



Bringing the County Closer to You!

Isiah Leggett, County Executive
Timothy Firestone, Chief Administrative Officer

Catherine Matthews, Director
Cherian Eapen, UCAB Chair

October 4, 2013

**Statement of Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett
Concerning Federal Government Shutdown**

October 3, 2013

Today, I joined President Obama at M. Luis Construction in Rockville as he talked about the impact that the Federal government shutdown is having on our businesses, our communities and countless individuals all across our nation. As the President said, a small group of extremists have manufactured a crisis to create a “reckless and damaging shutdown.” This government shutdown is bad for our economy, bad for our County and bad for our nation.

In Montgomery County alone, we know the shutdown is affecting about 70,000 federal government employees and is costing the County at least \$760,000 a day – not including revenues related to other fees and taxes, impacts on contractors and the businesses that serve the Federal government and its employees. Our local economic recovery is threatened when so many of our residents are without a paycheck. These hardworking employees deserve better – and so do Americans all over the country who benefit directly from their work.

I call on the obstructionists in the House of Representatives to stop holding the American people hostage and stop the shutdown.

**Public Meeting ---
Proposed Improvements for Potomac Ridge Stormwater Management Ponds
Monday, October 7 7:00pm
Travilah Elementary School
13801 Dufief Mill Road, North Potomac**

The Department of Environmental Protection is having a public meeting to solicit input from the community on the proposed Potomac Ridge Stormwater Management Project. For details, visit the project website at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/restorationprojects>. Click Muddy Branch Watershed, then Potomac Ridge Stormwater Pond Improvements. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact:

Darian Copiz, RLA
Watershed Planner
240-777-7774
darian.copiz@montgomerycountymd.gov

*Watershed Management Division
Department of Environmental Protection
Montgomery County, Maryland
255 Rockville Pike, Suite 120
Rockville, MD 20850*



**County Executive Leggett to Meet with Seniors & Their Families ----
“How the Affordable Care Act Affects You”**

Upcounty dates:

Monday, October 7
11:00 a.m.
Gaithersburg Senior Center
80-A Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg

Tuesday, October 15
1:30 p.m.
Damascus Senior Center
9701 Main Street, Damascus

The meetings are free and open to all. For more information on senior issues, call the Senior Resource Line at 240-777-3000 or 311 and visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/senior

Bring your questions, comments and concerns.

**Montgomery County Council Vice-President Craig Rice
Invites you to his Germantown Community meeting**

October 16, 2013 at 6:30pm
Upcounty Regional Services Center, Room A
12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

Come and discuss what is important to you and the Germantown community!

If questions, please call 240-777-7955 or email the office at: councilmember.rice@montgomerycountymd.gov

All are welcome!

Annual World of Montgomery Festival!



Sunday, October 20, 12:00n – 5:00pm
Visit www.worldofmontgomery.com for more information.

A message from Councilmember Nancy Floreen . . .

A Forum for Homeowner Association Leaders

**Wednesday, October 23
Council Office Building
100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville**



*Reception at 7:00 in the 2nd Floor Cafeteria
Forum at 7:30 in the 3rd Floor Hearing Room*

Are you in a leadership role in your homeowners association, your condo owners organization or a management company? If so, join me for an informational forum designed just for you and the unique way you help your community. This is your chance to ask questions and share your ideas on a variety of subjects including:

- How can you make sure your voice is heard by the Montgomery County Council?
- How does the Zoning Code Rewrite affect your neighborhood?
- Which transportation projects will ease congestion in your community?
- Who do you call to fix local problems?
- How can you weigh in on development and other issues in your community?

I want to know what matters most to you, so come prepared for a lively, informal discussion. Bring your most vexing questions and your best ideas for improvement. Representatives from the Planning Board, the Department of Transportation, the Office of Consumer Protection and other Montgomery County departments will be on hand to hear your views.

Parking is available in the garage behind the building. RSVP to councilmember.floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov or 240-777-7959.



MNCPPC-MC

Update your homeowner or condo association contact information in the Planning Department's database!

Help us make sure that important information gets to the proper person. Verify and update contact information for your homeowners or civic association using the Planning Department's [tool](#).

