



Bringing the County Closer to You!

Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestine, Chief Administrator Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Robert Nelson, UCAB Chair

May 8, 2015

Reminder!

**Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board Meeting
Monday, May 11 7:00pm-9:00pm
Kramer Upcounty Regional Services Center
12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown**

Guests: Montgomery County Councilmember Nancy Floreen (At-Large)

State legislators from the Upcounty region (confirmed):

- Del. Charles Barkley, District 39**
- Del. Kathleen Dumais, District 15**
- Del. Aruna Miller, District 15**
- Del. Fraser-Hidalgo, District 15**

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.

**Executive Office Building Traffic Circle to Close 16 Months for
Extensive Rehabilitation and Improvement Work
May 15, 2015 until September, 2016**

The Executive Office Building Traffic Circle (EOBTC) at 101 Monroe St., Rockville will be closed to vehicular traffic from approximately Friday, May 15 until September 2016 while the area's surface and support structure are demolished, reinforced and reconstructed. The EOBTC requires immediate repairs due to continual deterioration which is causing water to penetrate the loading dock below the EOBTC that services the EOB, Circuit Court, and surrounding shops.

Pedestrian access will still be possible to the surrounding buildings.

On or about May 15, a contractor for the County's Department of General Services will begin the preparation process prior to the actual construction work. The construction efforts will begin approximately one week later. There will be varying amounts of noise created due to construction seven days per week and in the evenings.

To make up for the loss of the normal drop-off area in the traffic circle, there will be a 50-foot, designated, drop-off area on Monroe St. on the EOB side of the traffic circle.

All work will be performed by a licensed firm, with trained workers, and monitored by a consultant, to ensure all safe work practices are employed.

The project also includes replacing all of the landscaping and addressing Americans with Disabilities Act-compliance issues

Lake Walk Scheduled for Lake Whetstone Residents; Dredging Project Update

Saturday, May 16 9:00am-10:30am

18701 Montgomery Village Avenue, Montgomery Village
(at the volleyball court)

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will conduct a Lake Walk for residents of the Lake Whetstone area to discuss the sediment removal project that will begin on the lake in June. Residents will have the opportunity to ask questions of the County engineers and hear about various aspects of the project.

The Sediment Removal Project will remove approximately 20,000 cubic yards of sediment from Lake Whetstone. The removed sediment will be pumped to shore where dewatering equipment will separate the solids from the water. Clean water will be returned to the lake. Dried sediment removed from the lake will be trucked to an approved disposal facility. On average, 30 truckloads of sediment will be hauled off-site daily.

The dredging will be limited to portions at the north and south ends of the lake. Much of the park area will be closed during the project.

For more information, visit the [Stormwater Facility Major Projects site](#), then go to the Lake Whetstone page.

IMPORTANT NOTICE! -

Lake Whetstone Recreational Area Closure

During the dredging project, the Lake Whetstone boathouse, dock, picnic and volleyball areas as well as the parking area will be closed. **Streets will be open to resident traffic only.** For more information about the project, please visit: <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/water/major-stormwater-project.html#lakewhetstonedredge> or contact:

Audra Lew
Planning Specialist, Stormwater Facility Maintenance Program
Montgomery County, Dept. of Environmental Protection
(p) 240.777.7761 (c) 240.876.2891 (f) 240.777.7715
audra.lew@montgomerycountymd.gov

Interested in Forming a "Village?"

Tuesday, May 12 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

White Oak Community Center

1700 April Lane, Silver Spring

Keynote Speaker: Rona Kramer, Secretary, Maryland Department on Aging

This is a day of networking, information sharing, and collaboration for Senior Villages, those that are in development, and for individuals/groups who are interested in forming a Village. The event is free but your RSVP by May 5th is required.

Communities may send as many participants as they like. Please contact Ms. Pazit Aviv at pazit.aviv@montgomerycountymd.gov or 240-777-1231 to RSVP or to have your questions answered.

Sign language interpreters and other auxiliary aids or services will be provided upon request, at least three (3) business days before the event. Contact Pazit Aviv (number and email above). TTY users use Maryland Relay.

Montgomery County Proclaims May as Building Safety Month

This year's Building Safety Month theme, "Resilient Communities Start with Building Codes," raises awareness of the importance of safe and resilient construction, fire prevention, disaster mitigation, backyard safety, energy efficiency and new technologies in the construction industry.

Building codes protect residents in five ways:

1. **Ground fault interrupters (GFI).** Building safety codes require GFIs in kitchen, bath and outdoor outlets to turn off power in the event of an electrical short in the circuit.
2. **Emergency escape and rescue openings.** Building safety codes require all basements and bedrooms to have at least one emergency escape and rescue opening to the outside and that doorways in office buildings are sized so workers can exit safely in an emergency.
3. **Stair rails.** Building safety codes address the size and space of stair rails to prevent children from falling through or getting their heads stuck and by regulating the height of stair railings.
4. **Smoke detectors.** Building safety codes require smoke detectors outside of each bedroom and on each story of a home, including basements.
5. **Fire sprinklers.** Montgomery County's building safety codes require every new single-family home to be equipped with automatic fire sprinklers.

