

# NORTHWOOD NEWS

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## Alert: Bus Rapid Transit Coming In 2020, Further Changes Studied

By Sharon Canavan

In late October, Maryland officials participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route that will run on U.S. Route 29/Colesville Road from Burtonsville to the Sarbanes Transit Center in Silver Spring. Re-branded as “FLASH,” this 14-mile BRT system is expected to be operating by 2020.

Transportation officials

have predicted that FLASH will cut commute times in the heavily trafficked Route 29 corridor. To achieve this, there will be fewer stops than Metrobus and RideOn, with only 11 FLASH stations, including stations in Burnt Mills and Four Corners. Features such as off-board payment, all-door boarding for the multitar buses, and traffic signal priority to extend green lights for approaching buses are also designed improve commute time. In this first phase, FLASH buses will drive on the shoulder in the northern section down to White Oak and in mixed-traffic for the remainder of the trip into Silver Spring.

Last spring, however, the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) Division of Transportation Engineering began work on a “U.S. 29 Mobility and Reliability Study” to review options for improving mobility, reliability, and safety for transit, carpools, bicyclists, and pedestrians along U.S. 29 between Tech Road and the Silver Spring Transit Center. A number of concept proposals are being consid-

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## Next Meeting on 13th of February

The next meeting of the Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association will be held on Wednesday, 13 February 2019, at 7:30 p.m. at Forest Knolls Elementary School. The school is located at 10830 Eastwood Avenue, just off Caddington Avenue (there’s no access from other sections of Eastwood).

Items on the agenda include a speaker from MCDOT to discuss the concepts proposed in the U.S. 29 Mobility and Reliability Study (see story at left).

All residents of the Northwood-Four Corners-Forest Knolls area are invited to attend and express their views. Please note that only paid members of the NFCCA are eligible to vote. (Annual dues are \$10 per household and may be paid at the meeting.)■

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### FEBRUARY

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[WWW.NFCCA.ORG](http://WWW.NFCCA.ORG)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy New Year! The weatherman's prediction for the first snowfall of 2019 was a bit conservative. To quote Jimi Hendrix "Now if 6 turned out to be 9" or even the 11 inches measured on my deck! Although a bit late, this is a chance to remind everyone that unshoveled sidewalks are much more than a simple inconvenience. Children need to get to school safely and cleared sidewalks allow us to enjoy our walkable community. NextDoor and the NFCCA listserv turned out to be handy resources to connect with individuals who wanted to earn extra money shoveling snow.

At the December meeting, we heard from our Council member, Tom Hucker, who was re-elected in November and will continue to serve on the Council's Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy, and Environment Committee, as well as on the Public Safety Committee. After a brief overview of the County Council and its operations, he discussed the County budget and steps to develop a savings plan to address the county's \$44 million budget shortfall. He also highlighted upcoming legislation, including a ban on outdoor smoking at restaurants, licensing for Airbnbs, and small cell towers.

In particular, Hucker's remarks focused on the Council's previous legislative efforts to address the placement of small cell towers that support 5G and other advanced wireless infrastructure. Longstanding federal law restricts local governments' ability to prohibit cell towers. Hucker explained the Council considered a bill addressing issues related to small cell towers, and he was able to secure amendments to preserve residential protections and prohibit placement near child care centers and other sensitive sites. Ultimately, Council President Hans Riemer withdrew the bill from consideration last October when the Council was unable to reach a consensus on final legislation. However, this issue is expected to arise again in the new session. Hucker specifically underscored his support for providing transparency, ensuring nearby residents receive notice and the opportunity for a hearing, and preserving residential setbacks and height limits for small cell tower placement.

With the holiday giving season in full swing, the December agenda also included a presentation by Michelle Whitaker, the Communications Manager at Manna Food Center, who described the organization's charitable initiatives, one of which is active in our community. Every month on the second and fourth Saturdays, volunteers at the Manna Choice Pantry—located in the Four Corners Campus of the Silver Spring United Methodist Church—distribute nonperishable food items, meat, and fresh produce to dozens of Montgomery county residents. Manna's Choice Pantry model offers a shopping experience for families who can select the foods that are best for them based on what is available.

In other news, in late October, Maryland officials par-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

## Communicate With Neighbors

### NFCCA Listserv

To join: [nfcca-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nfcca-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)  
[add "un" to unsubscribe]  
To send messages to group:  
[nfcca@yahoogroups.com](mailto:nfcca@yahoogroups.com)

### Nextdoor/Northwood-Four Corners

<https://nextdoor.com>; enter your street address; choose "Northwood-Four Corners."