If questions, contact:

Arnita Jackson
Montgomery County Planning Board
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910
301-495-4601 - Office
301-495-1320 - Fax
arnita.jackson@mncppc-mc.org

News from Montgomery County's Conference & Visitors Bureau (CVB) ... Events for October

Visit <http://us1.campaign-archive1.com/?u=7e158be71518f3402386f8d35&id=5a4d11e484&e=c97002c02f>

Montgomery County's Friendship Picnic
Sunday, October 13
1:00pm-5:00pm
Wheaton Regional Park
2000 Shorefield Road, Wheaton

Just bring yourself and a desire to make new friends and build a better community. Food and drinks will be provided from 1pm-3pm. Enjoy the entertainment and exciting activities throughout the afternoon.

RSVP to mocofriendshippicnic@gmail.com or call 240-777-8456. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/humanrights for more information.

Sponsored by the Committee on Hate Violence, Interfaith Community Working Group, Community Partnerships and Human Rights Commission and the Office of Human Rights

A message from Montgomery County Police . . .

New Laws Took Effect October 1

On October 1, new laws regarding cell phone and seatbelt usage went into effect. Here are major points.

Cell Phone Law TA 21 – 1124.2

“A driver of a motor vehicle that is in **motion** may not use the driver’s hands to use a handheld telephone other than to initiate or terminate a wireless telephone call or to turn on or off the handheld telephone.”

- The new law is a primary enforcement, which means no other violation other than talking on a cell phone is necessary to pull over the driver and issue a citation.
- The vehicle must be in motion, which means the handheld cell phone can be utilized when the driver is stopped at a traffic signal.
- This law includes other uses of the (smart) cell phones such as surfing the Internet, checking your calendar and any other feature on the phone.
- The exceptions include:
 1. Turning on or off the handheld cell phone
 2. Initiate (dialing) or terminate a wireless telephone call
 3. Commercial Vehicle Operators utilizing the push-to-talk feature
 4. Persons calling Police and other emergency services
 5. Law Enforcement and Emergency Personnel acting within the scope of their duties
 6. Excludes a text-message device as defined in TA21-1124.1

Fines: \$83.00 first Offense; \$140 Second Offense and \$160 for the third and subsequent offenses as set by the Chief Judge for the District Court of Maryland. There are no points assessed for these violations unless it contributes to a collision.

Text Messaging Law TA21-1124.1

“An individual may not use a text message device to write, send, or read a text message or an electronic message while operating a motor vehicle on the **travel portion of the roadway**.”

- This law has always been a primary enforcement
- The vehicle does not have to be in motion, just located on the travel portion of the roadway, thus you cannot text at a stoplight
- The exceptions include:
 1. a global positioning system; or
 2. a text-message device to contact a 911 system

Fines: \$70.00 for the first and subsequent offenses. **There is no exemption for Law Enforcement Officers.** The driver is assessed one point for this violation and three points if it contributes to a collision

New Seat Belt Law TA 22-412.2 & 22-412.3

In regard to the seat belt law, all persons riding in a motor vehicle are now required to be restrained by a seat belt or a child safety seat (as defined by provisions of the law) and that only the number of persons for which seat belts are available may be transported in the vehicle.

- Previously, the seat belt law (TA 22-412.3) law applied only to the driver, the front outboard passenger, and to passengers under 16 years of age.
- **The new seat belt law requires persons over 16 years of age to be restrained while being a passenger in the rear seat of a motor vehicle.**
- Additionally, the Child Safety Seat law (TA 22-412.2) prohibits using a single seat belt for more than one individual and the exception that allows an operator to have more children in the car than seat belts has been removed
- This new provision in the general seat belt law requiring all adults in a back seat to be seat belted is a **secondary enforcement** provision (meaning that another lawful reason to stop the vehicle must be identified).

Fines: \$83.00 for first and subsequent offenses.

Public Hearing on Community Development Needs
Wednesday, October 16 7:30 P.M.
Council Office Building, 7th fl Council Hearing Room
100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville

Montgomery County's Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) will conduct a public hearing to solicit comments from the community that will help develop recommendations that will be sent to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The CDAC recommends how Montgomery County's competitively awarded federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds are used so your input is important.

Call the Division of Community Development at (240) 777-3621 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, **to register to testify** or if you need additional information.

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/cshtml.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://www6.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries/index.asp>

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://permittingervices.montgomerycountymd.gov/DPS/general/Home.aspx>

Montgomery County Volunteer Center <http://www.montgomeryserves.org>