

# **ECA Newsletter**

**December 2018**

## Topics in This Issue

1. 2019 ECA New Year Brunch
2. Neighborhood Vandalism
3. More on Elm Street Right-of-Way Improvements
4. Edgemoor Tip of the Day – Montgomery County Police Brochures

Happy Holidays to everyone!

## 2019 ECA New Year Brunch

Come One! Come All! You are cordially invited to the annual ECA New Year Brunch on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the Edgemoor Club. The ECA is expanding the free food and drink this year, and we'll provide bagels and toppings, doughnuts, fruit, and vegetables along with coffee, water, orange juice and champagne to toast the New Year. I hope you can make it. It's a great chance to meet and visit with neighbors. Feel free to bring a dish to share.

If you would like to help out with obtaining supplies, setting up, or cleaning up, please email me ([president@edgemoorcitizens.org](mailto:president@edgemoorcitizens.org)).

## Neighborhood Vandalism

As you know, there have been several recent reports of car-related vandalism in the neighborhood ("keying" cars, breaking car windows, tire tracks on lawns). Montgomery County Police have been investigating a series of sporadic vandalisms in the area since October. The incidents have increased recently, and they ask residents to be vigilant and report any suspicious persons or acts of vandalism via 911 or the MC Police non-emergency number (301-279-8000). In presentations to neighborhood residents (most recently at the Fall 2017 ECA Community Meeting), MC Police have stressed that you should report this kind of incident to them, regardless of the scope of the crime or any expectation that the perpetrator(s) can be caught. It helps them get a better idea about how wide spread the problem is and to identify patterns of criminal behavior. Reports can often be taken over the phone.

In general, MC Police also encourage residents to use outdoor lighting, keep vegetation trimmed to reduce hiding places, and avoid leaving evidence that nobody is home (e.g., uncollected mail/newspapers; social media postings). Although alarms don't

necessarily prevent crime, they can speed up response time for police. They also suggest home video surveillance with an alarm, especially with real-time video monitoring.

For more on preventing and reporting crime, see the Edgemoor Tip of the Day, below.

### More on Elm Street Right-of-Way Path

As you probably know, Montgomery County is considering improvements to the pathway that goes through the Elm Street right-of-way between Fairfax and Glenbrook. Current plans call for replacing the existing crushed stone/dirt path with a pervious concrete path. (You can read more about it in last month's ECA Newsletter, [HERE](#)).

Several neighbors have expressed support for the plan, but some have concerns about retaining the area's natural setting and, especially, the impact on the trees along that section of the path.

I walked through the area with David Moulton (our local resident amateur ornithologist and path user) and we talked about how to minimize the effect on the trees and vegetation and, in particular, how to prevent the removal of the one healthy Sycamore tree the County wants to remove. David is working to locate an independent Arborist to help find a way to save that tree. (To see the tree in question, walk along the path from Glenbrook toward Fairfax. It is the first large tree on the right side of the path - about half way up the hill.)

I'll keep you updated on any further developments. But, I'd like to hear from other residents about this plan - especially from people who frequently use the path. If you have any thoughts about this (positive or negative), could you take a moment to email me ([president@edgemoorcitizens.org](mailto:president@edgemoorcitizens.org))?

### Edgemoor Tip of the Day – Montgomery County Police Publications

Montgomery County Police publish a variety of brochures that address neighborhood crime prevention and related issues. These include *Crime Prevention Tips*, *Reporting Suspicious Activities*, *Don't Be Afraid to Call the Police*, *Help Us Prevent Thefts from Vehicles*, and *Home Security Safety Tips to Keep Your Home and Valuables Safe*. You can see the full list and download/read the publications [HERE](#).

Do you have a tip you'd like to share with your neighbors? Please email me your suggestions ([president@edgemoorcitizens.org](mailto:president@edgemoorcitizens.org)).

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