**Twitter:** @NFCCAMoCo

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/nfccamoco](https://www.facebook.com/nfccamoco)

**Park [on FB]:** NFCCAPark ■

## NORTHWOOD NEWS

*Northwood News* is published by the Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association. The NFCCA represents the ~1,485 households in the area bounded by Colesville Rd. (Rte. 29), University Blvd. (Rte. 193), Caddington Ave., and the Northwest Branch.

Any resident of this area is eligible to join the NFCCA. Annual dues are \$10 per household and may be paid at any Association meeting or mailed to the treasurer.

The *Northwood News* is published five times a year—in October, December, February, April, and June. To place an ad or discuss a story, please contact the editor.

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## President's Message

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

icipated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) that will run on Route 29 from Burtonsville to Silver Spring. The BRT, or "FLASH" as it is now being called, is expected to be up and running by 2020. The bus platforms in Four Corners will be separate from the existing bus stops for Metro buses and Ride-On buses. The southbound stop will be on the sidewalk adjacent to the 4 Corners Pub parking lot between the gas station and shopping strip, and the northbound stop will be next to Blair High School.

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), however, is working on the "U.S. 29 Mobility and Reliability Study" to evaluate conceptual alternatives to run FLASH buses in a dedicated roadway located in the median from White Oak to Sligo Creek. Although a median busway could attract more riders by improving the run time for FLASH buses, drivability in Four Corners could be seriously impacted depending on which of the concept

proposals is ultimately adopted. Specifically, the study will evaluate concept proposals to restrict left turns from Route 29 into our community and nearby neighborhoods and to add four additional traffic lights between Lockwood Drive and the Beltway.

I always urge everyone who lives in our community to join us at the NFCCA meetings. But this time I mean it. In February, we will have a speaker from MCDOT who will discuss the "U.S. 29 Mobility and Reliability Study" and the various concepts proposed in the study. This is your golden opportunity to come out, look at the proposals, and provide your feedback to the local government staff who will evaluate the impact these proposals could have on traffic in and around our neighborhood. This meeting will be on Wednesday, February 13, at 7:30 p.m. in Forest Knolls Elementary School. And while you are at it, mark your calendar for the second Wednesday in April, June, October, and December for NFCCA's other upcoming meetings this year.

—Sharon Canavan

## NFCCA BOARD

The Board of Directors for the Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association serves for one year and meets every month except July and August. Current officers (until October 2019) are:

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# BRT Coming in 2020, Further Changes Proposed

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

ered. Various other transportation and planning agencies will also have input, although the Maryland Department of Transportation State Housing Administration has final review and approval of all elements, including design, operations, right-of-way, utility, and environmental impact.

Chief among the concepts being evaluated is a dedicated, reversible (with rush hour flow) lane in the median for the BRT from White Oak to Sligo Creek. Although a median busway may attract more riders from the northern sector of this route by improving the run time for FLASH/BRT buses, drivability and neighborhood accessibility in Northwood Four Corners could be seriously impacted, depending on whether any of this concept proposal is ultimately adopted. For example, among the concepts to make a median roadway workable

that are under consideration are proposals to: (1) restrict left turns from Route 29 into our community and nearby neighborhoods, and (2) install four additional traffic lights between Lockwood Drive and the Beltway. The study will also evaluate potential traffic diversion routes and driver re-routing in response to restricted left turns.

After the study is complete, a "Draft Mobility Improvement Package" is expected later in Spring 2019. Recommendations may include: (1) development of a dedicated, reversible lane in the median for FLASH/BRT buses, (2) creation of a preferential/managed lane (carpool/BRT), (3) spot improvements, or (4) hybrid concepts. Over the summer, conceptual design and cost analysis to implement the mobility improvement recommendations will be prepared. The study will be completed

by Fall 2019. Currently, there is no funding for design or construction of any of the concepts that are being evaluated in the study for a potential second phase in the development of BRT on Route 29.

In February, NFCCA will have a speaker from MCDOT to discuss the concepts proposed in the U.S. 29 Mobility and Reliability Study. This is an opportunity to see the proposed changes and provide your feedback to the local government staff who will evaluate the impact these proposals could have on traffic in and around our community. This meeting will be on Wednesday, February 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the All-Purpose Room (cafeteria) at Forest Knolls Elementary School.

