis will be on accessibility and energy conservation.

COUNCIL TRIBUTES

The Council continued its tradition of recognizing individuals for their contributions to the community. At the Community Day celebration on April 13, retiring Council member Alvan Morris and longtime Village Center front desk receptionist Annie Natali were honored for their years of service.



Former Council members Leonard Grant, Elizabeth Harris and Robert Schwarzbart were honored at our July 4 celebration.

VILLAGE HISTORY BOOK

Our history book, entitled “Village of Friendship Heights: The First 100 Years” was published this past year as a follow-up to the community’s centennial celebration in 2014. The book is available at the Village Center.

The book is divided into three sections. *The Early*



Days tells the story of a small village of single family houses. *The Village Takes on an Urban Character* chronicles the transformation of that small neighborhood into an urban center. In *A New Community Emerges*, the efforts to transform a collection of high-rise buildings into the true community that is now the Village are described. Throughout the book is a treasure trove of photographs.



OTHER NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

The Council decided not to pursue a playground in Page Park. The WSSC water main replacement project on Willard Avenue and Friendship Boulevard was finally completed and the roads were restored.

The county installed parking meters on the east side of Wisconsin Ave., the south (GEICO) side of Willard Ave., and Friendship Boulevard between Willard and Western Aves.

VILLAGE CONTINUES PARTNERSHIPS WITH COUNTY AND STATE

The Police Field Office at 4602 North Park Avenue, now in its 19th year, is a successful partnership between the Village and the County Police Department’s Bethesda District, headed by Captain David Falcinelli. The facility provides increased police presence and visibility in the community. The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration’s Mobile Office is a convenient, reliable, and popular service in the Village. The bus parks every month on Friendship Blvd., 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.

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.

**MVA Bus Schedule for first half of 2016
(Mondays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.):
January 25, February 22, March 21, April 25,
May 23, June 20**

Treasurer's Report

Kathleen Cooper

The past year was one of change for the Village: new Council members and new officers, including my election as treasurer. I am pleased to report that the strong financial position of the Village remains intact.

As oil markets roiled and upheavals all over the world left economic consequences in their wake, our little corner of the world remained relatively unscathed.

As we head into the second half of FY2016, our budget is on track, and we hope to end the year with a small surplus. Of course, one big annual unknown is if we will have snow and, if so, how much. Fingers crossed for a scenario which won't break the budget. As you review the FY2017 projections, you will see



very few changes from FY2016, so we hope for a small surplus again next year.

While we would love to see growth in our revenues, we are not likely to see that in the near future except for a slight increase in property tax income. Two situations which could impact the future are the misallocation by the State Comptroller's Office of income tax revenues and the ramifications of the Wynne case decision. In the first instance, the Village was told it may have been "overpaid" more than \$300,000. After pushback from the Village staff, it appears we will not have to pay any monies back and may, in fact, come out ahead! This has yet to be finalized, however, as the state has hired an independent auditor to review its allocations.

In the Wynne case, the Supreme Court found unconstitutional Maryland's practice of not permitting a credit on the "piggyback" income tax that is distributed to the county and special tax districts like the Village,

on income earned and already taxed in other states. We still don't know how much this will affect future revenues but will be monitoring this issue closely. Fortunately, with healthy reserves and no debt, we should be able to weather whatever comes. In spite of future uncertainties, our current services will continue and **the property tax rate will remain 4 cents per \$100, the lowest rate allowed by our charter, for the 11th consecutive year.**

The proposed Village operating budget for FY2017 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. The Finance Committee reviewed the budget in early January. Public hearings will be held on the proposed FY2017 budget in February and March.

REVENUES

FY2017 revenues look to be a repeat of how we expect FY2016 to end, that is, with a slight increase.

EXPENDITURES

General Government: This category is being increased 2.7% over the estimated actual for FY2016.

Public Safety: No increase projected.

