



Village of Mariemont

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From the Desk of Mayor Bill Brown

January 2021

2020 —What a year for the Village!

The headline event of the year was obviously the COVID-19 virus and the many difficulties it posed for our residents and the Village.

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge the efforts of Village residents, Council, my administrative staff, Police and Fire Departments, and our Maintenance Department for rising to the challenges presented by COVID.

Some of these challenges included the unknown revenue shortfall into the Village due to the COVID shutdown order and how it would affect our ability to maintain services, having to cancel the Memorial Day Parade and other annual events, postponing the July 4th fireworks, and postponing road projects due to budget constraints. (And let's not forget the bane of Zoom Council and Committee meetings, standing six feet apart, and wearing facemasks!)

Special thanks go to Chief Hines and Assistant Fire Chief Feichtner for their efforts to safely provide police and fire protection and services to our residents. Bravo to a job well done!

I'm particularly proud of the challenge we faced in getting the pool open for the season. This effort represents one of the finest examples of community spirit and collective action; so many volunteers gave not only their time but also financial donations. Our pool manager Jordan Schad kept everything running smoothly while enforcing new regulations and keeping the swimmers and staff safe.

Going forward, the newly formed Pool Task Force organized by Councilman Joe Stelzer and headed up by Lorne Hlad will work to upgrade and enhance the pool experience.

Since I don't have a crystal ball I can't entirely predict what 2021 will bring. We're clearly not over the virus. The vaccines are promising but only time will bring an end. I do know with certainty that Mariemont will prevail. The character and generosity, the remarkable spirit of our residents and our Village employees will sustain us throughout the coming year.

My very best wishes to you and your families for a 2021 filled with health and happiness.

William A. Brown