For more information about the U.S. 29 Mobility and Reliability Study go to [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/US29Study/index.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot-dte/projects/US29Study/index.html). ■



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505 Dennis Ave	\$799,500		3/23/2018	Farmhouse	5	4/1	187	7,535	Northwood Knolls
10431 Edgewood Ave	\$705,000		11/26/2018	Colonial	3	2/1	103	10,335	Northwood Park
104 Northwood Ave	\$686,000		5/3/2018	Cape Cod	5	2/1	6	9,800	Northwood Park
10421 Eastwood Ave	\$620,000	\$3,000	12/28/2018	Cape Cod	5	3	130	12,000	Northwood Park
302 Dennis Ave	\$600,000	\$18,000	1/5/2018	Cape Cod	5	3/1	49	7,796	Northwood Park
10301 Lorain Ave	\$570,000	\$17,000	6/21/2018	Ranch/Rambler	4	3	49	9,946	Northwood Park
506 Kerwin Rd	\$550,000		10/19/2018	Cape Cod	5	3	8	5,500	Northwood Village
506 Kerwin Rd	\$545,900		2/12/2018	Cape Cod	5	3	67	5,500	Northwood Village
103 Snowy Owl Dr	\$520,000		8/28/2018	Colonial	4	3/1	19	10,890	Northwood Park View
10413 Mountain Quail Rd	\$515,000	\$4,500	8/29/2018	Colonial	4	2/1	99	6,000	Northwood Park View
10802 Margate Rd	\$514,900		10/10/2018	Split Level	4	2/1	37	7,166	Northwood Park View
10613 Glenwild Rd	\$490,000		8/9/2018	Ranch/Rambler	4	2/1	42	9,269	Northwood Park View
10702 Eastwood Ave	\$479,000		3/15/2018	Cape Cod	4	2/1	38	6,545	Northwood Village
811 Caddington Ave	\$475,000		12/20/2018	Ranch/Rambler	5	4	61	10,683	Forest Knolls
315 Timberwood Ave	\$475,000		5/11/2018	Cape Cod	3	2/1	14	7,260	Northwood Park
857 Loxford Ter	\$461,000		5/16/2018	Split Level	3	2/1	6	10,655	Forest Knolls
10600 Cavalier Dr	\$460,000		11/13/2018	Ranch/Rambler	3	2	5	10,025	Northwood Park
11104 Foxglove Ln	\$459,500	\$8,785	8/10/2018	Raised Rambler	4	2	20	8,511	Forest Knolls
402 Dennis Ave	\$457,500	\$9,500	10/22/2018	Ranch/Rambler	3	2	38	10,095	Northwood Park
10700 Lockridge Dr	\$455,000	\$13,560	10/12/2018	Split Level	4	2	82	7,112	Northwood Park View
418 Eisner St	\$454,000		12/19/2018	Colonial	5	2/1	90	6,036	Northwood Park
848 Loxford Ter	\$453,500		8/21/2018	Split Level	4	2/1	29	6,402	Forest Knolls
302 Belton Rd	\$448,000	\$13,380	4/19/2018	Ranch/Rambler	4	2	34	6,936	Northwood Park
308 Belton Rd	\$448,000		5/16/2018	Colonial	3	2/1	49	6,183	Northwood Village
409 Kerwin Rd	\$438,000		4/2/2018	Ranch/Rambler	3	2	21	8,249	Northwood Village
201 Hannes St	\$435,000		10/10/2018	Ranch/Rambler	5	2	1	10,859	Northwood Park View
801 Lombardy Ct	\$429,000	\$1,200	11/16/2018	Ranch/Rambler	3	2	30	10,469	Northwood Park View
301 Irwin St	\$425,000		3/19/2018	Ranch/Rambler	4	3	32	7,292	Northwood Park
111 Hannes St	\$420,000	\$5,750	5/25/2018	Ranch/Rambler	4	2	69	10,156	Northwood Park View
803 Whittington Ter	\$420,000	\$1,500	8/6/2018	Colonial	4	2/2	17	8,550	Forest Knolls
11101 Lombardy Rd	\$420,000		6/25/2018	Ranch/Rambler	3	2	27	8,331	Northwood Park View
920 Loxford Ter	\$419,000		10/29/2018	Colonial	4	2/1	66	7,350	Forest Knolls
10607 Ordway Dr	\$417,800	\$12,300	8/30/2018	Cape Cod	4	2	116	5,853	Northwood Village
10615 Lockridge Dr	\$412,500	\$900	4/30/2018	Ranch/Rambler	4	2	28	6,209	Northwood Park View
1118 Caddington Ave	\$410,000	\$8,200	5/24/2018	Raised Rambler	3	3	3	8,777	Forest Knolls
1017 Chiswell Ln	\$405,000	\$1,000	12/27/2018	Split Level	4	3	18	N/A	Forest Knolls
910 Malta Ln	\$405,000	\$8,000	7/6/2018	Ranch/Rambler	3	2	24	6,900	Forest Knolls
10608 Ordway Dr	\$396,000	\$6,000	6/15/2018	Ranch/Rambler	3	3	47	7,481	Northwood Village
303 Irwin St	\$395,000		12/27/2018	Split Level	3	2/1	92	6,013	Northwood Park
11003 Lombardy Rd	\$395,000	\$11,500	3/6/2018	Ranch/Rambler	4	2	13	7,704	Northwood Park View
1118 Loxford Ter	\$390,000		10/15/2018	Split Level	3	2	64	7,617	Forest Knolls
133 Kinsman View Cir	\$375,000		7/24/2018	Colonial	3	3/1	48	1,971	Northwood Park View
10610 Lockridge Dr	\$375,000		8/9/2018	Ranch/Rambler	5	3	216	7,440	Northwood Park View
1004 Loxford Ter	\$370,000	\$5,000	12/28/2018	Colonial	4	2/1	25	N/A	Forest Knolls
205 Hannes St	\$365,000	\$10,650	1/11/2018	Other	3	2	60	6,600	Northwood Park View
508 Royalton Rd	\$350,000		10/31/2018	Cape Cod	4	2	188	5,900	Northwood Knolls
10706 Eastwood Ave	\$333,900		9/6/2018	Cape Cod	3	2	61	6,837	Northwood Village
10301 Lorain Ave	\$329,900		1/5/2018	Ranch/Rambler	3	3	10	9,946	Northwood Park
313 Ladson Rd	\$308,000		6/22/2018	Cape Cod	3	1	35	6,498	Northwood Village
11104 Foxglove Ln	\$300,000		4/16/2018	Raised Rambler	3	2	1	8,511	Forest Knolls
306 Ladson Rd	\$255,000		12/7/2018	Ranch/Rambler	2	1	8	5,496	Northwood Village

