

VOTERS' GUIDE

VILLAGE OF FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS COUNCIL ELECTION

MAY 12, 2025, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Applications for mail-in ballots can be downloaded from the Village website. A completed application must be **received by** postal mail or by email no later than 5:00 p.m. **Monday, April 28, 2025**. If using postal mail, mail to:

League of Women Voters of Montgomery County
P. O. Box 15209
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

If using email, print your completed application, sign it and scan or take a photo of the signed application and email it to lwvmc@lwvmocomd.org (please include "mail-in ballot" in the subject line).

In-person voting will take place at the Village Center, 4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Monday, May 12, 2025. Note that a limited number of voters will be allowed in the polling place at one time. If you received a mail-in ballot, **you must vote that ballot**. You may bring your mail-in ballot to the drop box at the Village Center before or during Election Day.

On the Ballot

Eight candidates for the Village Council are running for seven seats. All candidates were asked to write a statement describing why they are running for this office and what makes them qualified to serve. The League does not make any edits or corrections to the text that was submitted.

Candidate Forum

A forum for the candidates will be held on **May 5, 2025**, at 6:30 pm at the Village Center and will be live streamed. Go to the *Council Meetings* link on the Village website at <https://friendshipheightsmd.gov> to watch live or view the recorded forum. Village residents are invited to submit candidate questions to FHVQuestions@lwvmocomd.org no later than 5:00 pm on May 3, 2025.

ALLYSON ALT



As a lifelong resident of Montgomery County and a dedicated member of the Friendship Heights community for 23 years, my roots in our neighborhood run deep.

My commitment to our neighborhood is guided by three goals:

- Enhancing community safety
- Improving accessibility in our public spaces and
- Preserving our cherished parks and green areas

With over two decades of professional experience in the financial industry, primarily as a mortgage underwriter, I bring strong financial analysis skills to the table. I have the expertise and intention to use my expertise to help make sound decisions with your tax dollars.

Every resident's voice matters in shaping our community's future. If elected, I pledge to actively listen to neighbors' concerns and transform their input into meaningful action. My vision includes creating a more inclusive environment that welcomes residents of all ages, with particular attention to attracting young professionals.

As your neighbor and a dedicated community member, I respectfully ask for your vote to continue building on our neighborhood's legacy while preparing for its future.

VIC BASILE



Having resided in Friendship Heights since 2009, I am running for the Village Council to address problems facing us, such as Page Park and the GEICO property. Also, I would like to make the Council more responsive to issues raised by residents.

I have had the privilege of a career dedicated to public service and to securing equality for all Americans.

In the Obama Administration, I was the Senior Counselor to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management. Earlier, I worked at the Peace Corps and VISTA. In that role, I became a labor activist on behalf of Federal employees.

I was the first executive director the Human Rights Campaign and later co-founded the LGBTQ Victory Fund.

In the 90s, I was the executive producer of the award-winning documentary *After Stonewall*, and the PBS series *In the Life*.

I accepted a Clinton Administration appointment at the Peace Corps in 1998. In 2001, I became executive director of Moveable Feast, a Baltimore-based nonprofit that provided meals and groceries to low-income people suffering from AIDS.

Most recently, I authored *Bending Toward Justice*, a memoir of my time at the Human Rights Campaign.

JOHN CONLOW



After years in infrastructure planning and capital budgeting for the City of Philadelphia and Amtrak, my wife Mary and I chose Friendship Heights as our home. I live in the Willoughby overlooking Humphrey Park. I walk and bike regularly. My home and activities have given me a genuine appreciation for the “livability” of Friendship Village as well as the challenges we face going forward.

As one of the Nation's most densely populated areas, we already contend with traffic congestion, parking scarcity, and pedestrian safety concerns. In the future, development pressure will almost certainly exacerbate traffic and safety issues.

I will leverage my expertise in urban planning, capital planning and budgeting to help our Village navigate these challenges thoughtfully. My priorities:

- Implementing a comprehensive traffic calming and pedestrian safety plan
- Building consensus for solutions that preserve our community's character
- Enhancing Friendship Heights' livability

My professional experience and commitment to collaborative problem-solving make me uniquely qualified to serve. I would be honored to earn your support.