Public Works: In spite of increasing our snow removal budget to reflect a five-year average cost, minor adjustments in other line items leave this category at almost the same level of anticipated estimated actual FY2016 numbers.

Health/Social Services: No change expected.

Recreation & Parks: These expenses are essentially unchanged.

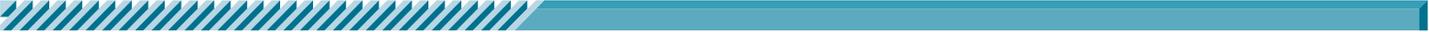
Capital Improvements Fund: The Capital Improvements Committee is working on a project to repair, improve, and enhance our 30-year-old Village Center during the coming months. An early estimate for this work is approximately \$500,000 but more accurate numbers will be forthcoming shortly. When the Council makes its decisions, money will be transferred to the Capital Improvements Fund as necessary.

I am pleased to report that the Village remains in a strong financial position. Much of this is due to the diligence of our Village staff who are always looking to save money, but also to make sure the Village gets its due. With all of these efforts, our Village continues to be a most desirable place to live and work.

Friendship Heights Village: Proposed Budget for FY2017

REVENUES:	Actual FY15	Budget FY16	Est.Actual FY16	Budget FY17
Property tax ¹	\$553,537	\$550,000	\$550,000	\$575,000
Income tax ²	984,684	1,030,000	1,100,000	1,100,000
Municipal Revenue Sharing ³	82,625	82,000	82,625	82,000
Gas/highway tax ⁴	40,910	12,000	40,000	12,000
Parking violation income ⁵	283,693	300,000	300,000	300,000
4602 N. Park Ave. rental	50,793	52,313	52,313	52,313
Interest income ⁶	10,532	12,000	12,000	12,000
Village Center rental income	11,133	15,000	10,000	15,000
Permit and license fees ⁷	19,203	15,000	15,000	15,000
Newsletter ad income	38,835	40,000	40,000	40,000
Village Center program/misc. income ⁸	17,890	7,000	7,000	7,000
TOTAL REVENUES	\$2,093,835	\$2,115,313	\$2,208,938	\$2,210,313
EXPENDITURES:	Actual FY15	Budget FY16	Est.Actual FY16	Budget FY17
General Government				
1 Elections	\$4,098	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
2A Financial admin. and accounting ⁹	10,518	11,000	11,000	11,000
2B Administrative costs ¹⁰	13,419	9,000	14,000	8,000
2C Memberships and conferences ¹¹	18,017	20,000	20,000	20,000
2D Legal counsel and consultants	6,191	10,000	30,000	10,000
2F Village Council reports	2,800	3,000	3,000	3,000
3A Salaries ¹²	631,768	658,368	658,368	684,546
3B Health and life insurance ¹³	117,380	125,000	117,500	127,500
3C F.I.C.A.	49,112	51,348	51,348	52,367
3E Retirement contribution ¹⁴	48,102	51,348	51,348	52,880
4A Xerox copiers	763	1,000	1,000	1,000
4B Aquarium	1,800	1,900	1,900	1,900
4C Heating and cooling maintenance	11,198	12,000	12,000	12,000
4D Bldg. security system maintenance	3,457	3,000	3,000	3,000
5C Bldg/General liability insurance ¹⁵	22,883	18,087	18,087	13,337
6 Telephone and utilities	50,977	45,000	45,000	45,000
7 Hospitality and special events ¹⁶	11,918	17,000	17,000	17,000
8A Equipment and supplies ¹⁷	12,422	15,000	15,000	15,000
8B Office and building furniture	0	0	0	0
8D 4602 N. Park Ave. maintenance	1,648	5,000	10,000	10,000
8E Computer equipment/supplies	2,942	3,000	3,000	3,000
8F Center maintenance/repairs	22,735	20,000	30,000	25,000
8G Maintenance service ¹⁸	114,707	125,000	125,000	130,000
Total General Government	\$1,158,855	\$1,205,051	\$1,237,551	\$1,250,530
Public Safety				
9A Security patrol contract	\$82,242	\$90,000	\$90,000	\$90,000
9B Police Field Office ¹⁹	2,577	4,000	4,000	4,000
9C Security vehicle maintenance ²⁰	10,400	10,400	10,400	10,400
Total Public Safety	\$95,219	\$104,400	\$104,400	\$104,400

