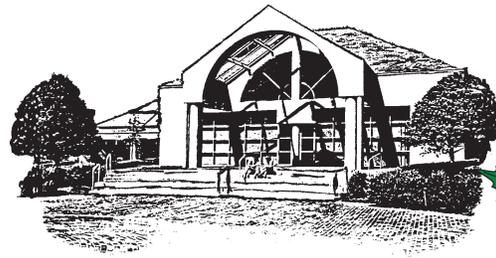


# The Council Report

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2001

News from the Friendship Heights Village Council—the elected governing body of the Special Tax District of the Village of Friendship Heights



## Village Dedicates Willoughby Park

Over 100 people joined us on a beautiful sunny Saturday morning last month to dedicate Willoughby Park. The weather fit the occasion perfectly as we welcomed this terrific new asset to our community. I wish to thank all those who participated in the event, including Babette Denis, wife of our County Council member Howard Denis (who was traveling); County Council member Derick Berlage; and Congresswoman Connie Morella.

A special thanks also goes to Ken Finkelstein of The JBG Companies and to the other representatives from JBG and Clark Construction for their efforts in making this project a reality.

### Goodwill Closes Friendship Heights Location

Goodwill has announced the closing of donation centers in Friendship Heights, Chevy Chase, Silver Spring, and Rockville as of December 16. According to a press release issued by Goodwill CEO David Becker, the closings are necessary to minimize costs.

The Goodwill donation centers that remain open are in Gaithersburg, Bowie, Arlington, Manassas, and their headquarters in NE Washington. For more information, call Goodwill at 202-636-4225 or visit their website, [www.dcgoodwill.org](http://www.dcgoodwill.org).



Photo by Martin Kuhn

*Mayor Melanie Rose White and Ken Finkelstein of The JBG Companies cut the ribbon to officially dedicate Willoughby Park on November 17.*

### How to be prepared for emergencies

Many people are justifiably concerned about emergency preparedness in the wake of the September 11 attacks. We have been working closely with Montgomery County officials to coordi-

nate efforts in sharing information with the public. To that end, we are arranging to have the County conduct a program on emergency preparedness here at our Center—similar to town hall meetings being conducted Countywide—sometime in January or February. County fire/rescue and emergency

*(continued inside)*

**MVA Mobile Office—Monday, January 28, 2002, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

management officials will provide an overview of their efforts as well as useful tips for residents and their families to feel better prepared.

Recently the County Executive mailed a Guide to Public Health and Emergency Preparedness to all County residents. The guide can be downloaded from the main page of the County's website, [www.co.mo.md.us](http://www.co.mo.md.us). Copies are also available at the Village Center, or you can call 240-777-2300 to request a copy from the County. Listed below are excerpts from the guide:

## How to guard against bioterrorism

In response to concerns about recent bioterrorist threats, the County has established a 24-hour taped message (240-777-4200) in English and Spanish. Some frequently asked questions:

**Is anthrax contagious?** No.

**What are the symptoms of anthrax?** Inhalation anthrax symptoms are similar to a bad case of the flu, with a high fever, muscle aches, and difficulty breathing. Skin anthrax starts with an itchy bump like a mosquito bite, which blisters, breaks open, and turns black.

**What can I do to protect myself?**

Hand washing after handling your mail is likely to prevent cutaneous (skin) anthrax in the rare event of contaminated mail. Hand washing is also useful in preventing many other respiratory and food borne illnesses. The U.S. Postal Service offers the following guidelines on handling mail:

**What should make me suspect a piece of mail?**

- It's addressed to someone no longer at your address.
- It's from someone you don't know.
- It's handwritten and has no return address or bears one that you can't confirm is legitimate.
- It's sealed with excessive

amounts of tape.

- It's lumpy or lopsided.
- It's marked with restrictive endorsements such as "personal" or "confidential."
- It has excessive postage.

**What should I do with a suspicious piece of mail?**

- Don't handle a letter or package that you suspect is contaminated.
- Don't shake, bump, or sniff it.
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- Notify local law enforcement authorities.

## Have an emergency preparedness kit at home

The seven basic items that should be stored in your home are water, food, first-aid supplies, clothing and bedding, tools, emergency supplies, and specialty items.

Keep the items that you would most likely need at home in one easy-to-carry container such as a clean, watertight can, camping backpack, or duffel bag. Store it in a convenient place and put a smaller version in your car. Keep items in airtight plastic bags.

Consult your physician or pharmacist about storing prescription medications, and maintain copies of your prescriptions.

**Water**—Store water in plastic containers or buy bottled water, avoiding glass bottles. Water should be stored in a cool, dark place. Plan for one gallon of water per person per day.

**Food**—Store a supply of three to five days' worth of food that requires no refrigeration, preparation, or cooking. Examples include ready-to-eat canned fruits, vegetables, and meats; canned or boxed juice; powdered milk and soup; peanut butter; jelly; crackers; granola bars; trail mix; vitamins.

**First-aid kit**—Your home first-aid kit should include sterile adhesive bandages, gauze pads, adhesive tape, triangular bandages, scissors, tweezers, needle, moistened

towelettes, petroleum jelly or other lubricant, safety pins, soap, latex gloves, and sunscreen. Include aspirin or non-aspirin pain medications, cough syrup, cold medicine, etc.

