ECA Newsletter
December 2022

This month's Newsletter is short. Hope you all have a Happy Holiday season.

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ECA New Year's Brunch

Save the Date! After two years of COVID-related postponements, the annual ECA New Year's Brunch will return on Sunday, January 8 at the Edgemoor Club. Note the new, later, starting time this year – from 11:30AM until 1:30PM.

Stop by and say "hello" to your neighbors. There will be coffee, bagels, doughnuts, muffins, lots of other food and drink, as well as champagne to toast the arrival of 2023. Feel free to bring a food item to share, although that that's not necessary. We'll have plenty for everyone.

Additional details to follow.

Little Falls Parkway Update

As mentioned in last month's Newsletter, Little Falls Parkway has been reconfigured yet again between Dorset Avenue and Arlington Road, The roadway is now two lanes (one in each direction) on one side of the median strip and no motor vehicle traffic on the other side. This is just the beginning of a longer term project to build a new "linear park" along the now vacant side of the parkway. You find more details about the project [HERE](#).

A couple of days ago, I took part in a meeting organized by the Montgomery County Department of Transportation to gather community input about the current traffic configuration. Highlights of the meeting:

- The purpose of the project is to add much-needed recreational space in an area where land is at a premium next to the Capital Crescent Trail, one of the most popular trails in Montgomery Parks' system. The new linear park is expected to have room for not only pedestrians and bicyclists, but also (to be added next spring) seating, games, and other social and recreational amenities. The current

configuration is essentially a pilot project, and Parks will seek input from residents and evaluate the success of the pilot next summer.

- The parkway is under the jurisdiction of Montgomery Parks, not the Department of Transportation, and the decision to convert the parkway to a linear park was made by Parks. Their original intent was to close the entire parkway to vehicle traffic. The current approach, retaining one motor vehicle lane in each direction, was proposed by DOT as a compromise in order to reduce the traffic impact on nearby neighborhoods. The purpose of the community meeting was to hear comments and concerns about the current configuration.
- Residents at the meeting expressed concern about the decision to close a portion of the parkway and the way Montgomery Parks arrived at that decision. Other concerns included:
  - Safety issues at several locations caused by insufficient signage, traffic light locations that don't reflect the current lane directions, and vehicle backups at some locations.
  - Cut-through traffic has improved as compared to times when the entire parkway was closed, but remains a big problem.
  - Reduction of the parkway from 4 to 2 lanes affects not only nearby residential streets, but other alternative routes like Goldsboro Road.

Anyone who would like to comment on the project can email the staff contact at Parks, listed on the website HERE.

Edgemoor Tip of the Month – Top Ten Tips

It's the end of the year, so let's revisit some of the best Tips of The Month from the last few years. Here are the "Top Ten Tips" – with one bonus tip:

1. Sign up for Email or Text Updates on Trash Collection Schedule Changes (https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/depcollectionday/default.aspx)
2. Obtain Almost Any Montgomery County Service (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mc311/ or Dial 311)
3. Report a Street Light Outage (https://pepco.streetlightoutages.com/map/default.html?a=db or 202-833-7500. Note that you'll need to have the Pole Number to report over the phone.)
4. Learn about Trees on Montgomery County Rights of Way - DOT Street Tree Program (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-highway/tree/index.html)
5. Get a Free Tree for Your Yard (https://treemontgomery.org/other-planting-programs/)
6. Explore Montgomery County Library Resources (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/)

7. Sign Up for the Informative B-CC Regional Service Center Newsletter (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/bcc/)
8. Ask a Gardening Expert a Question (https://extension.umd.edu/programs/environment-natural-resources/program-areas/home-and-garden-information-center/ask-extension)
9. Find Out Where to Donate All Kinds of Goods (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter/volunteers/Donations.html)
10. Check the Fall Leaf Collection Schedule (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-Highway/leaf/index.html)
11. And last but not least - Learn Everything You Would Ever Want to Know about Snow Removal (https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/snow/)

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.