Not all referenced properties are from my agent team or my broker. RETS data provided by BrightMLS is subject to change.

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# Local Childcare Options for Babies, Young Children

By Frances Spiegel

New parents in our area quickly discover that locating childcare for young children can be difficult; it helps to get an early start. Here is an overview of our neighborhood options.

■ **Nursery Schools.** Bordering our neighborhood is the **4 Corners Community Nursery**, which uses space in the Luther Rice Baptist Church on University Blvd. (at Edgewood Avenue and Hannes Street) and accepts children who are 2 years old as of September 1st. **Silver Spring Day School**, which is housed at the Methodist Church at Four Corners, has a “Rolling 2s” program, accepting children as they turn 2 throughout the fall. The **Gan Montessori**, a



Rita George at her home on Eisner St. with A.J. Espino.

Chabad-affiliated Jewish nursery school, rents the County recreation center in North Four Corners Park, which it uses for a primary program for 3- to 6-year-olds.

February is a good time to visit nursery schools and submit applications.

■ **Family Child Care Providers.** Family child care providers, also known as “in-home daycare providers” are individuals who have been licensed by the State of Maryland to use their own homes to provide full-time and part-time care to other people’s children. Family child care providers care for babies, as well as toddlers, and sometimes older children. There are seven licensed in-home daycare providers in the North Four Corners neighborhood. Local providers can be found by searching for licensed facilities by zip code at [www.checkCCMD.org](http://www.checkCCMD.org). Finding an in-home provider can be a challenge due to limited advertising. Rita George on Eisner Street (pictured above), who has been providing in-home childcare to neighborhood residents for decades, relies largely on referrals. Rita acknowledges that getting the word out can sometimes be a challenge. While she is often booked well in advance, she currently still has full-time spaces available for the fall.

Blanca Castillo on Royalton Terrace has been watching neighborhood children in her in-home daycare since 2012. Blanca has advertised on [Care.com](http://Care.com) and [www.durbanmom.com](http://www.durbanmom.com), but still has availability for toddlers; her baby slots are full.