**Tools and supplies**—Keep the following items handy: extra batteries of assorted sizes; paper cups, plates and plastic utensils; battery-operated radio, flashlight, carbon monoxide and smoke detectors; cash and/or traveler's checks; non-electric can opener and utility knife; small fire extinguisher; pliers; compass; matches; plastic storage containers.

## What to do when electrical power is lost

- Check to see if your neighbors have power. If they don't, call Pepco at 1-877-737-2662.

- Turn off all major appliances.

- Use flashlights or battery-powered lanterns. Candles and kerosene lanterns are not recommended for lighting because of fire safety hazards.

- Life support equipment that you or your family members depend on (respirators, ventilators, oxygen equipment, etc.) should be listed with the power company, with your doctor's approval.

## Useful phone numbers

Emergencies (Fire/rescue, police): 911

Police non-emergency: 301-279-8000

Fire non-emergency: 240-777-0744

American Red Cross: 301-588-2515

Verizon (telephone repair): 301-954-6260

Pepco (to report outages): 1-877-737-2662

Pepco (to report downed wires): 202-872-3432

Poison Center: 202-625-3333

Washington Gas (to report gas leaks): 1-800-752-7520

Washington Gas emergencies: 703-750-1400

WSSC (24-hr. maintenance): 1-800-828-6439, ext. 4002

Montgomery County Emergency Management: 240-777-2300

*(Source: "Public Health and Emergency Preparedness", Montgomery County Department of Emergency Management)*

## Mobile Health Clinic Comes to Friendship Heights

We are pleased to offer a new health care service for veterans in the Village of Friendship Heights and the surrounding area. A mobile health clinic operated by the Washington DC Veterans Affairs Medical Center will be here on **Friday, January 11, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.** The van will park on Friendship Boulevard adjacent to the Village Center.

The mobile clinic provides checkups, preventive medical screening examinations, and patient education and counseling. The clinic also offers enrollment into the VA Health System, issues Veteran ID cards, checks on patient information, and schedules appointments. The clinic is staffed by a nurse practitioner, LPN, and program assistant.

The primary locations for the mobile clinic visits are Veterans Service Organization posts and community organizations in Maryland, Northern Virginia, and Washington, DC.

You must have an appointment to use this service. Individual appointments are scheduled every 30 minutes from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 2 p.m. **Call the Center at 301-656-2797 to schedule an appointment prior to January 11.** The process to enroll into the system takes about 30 minutes. Optional physical exams are also available.

Veterans please bring the following information for the VA Medical Center's registration purposes only:

- Copy of DD214 (Discharge Papers)
- Social Security number
- City and state birth location
- Civilian occupation
- Spouse and dependents:
  - full name
  - date of birth
  - Social Security number
  - spouse occupation
- Health insurance information:



*The VA Mobile Health Clinic will come to the Village on Friday, January 11, 2002, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

insurance card  
policy number

- Last year's income
- Parents' names
  - father's first name
  - mother's first and maiden name
- Application for health benefits (10-10 EZ) form (will be given to you upon arrival)
- What war was going on during your time of service?
- Combat? If yes, departure date and return date
- Purple Heart (yes or no)

The van will return on Friday, February 15. If enough people are interested, we will try to schedule it to come once a month thereafter. For more information about the mobile clinic, call 202-745-2274. Special thanks goes to Village Council member Maurice Trebach for taking a leading role in bringing this new service to the community.

### Chase Tower project nearly complete

Now that our new Willoughby Park has opened, we look forward to the completion of the rest of the Chase Tower project on Willard Avenue. The office building is

open for business, with the top-floor tenant having already moved in. The garage entrance on the new Hills Plaza is open to traffic from Willard. The Hills Plaza is expected to open to general traffic by the end of January.

Meanwhile, exterior work is almost complete on the retail building behind Highland House West. The developer is in final negotiations with a number of tenants, including several restaurants, at the retail site. There will also be two tenants on the ground floor of the office building, at least one of which will be a restaurant. According to the developer's latest timetable, the tenants should be in and operating by the end of the first quarter in 2002.

### New Year's Day Open House at the Center

Join us for our open house on **Tuesday, January 1, 2002**, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at the Village Center. We will again feature an assortment of refreshments as we ring in 2002. On behalf of the Village Council, my best wishes to you and your loved ones for a happy and healthy holiday season and new year.

—Melanie Rose White  
Mayor

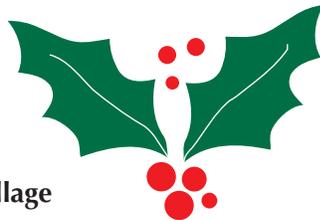
The Council took the following actions at the November 13, 2001, meeting:

- Approved distribution of \$35,000 to Montgomery Municipal Cable TV station from grant received by County;
- Held executive session to discuss personnel issues in accordance with Sec. 10-508(a)(1)(i) of MD State Code.

The Council took the following actions at the December 10, 2001, meeting:

- Approved renewal of trash removal contract with BFI;
- Discussed request from Chevy Chase Village to support acquisition by Montgomery County of Wohlfarth property on Western Avenue under Legacy Open Space Program; voted to table the discussion with no further action pending more information from Chevy Chase Village and Planning Board staff.

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