During the month of May, the Department of Permitting Services (DPS) is offering an inspection for an existing deck to all County residents in single-family detached homes, townhouses and duplex dwellings, with the exception of those in the cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg. The inspection includes a checklist for homeowners to help them maintain a safe and sound structure. Residents interested in scheduling a deck inspection should call 311, or send a fax to 240-777-6258. Homeowners will be contacted before the inspection is performed. All requests will be honored as the inspectors' workloads permit.

The Department of Housing and Community Affairs is offering free basement habitability inspections during the month of May. Anyone living in a basement accessory apartment who would like to make sure their living area meets requirements can contact DHCA by calling 311.

For more information about Building Safety Month, visit the DPS website at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/permittingservices.

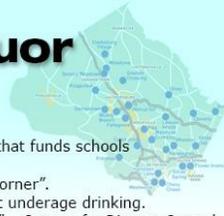
County Hosts Community Conversations to Seek Public Input about Health and Quality of Life Issues Tuesday, June 2 7:00pm-9:00pm Kramer Upcounty Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

County residents are invited to participate in more than one dozen community conversations sponsored by Healthy Montgomery, a community-based effort to improve the health and well-being of Montgomery County residents. The "conversations" will help provide input and feedback to complete a community health needs assessment. Attendees will have an opportunity to share their views about how Montgomery County can be a healthier place to live.

Each session will last approximately two hours and refreshments will be served. To see registration details and other locations, visit http://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/apps/News/press/PR_details.asp?PrID=14813

Local Liquor Control:

- \$30 million in annual profit that funds schools & roads, keeps taxes down.
- No "liquor stores on every corner".
- Stronger protections against underage drinking.
- "Better protects public health" – Centers for Disease Control.



County Council Ad Hoc Committee Meets on Liquor Control

Local liquor control has served Montgomery County well. It contributes \$30 million in annual profit to the County – helping us to fund schools, transportation, help for the vulnerable in our midst, and more. It helps to keep taxes lower. We have lower alcohol consumption and higher revenue for public purposes than other jurisdictions. There are not liquor stores on every corner. Our system makes it harder for underage individuals to purchase alcohol and provides more education for the public and for servers as well. It better protects the public health, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Click [here](#) to see the benefits of local control. Click [here](#) to see the public health benefits. Presentation of **Privatization: What the research literature says (pdf)** from Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Visit [Department of Liquor Control](#) for more information. ([Press Release](#))

MCPS Seeking Public Comment on Policy Revisions – Child Abuse and Neglect

The Montgomery County Board of Education is seeking public comments on revisions to Policy JHC—*Child Abuse and Neglect*. The policy guides Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) procedures and protocols related to recognizing, reporting, and preventing suspected child abuse and neglect of students.

These documents can also be viewed in the Department of Public Information and Web Services by calling 301-279-3853. Individuals who wish to provide comments should respond in writing by June 8, 2015. All responses should be sent to the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20850 or to the Board of Education at boe@mcpsmd.org. All responses will be shared with the Board of Education and the Interim Superintendent of Schools.

More information about procedures, policies and protocols related to child abuse and neglect are available on the MCPS website.



Did you know that the Maryland SoccerPlex is located within the County's larger South Germantown Recreational Park? The park consists of 620 acres, 152 of which belong to the Maryland Soccer Foundation (the nonprofit organization that owns and operates the Maryland SoccerPlex). Of those 152 acres, only 45 acres are actual playing surfaces, (a.k.a. soccer fields).

Ever wonder how many games/events are held on the stadium field on average? Get the answer and learn more about the SoccerPlex by visiting <http://www.mdsoccerplex.org> and asking to be added to their Turf Talk list!

BlackRock Center for the Arts presents . . .



Suzanne Vega

Pop, Rock, Singer/Songwriter | Saturday, May 30, 2015 **Sold Out!**

Free Summer Concerts Kick Off with . . .



Red Baraat

Free, Summer Concerts | Saturday, Jun 27, 2015

Red Baraat – a rollicking eight-piece, percussion and brass, Brooklyn-based, dance-party band – brings a fusion of funk, jazz, hip-hop and DC go-go beats to their Indian-inspired, New Orleans street band style. “One of the best party bands around.” ~NPR

Montgomery Philharmonic to Offer Master Classes with BSO and NSO

The Montgomery Philharmonic is again hosting a special series of Master classes with members of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra. The classes are a peek into what goes on to prepare string technique and major chamber works. **These Adult Education Master classes are open to the public.**

The format is an open rehearsal and not a performance. Members of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and the National Symphony Orchestra work with members of the Montgomery Philharmonic in intense study of the works in preparation for upcoming performances.

For more information, visit <http://www.montgomeryphilharmonic.org>

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://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/cs/templ.asp?url=/content/council/news/news.asp>

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/departments/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>