■ **Nannies.** Nannies—indi-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

## Indoor Activities for Babies

Here are some ideas for places to take kids up to age 2 when winter weather descends.

■ The **Silver Spring Library** has a play space in the children’s section, and a free program for babies (birth to 18 months) on Tuesdays at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m.

■ **Westfield Wheaton** shopping mall has a free indoor play space on the lower level, as well as a business that offers paid playtime at various moon bounces. Enter near Dick’s Sporting Goods.

■ The **Smithsonian National Museum of American History** offers the Wegman’s Wonderplace, which is an interactive play space for children aged 0 to 6.

Open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., but closed on Tuesdays.

■ The **National Building Museum** has two dedicated play spaces for small children with construction-related activities (Building Zone and Play Work Build). There is an entrance fee for adults and children, but kids under 3 are free.

■ **Badlands** is an indoor play space in **Loehmann’s Plaza** in Rockville that is designed to look like a park. While geared toward slightly older children, the space has a “meadow” that is great for little ones to crawl around, with nearby seating for adults. **Badlands** also has a café. \$12.50 for 2 hours for toddlers under 3 years old, parents enter free.

# Weathering the Storm

By Sharon Canavan

Although there hasn't been much in the way of snow this winter, weather here can be balmy one day and frigid the next. The snowiest months tend to be January and February. Major blizzards with one-day snow accumulation of 10 or more inches occur about twice per decade. In this area, historically, almost half of the snow records—top 25 snowstorms and top 15 snowiest months—have been racked up in the month of February.

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is responsible for clearing 5,000 lane miles. MCDOT relies on its 250 employees and 175 pieces of equipment to do the job, but, for larger storms, hires additional contractors and trucks. Depending on the size of the storm, MCDOT takes different approaches to managing the snow removal process.

When a storm is on the way, the County's first-stage response is to pretreat the roads with salt brine, a solution of salt and water. If there is less than three inches of snow, the second stage involves spreading salt on emergency routes, main roads, and bus routes. For heavier snowfalls, MCDOT

will implement a third stage by continuing to spread salt and beginning to plow emergency routes, main roads, and bus routes. The focus on these main transportation routes is intended to ensure that every home is within no more than half a mile of a passable thoroughfare. In addition, snow plows are stationed at fire battalions to assist with emergency response. At stage four, county crews widen the passageway on main roads and begin plowing in neighborhoods. At stage five, the final clearing process is completed.

You can identify who plows your street or determine the snow removal status of a County-maintained street during a storm event by visiting the Winter Storm Information Portal website, which can be found at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/snow](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/snow). All you have to do is enter your address. You can also check the status of snow removal in your area or file a service request on that portal. For households without internet or if power is out, you can also file a service request by calling 311 to talk to the Montgomery County call center.

*[Canavan is president of the NFCCA and lives on Edgewood Avenue.]* ■

# Local Childcare

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

viduals you employ to watch your children in your own home—are abundant in our area. Hourly rates vary, but often range from \$13 to \$20 per hour for one child, with higher rates for additional children. “Nanny shares”—arrangements where two or more families share a nanny's time and split the fee—are common.

Neighborhood social networks, such as the NFCCA list serv and [nextdoor.com](http://nextdoor.com), are a good place to request referrals. There are also nanny listings on [www.dcurbanmom.com](http://www.dcurbanmom.com). IRS Publication 926 explains the tax and social security obligations for employing nannies.

■ **Au Pairs.** Au pairs are individuals from other countries who provide childcare in exchange for room and board and various other benefits as part of a cultural exchange. Sponsor agencies match families with au pairs, run background checks, process visa paperwork, and ensure that program requirements are met. Sponsor agencies usually charge a “program fee” in the range of \$7,000–\$8,000; then families are responsible for paying the au pair a weekly stipend. More information is available on the State Department website: [jvisa.state.gov/programs/au-pair](http://jvisa.state.gov/programs/au-pair).

*[Spiegel, who has a one-year-old, lives on Margate Road. This is first in a series of articles on local childcare options. The next issue will cover pre-kindergartens in our area.]* ■



# District 19 Legislators Hold Community Meeting

By Samantha Jones

On January 3, the state legislators representing Maryland's Legislative District 19 held a community meeting to discuss their legislative priorities. The meeting, held at the Aspen Hill Library, drew a large crowd of nearly 100 attendees. Delegates Bonnie Cullison, Charlotte Crutchfield, and Vaughn Stewart and Senator Ben Kramer provided an overview of how they will work in the legislature to advocate for our district. Their top priorities include smarter transit design, environmental issues, and insurance reforms.

