

December 2023

Vol. 4, Issue 12

Delightful December

Dear Neighbors,

Happy December! The board of Edgewood Civic Association wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Blessed Bodhi Day.

We all have had a stressful past eight months, so I urge you all to enjoy the many events throughout Fort Lauderdale to get you in the holiday spirit.

This coming Wednesday, December 6, we will be meeting in person at our clubhouse. Nominations for the 2024 board and voting will take place that evening. As always, we welcome everyone - not just for nominations, but to mingle with fellow neighbors. The Fort Lauderdale Police and Code Compliance will be attending. Our doors on Wednesday will be opening earlier beginning at 6:00 pm, so we can all enjoy some holiday cheer before our meeting. Refreshments and lite bites will be served.

The season of gift-giving is upon us. Please remember to remove valuables and packages from your vehicle and to lock all your doors. This time of year there is an increase in porch pirates and remember to utilize your ring doorbell or security cameras and to charge them each month.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at president@edgewoodcivic.org.

Wendy Ballantine Wills

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2023 ECA Meeting Schedule

December 6 - January 3 - February 7 - March 6 (Doors open at 6:00pm and meeting starts at 6:45pm)

The next ECA meeting is Wednesday, December 6th at 6:45 pm. Doors open at 6:00pm!



The meeting will be held at the Edgewood Clubhouse, 1790 SW 32nd Street. , Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Election of the 2024 Board will take place at the meeting. Representatives from FLPD and Community Enhancement will be attending.

Thanks, Readers

I want to thank all the subscribers to the ECA newsletter for the comments, suggestions, and for just reading the newsletter. I've been publishing the newsletter for a long time, originally in print format delivered to every door, and then in digital format on the website and in emails. I started working on the newsletter in the early 2000's, took a small hiatus, and been continuing right up through the current December 2023 newsletter. I hope the newsletters have proven to be informative to you and helped to keep you aware of what's going on in our neighborhood and city.

It has been rewarding to work on this, as well as helping neighbors with their computer needs and headaches.

After this newsletter, there will be someone else taking over this task. It takes a lot of work each month, so be kind and patient with whomever the new editor turns out to be.

Regards, Alan Scharf - Newsletter Editor

Thanks, Wendy Wills

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Wendy Wills for the incredible job she has done as the president of the Edgewood Civic Association (ECA). Wendy and a handful of others, including myself, took up the reins of ECA in July of 2015. Membership was waning, the clubhouse was in bad disrepair, and nothing much was happening with the organization. It wasn't long thereafter that the clubhouse was fixed up in many ways, membership vastly increased, and the newsletter greatly improved. Wendy also accomplished the following:

- Established Edgewood's presence in Fort Lauderdale's Green Your Routine program
- Joined CERT and became a certified member
- Arranged for the monthly attendance of FLPD to the ECA meetings
- Arranged for the monthly attendance of FLL Code Enforcement to the ECA meetings
- Organized the cleanup of the clubhouse and setup for meetings
- · Shopped for and provided refreshments for all the ECA meetings
- Attended meetings for Green Your Routine, District 4 Presidents Meetings, various community fund raisers
- Organized Edgewood's participation in City-wide events like "Fort Lauderdale Cares Day", "Fort Lauderdale Make a Difference Day", and several others
- Worked with Bridge construction to insure the compatibility of their new building with our neighborhood
- Maintained communications with the different parties doing the stormwater construction work in Edgewood
- Spearheaded the acquisition of 3 "Welcome to Edgewood Signs" for 15th Avenue, 9th Avenue, and 28th Street
- Arranged for a clubhouse lease to the "Rotary Club" and "Action for Literacy Corp." for at least one year, thereby preventing a big problem with association revenue
- Even when her house was devastated by the 4/12/23 flood, she continued to pursue donations and charitable home repair, while having to repair her own home and live elsewhere through the whole ordeal
- And a LOT MORE!

Wendy is now stepping down from the ECA presidency and allowing a new president to take over where she left off and to maintain all the things she has done. I think we all owe her a big debt of gratitude for the job she has done.

Thanks, Wendy!!!

District 4 Check Up!

from Fort Lauderdale District 4 Commissioner Dr. Warren Sturman

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Over the last several months, I have been collaborating with you, our neighbors and city leadership, to deliver and approve a \$1.07 Billion dollar Budget for Fiscal year 2024. I am pleased to report that within the budget, I rallied for our emergency services departments to receive additional personnel, both in the Fire and Police departments. The fire department will now include several new positions that will allow for three firefighters to respond to both fire and Emergency Medical Service at the same time without jeopardizing safety and response times. In addition, there will be three new fire stations operating in District IV as well as an EMS station on Las Olas. Finally, Commission supported a new initiative for police officers to be trained as Emergency Medical Technicians to render aid as quickly as possible for our residents, neighbors, and visitors alike.

