

ECA Newsletter

January 2023

Happy New Year!

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ECA New Year's Brunch

The Annual ECA New Year Brunch made a triumphant return (missing the last two years because of COVID) on Sunday the 8th of January. We had a nice-sized crowd, with quite a few new neighbors. If you could not make it, we hope to see you next year.

Once again, many thanks to the Edgemoor Club and its members for allowing the ECA to use their facilities and especially to Club Manager Mary Gardiner for being so helpful. Thank you also to ECA Board members Huda Montemarano, Alicia Tompkins Bridget Foist and Eric Rubel, and to Susan Rubel, Kathleen Wheaton, Naomi Freeman, and Morris Klein.

Neighborhood Residents Appointed to County Advisory

Congratulations to Janet Shatz, Reid Detchon, neighborhood residents who were recently appointed to serve on Montgomery County advisory groups. Members in both groups are nominated by the County Executive and approved by the County Council.

Janet is on the 19-member Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board, a 19-member board that represents business and residential interests in the B-CC area. The Board advises the County Executive and County Council on local service needs and policies.

Reid is on the 15-member Climate, Energy, and Air Quality Advisory Committee, which advises the County Executive and County Council on issues related to energy and air quality.

New ECA Website and Email Addresses

As noted in a previous message, the company that has hosted the ECA’s internet domain and website for many years accidentally took our site down for a few days last year. Although the site was eventually restored, that action effectively “locked” the website, making it impossible to update or change anything on the site. Given that the ECA website (www.edgemoorcitizens.org) has been woefully outdated for some time, the ECA Board decided to see this unfortunate event as an opportunity to build a new, improved, and better website (using a new and more reliable hosting provider). Board members Jeffrey Drichta, Huda Montemarano, and Alicia Tompkins have been busy designing and building the new website, which will go live in the very near future. The address will be the same (www.edgemoorcitizens.org) but the new site will have improved content, security, and functionality. I’ll let you know when the new site is up and available. It is possible this transition will result in some downtime or other issues for the website, so please be patient.

In conjunction with the new website, the ECA board has begun using new email addresses. Effective immediately, the new addresses are:

Contact	Old Email Address	New Email Address
ECA Board	ECA@edgemoorcitizens.org	EdgemoorCitizens@gmail.com
ECA President	President@edgemoorcitizens.org	EdgemoorCitizensPresident@gmail.com
ECA Treasurer	Treasurer@edgemoorcitizens.org	EdgemoorCitizensTreasurer@gmail.com

If you need to email the ECA Board (generally), David Barnes (ECA President), or Jeffrey Drichta (ECA Treasurer), please use the new addresses. Other Board members’ email addresses may also change, while other may continue to use their own private email addresses for board business. All board member email addresses will be listed on the new website.

Messages to the old addresses will be forwarded for a month or so. But, to help make sure that you continue to receive email communications from the ECA and to try to keep messages from going to your SPAM folder, please add these new email addresses to your contact list.

Again, this kind of transition can result in problems with communication, so please be patient.

NOTE: EC-Net, the ECA’s neighborhood email group, is not connected with the ECA website and operates on the Google Groups platform. It is not affect by these changes.

Canine Influenza in Montgomery County

The Montgomery County Office of Animal Services is warning residents about cases of Canine Influenza in the County and around the Washington DC region.

Dog owners should be aware, and take precautions, regarding this respiratory disease, which is caused by a specific strain of the Type A influenza virus and is highly contagious. Symptoms are cough, runny nose, eye discharge, fever, lethargy and poor appetite. The signs range in severity between no signs at all and severe illness sometimes resulting in death.

The disease is thought to spread in aerosol respiratory droplets and contaminated surfaces. It is not transmissible to people. However, people can spread the virus to dogs via their clothing, equipment or hands. A vaccine is available, but it is not considered a core vaccine for all dogs. Dog owners are advised to speak with their veterinarian about having their dog vaccinated.

You can find the full press release and additional details [HERE](#).

Edgemoor Tip of the Month – Fact Checking Resources

Did someone tell you that three doctors in Canada died from the COVID vaccine? Or did you hear a news story saying that the IRS is hiring 87,000 new agents to target average citizens? Want to know if those things are really true? (They are not.) There are lots of fact checking resources on the internet, but here are two that have stood the test of time, and survived the wrath of fake news purveyors:

1. [Snopes.com](#) has been around since 1994 and claims to be “the oldest and largest fact-checking site online, widely regarded by journalists, folklorists, and readers as an invaluable research companion.” They started out investigating urban legends, hoaxes, and folklore, and have branched out to cover many other areas, including politics, popular culture, myths, rumors and all kinds of misinformation.
2. [FactCheck.org](#) considers itself a consumer advocate for voters that “aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in U.S. politics.” It is a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, and focuses mainly on politics.

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.