	Actual FY15	Budget FY16	Est.Actual FY16	Budget FY17
Public Works				
10 Bus contract ²¹	\$444,604	\$458,350	\$458,350	\$466,800
11A Street maintenance	0	0	10,000	5,000
11B Sidewalk maintenance	9,152	5,000	7,000	5,000
11C Snow removal	84,934	35,000	50,000	50,000
11D Storm drain maintenance	0	0	0	0
12A Waste collection ²²	18,009	18,000	18,000	18,000
12B Recycling	3,187	3,500	3,500	3,500
13 Street lighting	24,578	20,000	20,000	20,000
14 Street signs	1,203	1,000	1,000	1,000
15 Trees	750	2,000	5,000	2,000
16 Villagescape ²³	14,185	15,000	15,000	15,000
Total Public Works	\$600,602	\$557,850	\$587,850	\$586,300
Health/Education/Social Serv.				
17B Health/Social services ²⁴	10,202	12,000	12,000	12,000
Total Health/Education/Social Serv.	\$10,202	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Recreation and Parks				
18C Lecture fees	1,950	2,000	2,000	2,000
18D Musicians' fees	17,495	20,000	20,000	20,000
18E Instructors' fees	(7,142)	0	0	0
18F Trip fees	(410)	0	0	0
18G Art/theme shows	728	3,000	3,000	3,000
18I Consumable supplies	4,961	6,000	6,000	6,000
18K Lunches, brunches, teas & dinners	6,682	10,000	10,000	10,000
18M Center special events ²⁵	52,227	35,000	35,000	35,000
19 Reading Room materials	2,017	4,000	4,000	4,000
20C Village newsletter	35,458	35,000	32,000	29,000
21A Village Parks: Electricity	998	2,000	2,000	2,000
21B Village Parks: Water	5,334	7,000	7,000	7,000
21C Village Parks: Fountain maint.	15,843	15,000	15,000	15,000
21D Village Parks: Lighting maint.	2,096	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	3,000	9,000	3,000
23 Landscaping contract	87,411	90,000	90,000	90,000
24 Arborist contract	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
Total Recreation and Parks	\$225,648	\$247,000	\$250,000	\$241,000
Total Operating Expenditures	\$2,090,526	\$2,126,301	\$2,171,801	\$2,194,230
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$3,309	\$(10,988)	\$17,137	\$16,083
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,093,835	\$2,115,313	\$2,228,938	\$2,210,313
GENERAL FUND BALANCE	\$4,706,840	\$4,695,852	\$4,723,977	\$4,740,060
CAP.IMPROV. FUND BALANCE²⁶	\$40,060	\$2,902	\$2,902	\$2,902
OPEB TRUST FUND RESERVE²⁷	\$70,105	\$45,005	\$45,005	\$23,505



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 FY2016, and is proposed to be 4¢/\$100 for FY2017, which begins July 1, 2016.
- 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, are 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. May also include contracted administrative support.
- 11 Includes Maryland Municipal League dues and conventions attended by Council and/or staff.
- 12 Salaries of five full-time and six part-time employees. (The Center is open seven days a week and four evenings until 9 p.m.) Volunteers provide additional support to staff. The 2017 budget reflects adding a part-time employee to replace a contract worker who had been paid under "Administrative costs." That category has been reduced proportionately.
- 13 Covers costs of health insurance and life insurance provided to qualifying employees.
- 14 Council contribution to employee retirement plan.
- 15 Includes Workers' Compensation, 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 four-part program with Suburban Hospital and other health related services.
- 25 Cost of four major seasonal events each year.
- 26 The Council is considering enhancements to the Village Center and possible other capital expenditures. A preliminary estimate of the cost of the Village Center renovation is \$500,000, but will depend totally on the scope eventually approved by the Council and the bids received. Money will be moved into the Capital Improvements Fund as required.
- 27 Reserve for payments into Montgomery County Trust for retiree health benefits.