Each member of our delegation holds significant committee assignments in their respective legislative chambers. Del. Cullison, who is entering her third term in the House of Delegates, is serving as the Chair of the powerful Insurance and Pharmaceuticals Subcommittee of the Health and Government Operations Committee. Del. Crutchfield is serving on the Judiciary Committee, which



Photos by Sam Jones

*Delegate Charlotte Crutchfield*

has broad authority over state courts, the criminal justice system, and related judicial issues. As an attorney, Del. Crutchfield noted that her legal experience will serve her well on this committee. Del. Stewart has been assigned to the Environment and Transportation Committee, which also oversees housing and government ethics, and Sen. Kramer will serve on the Senate's Finance Committee.

After discussing their legislative priorities and committee assignments, the "D19 Team" answered questions from the audience. More than half the questions related to pedestrian safety and traffic speeds, two issues that fall directly under the authority of the Environment and Transportation Committee. Del. Stewart noted that current state law actually pro-

hibits counties from reducing speeds under 25 miles per hour (except in school zones). He plans to work with other lawmakers to introduce a bill giving Montgomery County permission to lower speed limits in non-school zones, in an effort to decrease the number of pedestrian fatalities. Other members of the audience raised issues about adjusting the legal name change process for transgender Marylanders who are currently required to pay for a public notice that states the reason for their name change, which then must be published in a local newspaper.

Additional questions around criminal justice reform, DUI laws, and the Kirwan Commission were raised. Each member of the D19 Team emphasized that they are ready and willing to work with the community to address these points, and encouraged attendees to reach out to their offices during the legislative session. The legislators noted that they are excited to work closely with the rest of the Montgomery County legislation, and look forward to hosting additional community meetings over the coming months. Each legislator's contact information and office address is located on the Maryland General Assembly website ([mgaleg.maryland.gov](http://mgaleg.maryland.gov)) and on [www.nfcca.org](http://www.nfcca.org).

[Jones, who lives on Glenwild Road, is an at-large member of the NFCCA Board and was elected in June to the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee.] ■



*Delegate Vaughn Stewart*

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# The Imminent Threat of 5G Cell Towers in Our Front Yards and What You Can Do Now to Prevent Them

By Anna Pritchard

Fifth-generation (5G) wireless technology is supposed to provide faster and higher-capacity transmissions to carry the massive amount of data that will be generated from increasing amounts of streaming videos, texting, cell phones, GPS, etc. This next generation of wireless allegedly will need a vast new network of wireless antennas located in close proximity to residential dwellings. This raises many serious issues which have not yet been fully addressed by the wireless industry—issues of health, property values, security, and privacy.

Most safety studies conducted by the industry are misleading. Joel Moskowitz, Ph.D., Director of the Center for Family and Community Health for the School of Public Health at the University of California-Berkeley, has pointed out that most 5G studies are being done using *non-pulsed* waves, but 5G will be using *pulsed* millimeter waves, which have a more profound effect on human bodies, including gene toxicity and DNA strand breaks.

These man-made microwave frequencies are easy to dismiss because we cannot see, hear, taste, or smell them, but their dangers are very real.

## Studies on Health Impacts

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 enabled the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to regulate wireless communications

but *excludes environmental safety and health concerns as reasons to object to what they propose to do*. The levels of radiation that are considered safe by the FCC were decided upon in 1996, two years before 3G was introduced.

According to Theodora Scarato, Executive Director of the Environmental Health Trust (EHT), “In the U.S., the EPA was in development of setting proper safety standards. They were defunded in 1996 and an appropriations bill removed the money and, in fact, told them they could not research this anymore. So we don’t have any federally developed safety limits by any U.S. health agencies” [for wireless communications].

On 1 November 2018, the results of the 10-year, \$30 million, large-scale animal study on whether Radio Frequency radiation is safe—done by the National Toxicology Program (NTP), part of the National Institutes of Health, at the request of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration—said that there was “clear evidence” (highest rating) of tumors in the hearts of male rats and “some evidence” (second highest rating) of brain and adrenal gland tumors in male rats.

This study was done using only 2G- and 3G-strength RF radiation. 4G radiation is what we are using currently; 5G is expected to be at least 20 to 30 times stronger than 4G.

“5G is an emerging technology that hasn’t really been defined yet,” said Michael

Wyde, Ph.D., lead toxicologist of the NTP study. “From what we currently understand, it likely differs dramatically from what we studied.”