FRANCINE KERNER KLEIN



I am running for a Council seat because I believe Friendship Heights will face serious challenges in next two years: the burden of meeting Building Energy Performance Standards; the loss of area jobs; and the move of GEICO. I am prepared to work effectively with others to address these challenges. I have lived at The Carleton and The Elizabeth condominiums; and now serve as Board President at The Elizabeth. As a federal executive at the Departments of Commerce, Treasury, Transportation and DHS, I have led during periods of dynamic change. After the September 11th terrorist attacks, I helped stand up the Transportation Security Administration to secure the aviation sector and

spent 23 years as its Chief Counsel. In 1979 as Counsel to the Inspector General at Commerce, I helped stand up the IG's office, supporting audits and investigations to ensure the integrity of government functions. In Brooklyn N.Y. as an Assistant DA in the Major Offenses Bureau, I worked with police to prosecute violent felons and make streets safer. I have lived in Montgomery County since 1985 and in Friendship Heights since 2013, joined now by my husband Michael, our daughter and a grandson who is three.

ALFRED MULLER



As a retired physician, Army veteran and 52 year resident of Friendship Heights, my main goal in running for the Council is to help persuade the County to include a LIBRARY/ART CENTER when developing the GEICO property in their Friendship Heights Sector Plan. Development on that property will greatly impact those living in our Village, especially those buildings adjacent to Willard Avenue. I am the only candidate who participated actively in previous Sector Plans, beginning in 1974. This unique experience will help us plan for our future.

As a volunteer, I have tried to “give back to my community”, serving 26 years as the Chairman and first Mayor of the Village Council, with a leadership role in bringing various cultural, educational, and entertainment amenities to our community, including: two new parks, a shuttle bus, the Community Center and a post office.

I served an additional 20 years on the Community Advisory Committee, which made numerous suggestions for increased safety measures in the Village. My ongoing vision is to improve amenities and the quality of life for our residents, including the final opening of a more accessible Page Park.

ROY SCHAEFFER



I am excited to run for re-election to the Village Council. As Village treasurer, I instituted changes that led to better management of our funds and cost savings. My decades of experience as a CPA guide the decisions I make for the Village.

Marlena and I love being part of this community and taking advantage of everything the Village offers. I have met many of you at Community events and FHNN events. Moving forward, my priorities are clear and community focused.

- Enhance transparency in all council activities, ensuring you are well informed and involved.
- Keeping our neighborhood safe.
- Opening Page Park, creating a vibrant space for families and friends to gather.
- Work on the sector plan so the redevelopment of the GEICO site will benefit village residents.

I work full-time for a housing agency as a Senior Underwriter of multifamily properties. I work with construction analysts, developers, and general contractors. I know what the Village must do to finally get Page Park open. Let us work together to build a thriving and safe community. I am grateful for your support and the opportunity to serve you again. Please contact me to meet by phone or in person. Thank you!

TERESA SANTOS-MEDLEY



A devoted Friendship Heights resident since 2011—first at 4615 N. Park and now at the Elizabeth—I cherish our community's convenience, accessibility, and beautiful parks. With my husband Mitch, we're committed to preserving our neighborhood's unique character and charm.

I am a Founder, Co-owner, and Managing Partner of Compass Concierge Services, a successful DC-area business serving apartments and condominiums. I bring three decades of entrepreneurial experience with proven financial acumen and strategic planning expertise.

If elected, I pledge to focus on: building an inclusive community for residents of all ages and backgrounds; fiscal responsibility and transparent governance.

My husband and I have been married for 20 years and enjoy three adult children, four granddaughters, and two great-granddaughters.

I would appreciate your vote and the opportunity to apply my professional skills to enhance our Village's future while honoring its past.

MARTHA SOLT



Friendship Heights offers the best of urban living: convenience, walkability, and wonderful neighbors. I've had the privilege of living here and serving on the Council for the last 2 years. I respectfully seek your support again on May 12, 2025.

Looking forward, all of us want: to fix Page Park; to have amenities in the Geico space; to have clean, well-landscaped parks; to have safe, well-lit sidewalks and streets; to have entertainment and arts options for all ages; to have reasonable energy and sprinkler requirements; to operate with fiscal discipline; and more. How can we accomplish that?

Choosing the best, forward-thinking leaders who will develop *strategies* and work together will move our community forward. Our team of seven neighbors is committed to respect, collaboration, and involvement of residents.

My work experience exemplifies this approach - for decades, as an Economist at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, now at Public Citizen, a nonprofit dedicated to consumer rights, and as a long-time leader of the National Treasury Employees Union to support federal employees.



The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County produces a *Voters' Guide* for every election for county, state and federal offices. The *Guide* provides candidate responses to League questions to help you make an informed selection.

More information about the *Guide* and a link to add yourself to our mailing list – so that you receive a paper copy of the *Guide* in the mail – is available at <https://tinyurl.com/muvpfzww> or use the QR code below.

The next election will be the Maryland Primary Election on Tuesday, June 23, 2026.

