ECA Newsletter

April 2020

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Little Falls Parkway Now Closed to Motor Vehicle Traffic on Weekends

Montgomery Parks is continuing its efforts to expand safe access to park facilities for exercise during the COVID-19 crisis. Beginning on Friday, April 17, Little Falls Parkway between Massachusetts Avenue and Arlington Road will be closed to motor vehicles and open to pedestrians, bicyclists, and other park users from Friday mornings at 9 a.m. through Sunday evenings at 6 p.m. every weekend. For more detailed information, including information about similar closures on Beach Drive and Sligo Creek Parkway, go HERE.

Montgomery County COVID-19 Resources

Montgomery County has an extensive COVID-19 information and resources page up on their website. There you can find the latest pandemic information, data, FAQs, and links to many other Federal, State and County resources. You can even sign up for an email newsletter with the latest updates. Go HERE

Reminder: Social Distancing when Walking, Riding, or Running

It's great to see that most people out and about in the neighborhood are following rules and recommendations about wearing masks and appropriate social distancing. Nevertheless, I continue to hear comments about (and see with my own eyes) people who don't follow social distancing guidelines and continue to pass in close proximity to others--especially runners.

HERE is an article in *Runners World* that talks about how to run safely run, why it's important to avoid running near other people. HERE is one from *Shape* about wearing a mask when running.
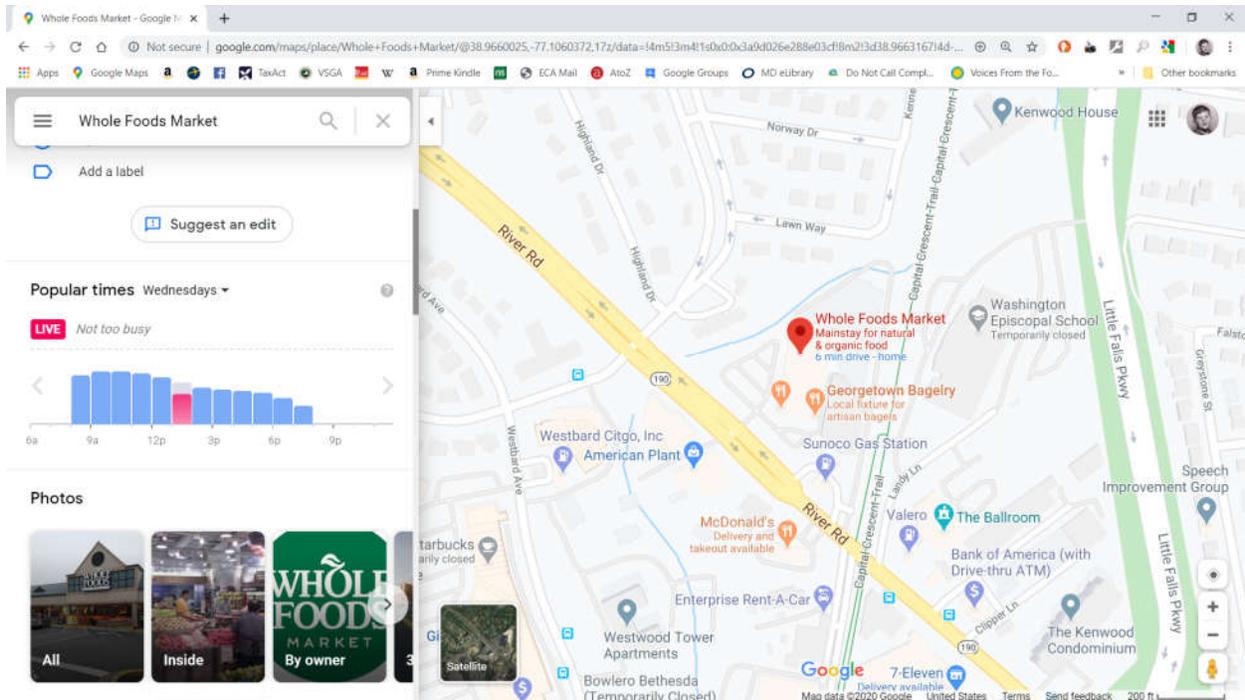
Please be considerate of others. If you are out in the neighborhood (walking, running, biking) maintain at least 6 feet of distance from others <u>at all times</u>. If you run without a mask, stay in areas where you will not encounter others.

<u>Edgemoor Neighborhood Bear and Bunny Hunt</u>

Thanks to everyone who has been participating in the Edgemoor Neighborhood Bear and Bunny Hunt – both those who are displaying stuffed animals and those hunting them down. I heard from a lot of people (especially parents of younger children) who have enjoyed the activity. HERE is a link to a few pictures of bear/bunny displays, which are up on the ECA website. A special thank you to Katherine Bradley for initiating this fun community event.

<u>Edgemoor Tip of the Month – Google Maps' Popular Times Feature</u>

Have you been thinking of and outing to the grocery store or some other open business, but worried about whether you'll be able to shop there without it being too crowded for safety? You should try Google Maps' Popular Times feature. It won't answer the question completely for you, but it can give you some helpful information to help you make a decision. On the map, click on the business you're interested in. As you may already know, you'll then see information about the business (a photo, ratings, a description of the business…) on a new window on the left side of the screen. If you scroll down on that new window, you'll see lots of other information, including a segment titled "Popular times." It contains a bar graph showing, on average, how busy that business is each hour of the day (blue bars). In addition, it will have a red bar show how busy it is currently. This can help you with your decision about whether or not to go now, or wait for another time. Here is a screen shot showing the Whole Foods on River Road a little after 1 PM on Wednesday this week:

Note that the blue bars shows that, on Wednesdays, the store is usually the least busy from 7 until 8 PM. The red bar show that, when I was looking at it, the store was less crowded than usual for that time.

Do you have a tip you'd like to share with your neighbors? Please email me your suggestions HERE.

The ECA Newsletter is a compilation of information relevant to Edgemoor area residents. It is distributed on an occasional basis on the EC-Net email list.