Accordingly, the police department is expanding to include an increase in the positions assigned to the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT). In addition to the increased homeless outreach, as of June 2023 the City has committed \$6.3 million in state and federal funding to address homelessness through various programs, including rapid rehousing, rental assistance, and case management services to provide holistic support to help individuals gain employment. In addition, the city is supporting continued services to assist individuals at risk of becoming homeless, such as seniors aged 62 and older and youth aged out of the foster care system.

On October 23, 2023, city staff and I hosted an infrastructure town hall meeting where we presented the progress the city is making in District IV. I am very excited about the great strides we have made as a city with our infrastructure. During this meeting, staff announced they have launched Fortify Lauderdale. Over the next decade, Fortify Lauderdale will invest up to a half-billion dollars in stormwater infrastructure construction in multiple neighborhoods. Fortify Lauderdale will be in addition to the extensive work already underway in which we are investing \$200 million in eight neighborhoods to address tidal flooding and stormwater runoff.

Listening to the concerns of District IV regarding the process for allowing Public Private Partnerships (P3), I initiated the discussion with the City Attorney to develop a draft ordinance addressing P3's within Fort Lauderdale. Public-private partnerships are agreements between public and private entities to allow for greater private sector participation in the delivery and financing of public building and infrastructure projects. In addition, I have requested that any comprehensive agreement that is presented to the City Commission is done so by two public hearings to allow for sufficient public participation. The City Commission will review the draft ordinance and recommendations from the Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations, provide feedback to the City Manager, the City Attorney for incorporation into the draft ordinance. In addition, I am requesting your feedback to be considered and included in the P3 ordinance. Your opinion and participation matters!

And finally, I'd like to take the time to recognize City Commission Adopted a Resolution in Support of the State of Israel condemning the brutal attack on the State of Israel by Hamas. I am devastated by the ongoing attacks occurring against Israeli. My heart is broken for the lives lost and families shattered by this conflict. My Jewish friends, know that you are not alone in this. I am praying for you, and I stand with you.

Dr. Warren Sturman District 4 City Commissioner City of Fort Lauderdale

December 2023 Events in Fort Lauderdale

Click here to see the City of Fort Lauderdale Event Calendar for December 2023

Click here to see even more events!

AlertFTL

Stay informed in an emergency! Sign Up for Alert FTL

The City uses Alert FTL to send mass notifications and keep citizens informed in the event of an emergency.

Alert FTL is free to neighbors, simply click here to sign up or call our 24-Hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000.

This is especially important during all the rain we've been receiving, along with flooding!

Read all about the service HERE!

Edgewood Civic Association Election for 2024 Board

The election of 2024 board members will take place at the December 6 meeting. You must be a member of record for at least 30 days, in order to vote. Our check-in volunteer will be able to verify this, for all attendees. The nominees to date are as follows:

- President Kitty McGowan
- Vice-President Tom Turberville
- Secretary Dorie Cox
- Debbie Nast Treasurer
- Trustee Pat Carruozzo
- Trustee Steven Goldstein
- Trustee Andrew Holland
- Trustee Dick Ward
- Trustee Chick Wygant

We elect one president, one vice-president, one secretary, one treasurer, and five trustees.

Additional nominations may be made at the meeting prior to the election voting.

Free Mattresses Available

The Edgewood Civic Association has a small quantity of pre-owned mattresses that have been donated for use by families and individuals who were affected by the recent flooding.

There is an assortment of king-size and full-size mattresses, frames, and box springs.

If you or someone you know has a need, please contact: president@edgewoodcivic.org

Reimagining City Hall

On behalf of the City of Fort Lauderdale, you are invited to participate in the Reimagining City Hall Workshop Series. Please share with members of your Civic Associations to participate either in person or online at the link provided.

Click on the image below to see a larger version



Jewelry Center - Bob Parpia - Moving

Bob Parpia, from The Jewelry Center, has been a long time advertiser in the Edgewood Civic Association Newsletter - especially in the time when it was printed and distributed to every door in Edgewood.

His store was located along the west side of Andrews Avenue just south of SW 17th Street.

He is now moving (early December) to a new location, since the buildings on that corner are going to be demolished very soon. His new location will be approximately .6 miles north of his prior location. It will be just east of the FEC railroad tracks and west of Andrews Avenue, on the north side of Davie Boulevard. Parking is in the rear of the building. The address is:

The Jewelry Center

111 Davie Boulevard Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315

Phone: 954-765-5511

Bob has been providing jewelry and wristwatch services for a very long time in Edgewood. This dates back to when he had his business located inside McCrory's, in the Southland Shopping Center. He's a great guy and does excellent work! If you need jewelry repair or gifts, go see Bob.

Fort Lauderdale Police Chief Swearing-In Ceremony

Click Here to see the information about the Swearing-In Ceremony for Fort Lauderdale's new police chief, William Schultz.