The report concluded, “There is clear evidence that RF radiation is a human carcinogen.... There is some evidence of an increased risk of developing thyroid cancer, and clear evidence that RF radiation is a multisite carcinogen. ...RF radiation should be classified as carcinogenic to humans, Group 1.”

As far back as 2011, the World Health Organization classified radio frequency radiation as a possible 2B carcinogen, but that was using much lower-strength frequencies.

More than 20,000 studies have been done globally on the health effects of low-level wireless radio frequency radiation and 5G frequencies and have shown a long list of adverse biological effects which include:

- DNA single and double strand breaks,
- Disruption of cell metabolism,
- Oxidative damage,
- Increased blood brain barrier permeability,
- Melatonin production reduction,
- Disruption to brain glucose metabolism,
- Generation of stress proteins,
- Cancer of the brain and other malignancies,
- Neurological/cognitive effects,
- Effects on male fertility,

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 11)

# The Threat of 5G

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

and

■ Effects on implanted medical devices.

EHT's Scarato said in testimony to the D.C. Council in December, "Staying competitive cannot come at the expense of our children's health. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends reducing exposure to radio frequency radiation cell towers. We have been misled that there is no scientific evidence when, in fact, there are thousands of studies showing effects [even at] below allowable limits. The U.S. has among the highest allowable radio frequency levels in the world."

Countries like Switzerland, Italy, France, Austria, Luxembourg, Bulgaria, Poland, Hungary, Israel, Russia, and China have set RF exposure limits 100 to 10,000 times less than the United States.

"More than 180 scientists and medical doctors from 35 countries today pleaded for a halt to the proposed rollout of 5G cell towers in Europe," said Lennart Hardell, M.D., Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Oncology, Örebro University, Örebro, Sweden, in 2017. "The scientists and doctors sent a declaration to officials of the European Commission based in Brussels. They demanded a moratorium on the increase of cell antennas for planned 5G expansion. Concerns over health effects from higher radiation exposure include potential neurological impacts, infertility, and cancer.... The wireless industry is trying to

deploy technology that may have some very real unintended harmful consequences. ...We are very concerned that the added exposure to 5G radiation could result in tragic, irreversible harm."

"Peer-reviewed research has documented industry influence on studies of the health impacts of wireless radiation," explains Dr. Moskowitz. "We are insisting on a moratorium on 5G until non-industry research can be conducted to ensure the safety of the public."

Some of the most vulnerable populations to 5G RF are fetuses in the womb, pregnant women, children, people with chronic and neurological diseases, the elderly, and, presumably, our pets. The developing brain is very sensitive and affected by RF. Dr. Hugh Taylor, Chief of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Yale New Haven Hospital in Connecticut, in "The Safe Baby Project," recommends reducing exposure to wireless technology because of the damage to the brain in babies.

There are 230 scientists, doctors, environmental organizations, and citizens from 41 countries with 26,740 signatories as of 4 December 2018 who have signed the "International Appeal to Stop 5G on Earth and in Space" addressed to the UN, WHO, EU, Council of Europe, and Governments of all Nations. They have reviewed more than 2,000 peer-reviewed studies on the 5G Technology and "urgently call for a halt to the deployment of the 5G wireless network, including 5G from space satellites. 5G will massively

increase exposure to radio frequency radiation on top of the 2G, 3G, and 4G networks for telecommunications already in place.... The deployment of 5G constitutes an experiment on the environment that is defined as a crime under international law...."

*[Pritchard is a licensed massage therapist, certified Montessori teacher, Certified Nutritional Consultant, R.N. (retired), and has a Doctorate Degree in Naturopathy. She lives on Ladson Road.]* ■

## Take Action

Help stop this massive rollout of harmful CPMRAs (close proximity microwave radiation antennas) by contacting our Senators, Representative, State Senators and Delegates, and Governor and tell them that you are calling to express your strong opposition to the rollout of 5G across America and especially in residential areas and that you do not want a cell tower in your front yard. [See a list of elected officials for our neighborhood at [www.nfcca.org/NSLreps.html](http://www.nfcca.org/NSLreps.html).]