2015 Program Report

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

The Village Center was bustling with activity in 2015. Residents participated in art, exercise, language, bridge, computer and photography classes, as well as discussion groups, Scrabble, book, chess and bridge clubs, movies, children's art camp, farmers market, health programs, lectures, concerts, storytelling and trips. New classes included a children's dance class, meditation group and a music appreciation class. A support group for family caregivers began in May with a clinical social worker facilitating the meetings.

CLASSES

The Center continues to offer art classes for all ages and skill levels. Acrylic or Oil Painting, Still Life Painting, Basic Photography for adults and children, and Portraiture in Pencil and Pastel continue to be popular. In addition, Village curator Millie Shott again offered a summer art camp for children. Music classes included John Eaton's American Songwriters class and Smriti Hakkarinen's music theory class.

Exercise classes remain in demand, and we offer a variety of them. Current exercise classes at the Center include Yoga, Pilates, Tai Chi, Strength Training, Fall Prevention, and Chair Exercise. A Zumba class was offered in the fall. The Walking Club continues to meet three times a week.

Classes in Italian, through the Italian Cultural Society,



We went to Richmond to see the "The Art of the Flower" exhibit at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

and Yiddish continued. Bridge and computer classes were well attended and the Village Bridge Club, Chess Group and Book Club meet regularly.

ON THE GO

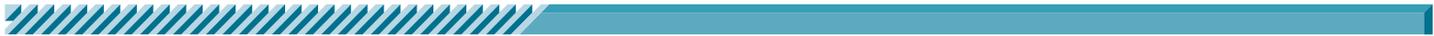
Two overnight trips to New York City were greatly enjoyed. In March we attended performances of "The Audience" and "On the Twentieth Century" and toured the 9/11 Museum. An October trip included a visit to Seward Johnson's Grounds for Sculpture, a tour of Princeton U., and a matinee performance of "An American in Paris" on Broadway. Day trips closer to home included visits to Baltimore, Richmond, Philadelphia, Frederick, Rehoboth Beach, and a sail on the Chesapeake Bay. Villagers enjoyed Nationals baseball, "Gigi" at the Kennedy Center, tours of Hillwood and the Supreme Court, a trip to the Amish Market in Germantown, and lunch at L'Auberge Chez François.

BOOK SIGNINGS AND LECTURES

Phil Andrews from the State's Attorney's Office held a town hall meeting on crime prevention in October and Comptroller Peter Franchot spoke on financial issues in November; Dr. Sheldon Winkler lectured on music during World War II; Smithsonian scholar Mary Ann Jung presented the story of Rosie the Riveter; tour guide Carol Bessette lectured on Washington myths; art historian Vanessa Badre spoke on the Chinese influence on 18th C. French art in June and on



Our trip to Princeton included a tour of sculptor J. Seward Johnson's grounds.



Our trip to New York in March featured a visit to the World Trade Center site and 9/11 Memorial Museum.

