UPCOUNTY

Bringing the County Closer to You!

Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestine, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Arthur Edmunds, UCAB Chair

April 7, 2017

UCAB Quality of Life Committee Meeting
Monday, April 10   7:00pm
Kramer Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

Topic: Status of Nighttime Economy Task Force Recommendations
Guests: Representatives from various agencies

See recommendations https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/nighttimeeconomy/recommend.html)

All board and their committee meetings are open to the public!

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, please call 240-777-8040 or email a request to catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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Residential Street Sweeping to Begin April 10

Starting April 10, Montgomery County's residential roadways will get a spring cleaning with the launch of the annual street sweeping program on about 4,000 of the County's more than 5,000 curb miles of roads. The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) removes abrasives and other debris left behind after the winter snow season to improve the appearance and safety of County streets. MCDOT focuses first on roads in sensitive watersheds as identified by the County's Department of Environmental Protection and, if needed, these streets receive additional sweepings.

Brightly colored signs are posted in neighborhoods a few days before street sweeping begins. To improve the quality of service and the effectiveness of the sweeping program, residents are urged to find alternative parking while their streets are cleaned.

Daily updates detailing which areas are scheduled for street sweeping will be available online on the County's website. Additional information about the street sweeping program is available on MC311's website or by calling the Customer Service Line Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 7:00pm by dialing 311 from within the County or 240-777-0311 from outside the County.

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County Launches Food Security Plan

Montgomery County officially launched the implementation of its Food Security Plan (pdf) at an event organized by the Office of the County Executive and the Montgomery County Food Council. At the event, County Executive Ike Leggett, County Council President Roger Berliner, Councilmember George Leventhal, and the County's Health and Human Services Director Uma Ahluwalia all lauded the plan and voiced their commitment to its successful implementation. The Plan was developed by Montgomery County Chief Innovation Officer Dan Hoffman in partnership with the Montgomery County Food Council and a broad group of nonprofit partners.

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County Council Seeking Applicants for Planning Board

The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants to fill a vacancy on the Montgomery County Planning Board which serves as the council's principal adviser on land use planning and community planning. Planning Board members, who serve four-year terms, also serve as commissioners of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. See the press release for additional details.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Wednesday, April 12. Letters of application expressing interest, including a résumé listing professional and civic experience, political party affiliation, home and office telephone numbers and an email address, should be addressed to: Council President Roger Berliner, County Council Office, Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850. Applications may also be emailed to county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov.

To serve on other boards, committees and commissions, review the vacancy announcements and read instructions carefully at:
http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/boards/index.html.

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County Office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs Launches New Tenant Rights Website

New tenant protections took effect on March 13th, and the Department of Housing and Community Affairs is leveraging its additional authority and resources to ratchet up efforts to inform and protect tenants.
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/tenantrights

The Montgomery County office of Landlord-Tenant Affairs has a useful webpage with information on security deposits, eviction, rent increases, beginning and ending a tenancy from both the landlord's and tenant's perspectives, frequently-asked questions, the complaint process and form, and much more.   There also is a downloadable Landlord-Tenant Handbook.

To see other information the department offers, visit http://montgomerycountymd.gov/DHCA/housing/landlordtenant/

also . . .

2017 Rental Housing Survey Starts April 1-30

April 1st launched the Montgomery County 2017 Rental Housing Survey conducted by DHCA Licensing and Registration. All multifamily rental properties in unincorporated areas as well as the municipalities of Gaithersburg, Rockville and Takoma Park report information on tenant services, unit sizes, rent levels, and occupancy.

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Expansion of Educational, Innovative "Go! Kits" Coming to Montgomery County Public Libraries; Kits Introduce Young Children to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

Go! Kits, developed by Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL) as a fun and innovative way to introduce young children to a variety of concepts in science, technology, engineering and math, are now available at all 21 MCPL branches.   Visit MCPL's website to learn more about Go! Kits http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library and for a complete listing of themes.

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**Ride On Announces Launch of New, Limited Stop Service This Fall;
Ride On extRa Will Expand Transit Options on MD 355**

To kick off MCDOT's celebration of Transportation Week during Earth Month, Ride On announced that, in October, it will launch **a new, limited stop, higher speed service on Maryland Route 355 called the Ride On extRa, which will provide a faster option for bus riders during rush hours.** The service will make only 12 stops between the Medical Center Metrorail Station in Bethesda and the Lakeforest Transit Center in Gaithersburg, which will allow Ride On extRa to provide faster service with "Less Stop. More Go."

Buses will run every 10 minutes from 5:30 to 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. At Ride On extRa bus stops, passengers will be able to take advantage of connections to Metrorail, 15 Metrobus routes, MARC Brunswick Line, MTA Commuter buses, and 42 Ride On routes.

For Ride On extRa, MCDOT will use 17 new, specially branded buses with easy access boarding, WiFi and USB charging ports. Ride On extRa's bus shelters will feature real time information displays. The new service will accept standard SmarTrip cards and passes, as well as cash. To eliminate delays that occur when passengers add cash to SmarTrip cards on board the bus, passengers will not be able to load cash on to SmarTrip cards on the bus.

A Transit Signal Priority (TSP) system will expedite travel speeds for Ride On extRa. The TSP will detect Ride On extRa buses as they approach a traffic signal and could provide a few extra seconds of green light to allow the bus to get through the intersection.

Read more at http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=20955

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Preparing for Success
Saturday, April 22
Montgomery College - Germantown Campus
Bioscience Education (BE) Conference Center
20200 Observation Drive, Germantown

Women's Bar Association, County Police, State Attorney's Office Partner on Program for Teens &Parents

Students Agenda   Parents Agenda

Montgomery College and the Montgomery County Women's Bar Foundation are hosting the 15th annual "Preparing for Success" program for local students. The all-day seminar program is designed for middle school and high school students and parents. This year's theme is "Navigating Life, the Streets and Social Media." To learn more, please visit www.preparing4success.com.