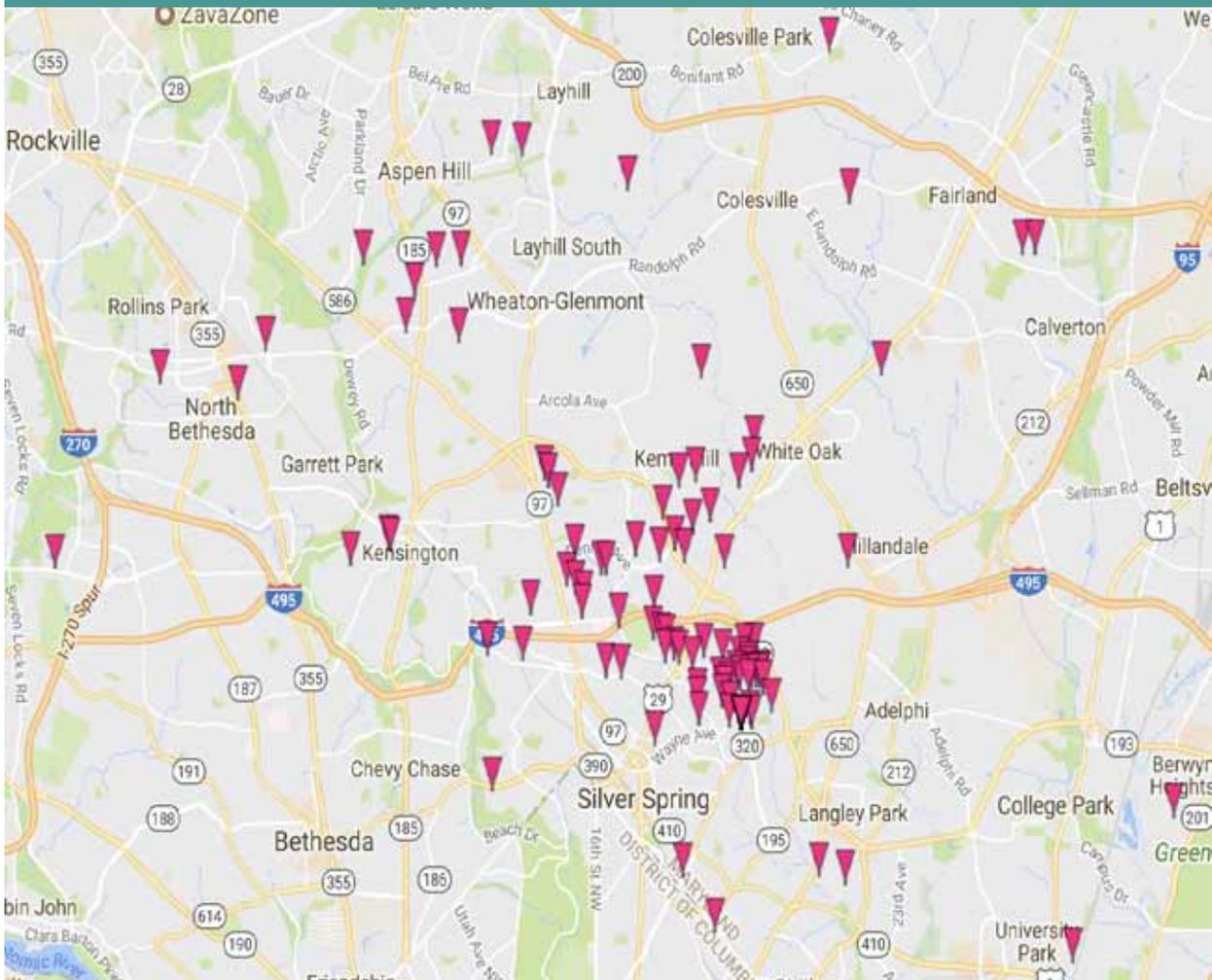
Tell your friends, family, neighbors, coworkers, and local officials; encourage everyone to make phone calls. Use social media to spread this message. Share the website, videos, and fact sheets at [TelecomPowergrab.org](http://TelecomPowergrab.org).

Consider joining an activist group such as [www.mystreetmychoice.com](http://www.mystreetmychoice.com) or [www.mc4t.org](http://www.mc4t.org) (Montgomery County Coalition for the Control of Cell Towers).

Recommended reading: [www.mystreetmychoice.com](http://www.mystreetmychoice.com), [www.scientists4wiredtech.com](http://www.scientists4wiredtech.com), [www.whatis5G.info](http://www.whatis5G.info), [www.ehtrust.org](http://www.ehtrust.org), [www.telecompowergrab.org](http://www.telecompowergrab.org), [www.win19.org](http://www.win19.org).

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