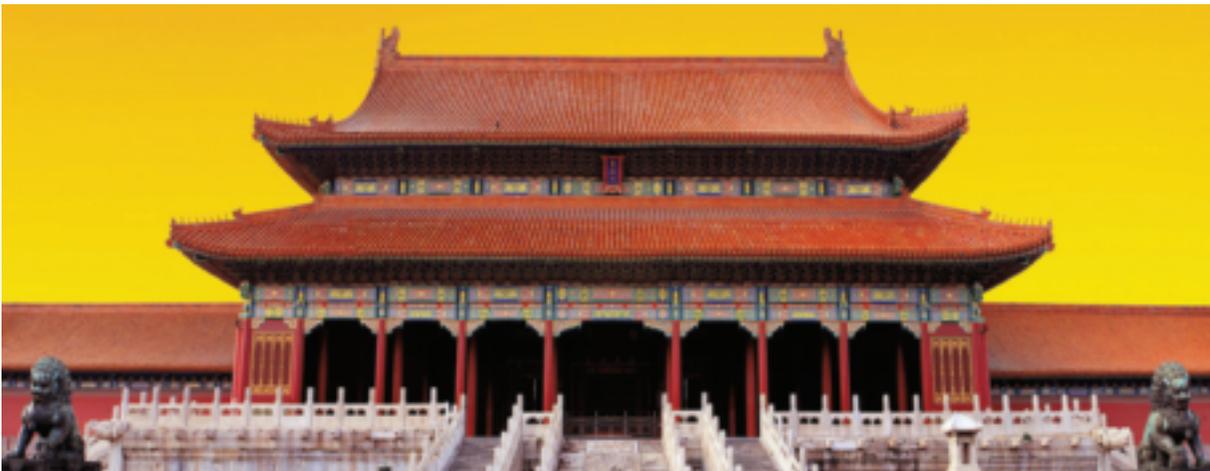
female sovereigns in Renaissance art in September; and Lincoln scholar John Elliff presented a program on “Lincoln’s Last 100 Days.”

Authors who appeared at the Center during the year included:

- **Rose Doherty**
- **Sheridan Gates**
- **Nazila Fathi**
- **James Fitzgerald**
- **Kyi May Kaung**
- **Jay McCrensky**
- **Marianne Szegedy-Maszak**
- **Margaret Meyers**
- **Jean Pettenati**
- **Nora Pouillon**
- **Jane Stein**
- **Kenneth Walsh**
- **Abigail Wurf**

FOR THE KIDS

2015 featured a variety of programs for children ranging from infants to teens. During the winter months, moms, dads and children alike delighted in a morning of music by Marsha Goodman-Wood. In the spring, the Village sponsored an art extravaganza with hands-on



In January we went to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts to see the special exhibit “Forbidden City: Imperial Treasures from the Palace Museum.”

projects ranging from origami to painting to collage. A local author was on hand with her children’s book, and Apple Dumpling the Clown offered balloon sculptures and face painting. The summer brought our week-long children’s art camp at the Village Center, and a splash party, complete with water slides and sprinklers, at Willoughby Park. In the fall, the Village Center hosted a Halloween costume and pizza party, which offered not-too-scary fun throughout the Center for children, parents and even grandparents.

CONCERTS

Our Wednesday concert series offered something for every musical taste. The Landon Symphonette kicked off the new year with a Saturday afternoon performance in January. Throughout the winter months, the Village Center offered Russian and Eastern European music from Vladmir Fridman, hammered dulcimer and harp



“Water Play” by Pat Leibowitz was featured in Friendship Gallery.

classical piano from Li-Ly Chang, classical music from String of Pearls and the amazing talents of teens from the Friday Morning Music Club. In the spring, we welcomed soloist Antonio Guilianno, Dixieland band Steve Williams and the Dixie Stompers, the beautiful violin of Emil Chudnovsky, woodwind

stylings, Guys and Dolls from Mini-Musicals on the Move,



In May we saw the Washington Nationals take on the Atlanta Braves.

folk dancing from the fabulous Kinor Dancers, and the classical guitar of Richard Miller. Our outdoor summer concert series included music from the Washington Revels Maritime Voices and Heritage Voices, the Brazilian Jazz Project, Music Pilgrim Trio, Dixie Power Trio, the World Jam Club, blues by Bill Thomas, a Billie Holiday program by Steve Hom and Lena Seikaly, and Mariachis de Los Compadres.