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Participate in "Give and Ride" April 23-29 and Help Our Area's Neediest Families

Ride On bus passengers can help needy families and ride free by donating canned or nonperishable food during our 30th annual "Give and Ride" food drive. Ride On will collect donations from Sunday, April 23 through Saturday, April 29.   Food collection bags will be placed near the fare boxes on all Ride On buses. In addition to non-perishable food; items for children, such as healthy items, disposable diapers, formula, baby or toddler food and juice are especially needed. Donated items should be in unbreakable containers only.

Food collected through the drive goes to the Manna Food Center, which provides nutritious food to thousands of families experiencing hunger. Manna continues to see a steady increase in the number of families needing assistance. Several years ago, the drive was shifted to the spring to help Manna stock its shelves at a time when their food supplies run low.

Even if you don't use Ride On, you can still donate items. Give your donations to any Ride On bus operator, or drop off donations directly to Manna Foods, 9311 Gaither Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20877.

For information about Ride On, call 311 or TDD/TTY 301-251-4850, Monday through Friday, 7:00am to 7:00pm or visit the Division of Transit Services website.

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A message from Montgomery College - Germantown Campus . . .

Montgomery College is often called "the Community's College" so just in case you have not thought of MC in this way, check out a few opportunities that are available for you – "the people" (of all ages).   Hope to see you on campus sometime soon!

Did you know that the Montgomery College Baseball team plays their home games on the Germantown campus? Admission is free and all games are open to the public. Baseball has traditionally been a strong sport at MC. In fact, the Raptors were the 2016 District Champions and advanced to the NJCAA World Series for the 13th time in 16 years! Check out their schedule and come out for a game when you can.

MCPS High School Students and their parents are invited to the STEM Open House on Monday, April 24, 2017 between 6:30 – 8:00 pm on the Germantown campus. Come when you can…Leave when you must. There will be an overview of the STEM programs at MC, tours of the state-of-the-art facilities, scholarship and financial aid information, an explanation of the transfer support services MC offers, and the opportunity to talk with STEM faculty and current STEM students. RSVP to Tonya.Baker@montgomerycollege.edu by April 21, 2017. The event is free. Pizza will be served.

The Youth Summer Program Schedule is now posted on the WD&CE website. Summer 2017 brings some new camps and the return of many favorites. Try Arduino (Building Programmable games toys or devices) or Capoeira an Afro-Brazilian martial arts and self-defense discipline. Drobots/ Drone Flying Adventures. College and Career Readiness for High Schoolers. And lots of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math.)

STEM returns to the Center for Early Education. Tap into curiosity in an interactive curriculum which will create a solid foundation for early learning. Register your 4 & 5 year olds today. For more information, call 240-567-2041.

The Frank Islam Athenaeum Symposia Spring 2017 Series offers four opportunities in April to hear from experts on matters of civil injustice. Aminatta Forna will speak about life, literature and politics in Sierra Leone; Vaddey Ratner will address Cambodia: Genocide, Renewal, and Hope; Kiese Laymon will focus his comments on the black lives matter issue; and Kathy Bullock will draw connections between African and African-American Music. All events are free to the public and are held in Globe Hall on the Germantown campus. More information about each guest lecturer can be found on the Athenaeum Symposium Website.

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MONTGOMERY serves Awards
honoring those who serve

April 24, 2017
Imagination Stage
6:30—8:30 pm
For More Information:
www.montgomeryserves.org

Celebrate Extraordinary Volunteers!

FREE to the PUBLIC   ★   Register Now   ★   SEATS ARE LIMITED

Registration is required for this FREE event - Click here to Register!

These awards honor some of our County's most outstanding community leaders and dedicated volunteers. County Executive Leggett encouraged residents to submit award nominations of individuals, businesses, and community groups. Visit website for more information.

Anjali Kalra, a junior at Poolesville High School who won a youth award, worked tirelessly to uplift those in the community who need it the most by creating a summer camp for the children at the Stepping Stones Shelter. Logging in more than 80 volunteer hours the summer of 2016, Anjali has left a legacy that will benefit the shelter and improve the quality of life of those who live there for years to come. *Congratulations Anjali!*

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Montgomery County Collaboration Council is Seeking New Board Members

- You may access the vacancy announcement for the Local Management Board (Collaboration Council) through the following link: http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/boards/index.html Please read instructions carefully on that page, where you will find a link directly to the vacancy announcement.

- If you have any questions, please email info@collaborationcouncil.org and our Board's Governance Committee Chair will talk with you.

  To learn more about the Collaboration Council of Montgomery County, visit http://www.collaborationcouncil.org

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Affordable Housing Conference
Friday, May 5,   8:30am-5:00pm
Bethesda North Marriott Hotel & Conference Center
5701 Marinelli Road, Bethesda

The Affordable Housing Conference of Montgomery County Presents the 26th annual Affordable Housing Summit -- Charting the Course: Bold Ideas in a Time of Uncertainty. For additional information on the Summit, click here.

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For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:
County Council http://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/press_List.aspx?id=01
Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:
Department of Public Libraries http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library
Department of Recreation http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/rectmpl.asp?url=/content/rec/index.asp
Department of Transportation http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html
Department of Environmental Protection http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/deatmpl.asp?url=/content/dep/dephome/index.asp
Department of Permitting Services http://permittingservices.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx
Montgomery County Volunteer Center http://www.montgomeryserves.org
Office of Community Partnerships http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs100/1102184431012/archive/1117215431562.html
Commission for Women http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw/index.html
Parks Department http://www.montgomeryparks.org/
Planning Department http://montgomeryplanning.org/