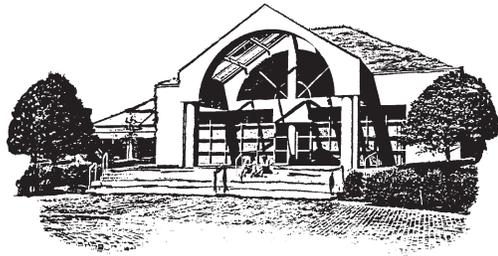


# The Council Report

OCTOBER 2001

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



## Willoughby Park Dedication Ceremony: November 17

We invite the entire community to celebrate the dedication of Willoughby Park on **Saturday, November 17, at 10 a.m.** Please join us at the park for the ceremony, followed by refreshments at the Village Center. In case of inclement weather, the entire ceremony will take place at the Village Center beginning at 10 a.m.

While marking the opening of a beautiful asset for the community, the ceremony will also celebrate the culmination of a series of negotiations that began nearly 20 years ago, involving two different development companies and multiple Village Councils.

In an era of rancorous and sometimes hostile discussions on development in Friendship Heights, our negotiations with first the Barlow Corporation and then the JBG Companies were remarkably civil and productive. Indeed, the numerous agreements involved in producing this project can be seen as a model of cooperation and consensus that balances the needs of the community and the developer.

Meanwhile, as this goes to press, the park is about to open to the public and the rest of the Chase Tower project is nearing completion. The office building, which is currently about 25% leased, is expected to open for business on November 1, although some interior and exterior work will continue after that date.

The Hills Plaza will open to



View of Willoughby Park from the North Willoughby building looking southbound.

office building traffic only (from Willard Avenue) on or about November 1. The road is expected to open to all traffic by the end of November, when the retail building has been completed.

In the retail building, the developer is in advanced negotiations with several possible tenants, including a restaurant for the top floor and additional restaurants and a bakery for the first floor. There is also expected to be a restaurant on the ground floor of the office building.

### Forum on Healthcare

On October 15 nearly 100 people attended a community forum the Council co-sponsored with the Friendship Village Civic Association entitled "The Future of Affordable, Quality Healthcare." The panelists included Blair Ewing, Montgomery County Council President; Marilyn Moon, from The Urban Institute; John

*(continued on back)*



The bronze sundial in Willoughby Park is the cornerstone of the Chase Tower public art program created by Steven Weitzman, a sculptor from Takoma Park. The theme of the art program is "time and the passage of time," and it will include a fountain with a water clock at the office building; concentric circles in the paved walkways expanding outward from the fountain, and quotations related to time also in the walkways.

Photos by Martin Kuhn

**MVA Mobile Office—Monday, November 26, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

The Council took the following actions at the October 9, 2001, meeting:

- Approved proposal from Mulheron Tree Service for snow removal contract;
- Approved request to install gas line on North Park Avenue to service Gourmet Market;
- Heard a presentation from Polinger Shannon & Luchs on proposal for improvements on Friendship Boulevard sidewalk adjacent to Highland House West; approved proposal in concept.

**The Next Council meeting will be Tuesday, November 13, 8 p.m.**

(note schedule change due to the Veterans' Day Holiday)

Hurson, Majority Leader, Maryland House of Delegates; and Maurice Trebach, Village Council member. The panelists gave an excellent overview of healthcare issues at the federal, state and local level.

### **Flower Baskets Awarded**

The Village has received an Award of Distinction in the Keep Montgomery County Beautiful awards program for the streetlight flower baskets. We congratulate our landscape contractor, Rick Austin of Grandiflora, Inc., for designing and maintaining the baskets.

—Melanie Rose White  
Mayor

The 12' sundial in Willoughby Park has a granite circular base designed to appear as a cloud emerging from space. The seagulls circling around the top of the sculpture are a metaphor for "time flying." The axis through the middle of the sculpture casts a shadow on the broad numbered band, indicating the current time.

### **What time is it?**



**The Friendship Heights Village Council**  
4433 S. Park Avenue  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
301-656-2797  
E-mail: [friendshiphtsvillage@erols.com](mailto:friendshiphtsvillage@erols.com)  
Website: [www.erols.com/friendshiphtsvillage](http://www.erols.com/friendshiphtsvillage)

**The Council Report—October 2001**