This summer we also presented concerts, such as Marsha and the Positrons, James Taylor and Hui O Ka Pua 'Ilima, each month designed to appeal to children and adults. In the fall, concerts highlighted the talents of the Washington Revels' Jubilee Voices, classical pianist Jose Ramos Santana, the Herb Smith Duo, Susan Jones Jazz group, jazz and folk singer Barbara Martin, ensemble group Vocal Express, concert pianist Thomas Pandolfi, the Friday Morning Music Club and



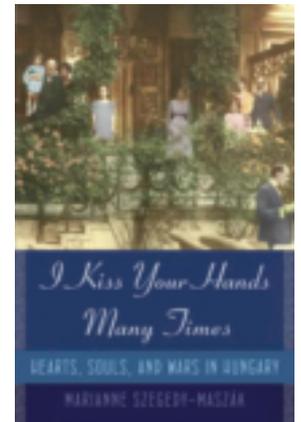
Our trip to the Amish market in Germantown is always popular.

Ashbrook and Oorts. Thanks to the efforts of Ellouise Schoettler, we also featured Tales in the Village, a monthly storytelling series that offers a unique type of performance art. Tales in the Village will continue, but on an occasional basis rather than monthly. In the coming year, we'll continue to offer quality entertainment indoors in our auditorium and in our outdoor park.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health issues have always been important at the Center. A very successful program in the spring was a seminar on managing Parkinson's Disease. It was held on a Saturday and featured a panel of four doctors and specialists. The program was presented in partnership with Sibley Senior Association, Johns Hopkins Parkinson's Disease and Movement Disorders Center, the Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington, and the Beacon Newspapers. Pneumonia and

flu shots were administered by the Visiting Nurse Association in September. Suburban Hospital continued to provide weekly blood pressure checks and nurse consultations, as well as monthly health lectures. In addition Susan Wranik presented a program on fall prevention titled "Brains Don't Bounce" and Dr. Erick Hosaka spoke on dental health. AARP Safe Driving workshops were offered in the spring and fall and were filled, as always. The speech and vision support groups continue to draw large crowds, and the new caregivers support group grows each month.



Journalist Marianne Szegedy-Maszak discussed her book at the Center in May.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Our big community events—Community Day, July 4th, and New Year's Day Open House—were festive and provided an opportunity to recognize volunteers who have donated their time and talent at the Center.

ART EXHIBITIONS

Through the efforts of Millie Shott, our curator, Friendship Gallery features monthly art exhibits. "A Holiday Affair," the annual artisan craft fair, also took place 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.



Tax forms should be available at the Center shortly for copying and filing with the IRS. Normal copying charges apply. Call the Center at 301-656-2797 to make sure we have the form you need.

FEDERAL INCOME TAX FORMS AT THE CENTER

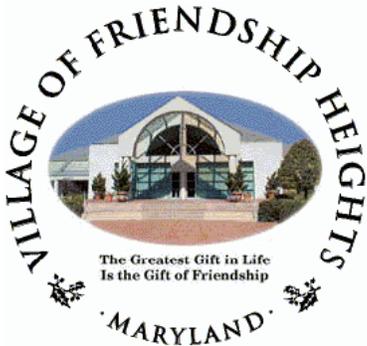
Photo by Joel Williams



Former Village Council member Bob Schwarbart was honored by the Village on July 4 for his service on the Council. A group of state delegates and senators helped congratulate him.

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 8, 2016, and Monday, March 14, 2016, at 7:45 p.m. in the Village Center, 4433 South Park Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815, in connection with the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017, 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 FY2017 and notify the Montgomery County Council of said rate on or before June 1, 2016, 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 Ave., 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.

Notice of Public Hearings



The Council Report

The Friendship Heights Village Council

4433 South Park Avenue

Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

www.friendshipheightsmd.gov



2015 Annual Report and FY2017 Proposed Budget



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