Fort Lauderdale Tunnel Top Plaza Ribbon Cutting

Click here to see the information about the Fort Lauderdale Tunnel Top Plaza Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Green Your Routine Take5

The City of Fort Lauderdale is working to improve the curbside recycling program by eliminating contamination throughout the City. In the future, uniformed City of Fort Lauderdale staff and Green Your Routine volunteers will be in your neighborhood conducting a recycling cart audit.

Read more about the Take5 program and how you can help the City to help our environment.

LauderTrac

Tracking Progress on Commission Priorities



City Commission's top priorities Progress on these priorities is shared quarterly in a <u>memo</u> from the City Manager to the City Commission.

To sign up for City e-news clickHERE.

A Hurricane Preparedness Message from Mayor Trantalis

The 2023 hurricane season started on June 1. It is important to make preparations now so you can avoid a potentially life-threatening situation later.

Forecasts for this year vary, but we should expect some activity. Since 1990, there has been an average of roughly 14 tropical storms, seven hurricanes and three major hurricanes each year.

In Fort Lauderdale, all of us should be ready. Three basic steps can help you get started – make a plan, build a kit and keep informed.

Develop an evacuation plan so you and your loved ones know what to do and where to go before, during, and after, a hurricane. Put together a communication plan with a hand-written list of contacts and share it with family and friends.

Build an emergency kit with a three- to five-day supply of food and water, as well as batteries, phone charger, flashlight, medications and cash. You can never have too much water. Plan for a minimum of one gallon per person each day.

Know the risks of a hurricane – both rain and wind – and be sure to follow weather forecasts and alerts. You can also stay informed and receive emergency alerts from the City of Fort Lauderdale by signing up at fortlauderdale.gov/alertftl.

You may also consider strengthening your home with impact windows and doors, documenting your possessions and scheduling an insurance checkup.

The City of Fort Lauderdale's Quick Tips Guide can help you get ready, and remember that being prepared can saves lives and property when disaster strikes.

Dean J. Trantalis Mayor

Club 55+ Updated Calendar for October 2023 and Brochure!

Parks and Recreation launched Club 55+, a program that encourages active adults to enjoy endless opportunities at 12 City parks for a



discounted annual membership rate of only \$55 for residents and nonresidents. Residents may also qualify for a fee reduction. Please contact any location for more information. Registration is ongoing. Activities include art, chair yoga, line dance, mahjongg, monthly events, outings, tennis instruction, Zumba, and much more!

For more information, please call (954) 828-7275 (PARK).

- Website: https://www.parks.fortlauderdale.gov/programs/recreation/club-55
- December 2023 Calendar Front
- December 2023 Calendar Back
- Program Guide

Update on Vacation Rentals & Code Compliance

Please find below, contact information that can be use for the reporting of Vacation Rental violations.



Contact information is as follows:

- Police Non-Emergency: 954-764-4357
- Code Enforcement Vacation Rental Supervisor, Leonard Champagne : 954-828-6348 (M-Th)
- Code Enforcement Vacation Rental Inspector, Mr. Jolley: 954-828-4772
- Code Enforcement Main Number: 954-828-5207

Also, our Edgewood Code Compliance Officer for all issues is: Malaika Murray: 954-828-5740

Information and regulations about vacation rentals within the City of Fort Lauderdale may be found at:

https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/government/departments-a-h/developmentservices/community-enhancement-and-compliance/administrativeservices/vacation-rental-program

City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Update

The City of Fort Lauderdale has lots of great events and activities available to everyone! Check out the upcoming events in April and May.

September 2023 Events

Support the ECA!





The ECA's mission is to protect the interests of our community and its residents and to ensure that our neighborhood thrives and is a great place to live, work, and play.

Become a member today and Enroll Here. You can also contribute directly via PayPal or send a completed Membership Form and check to:

Edgewood Civic Association PO Box 21413 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33335 We love our local businesses in Edgewood! Interested in Advertising with us? Become a **VIP Advertiser** and connect with our friendly neighbors and more. **Get More Info**

Want something simpler? Be featured on our **"Buy** Local" webpage.

A special thank you to our past advertisers: Amscray Pest Control, Julie Lurie Realty, Nast Roofing, OK Tires, Primo Liquors, and Yacht Flowers.

Lets Green Your Routine



Residential Bulk Waste Collection

The Bulk Trash Pickup Program features collection of large household items and tree trimmings, up to 10 cubic yards in size, for residential customers. Items accepted for bulk trash pickup include: appliances, furniture, carpet, mattresses, and toys. Please do not place tires in bulk piles.

Fines

Bulk trash should not be put out for collection more than 24 hours before your collection day. In Edgewood, collection day is the first Thursday of each month. If Code Enforcement officers see any bulk trash out too early, they will spray paint a warning somewhere visible on the pile of bulk trash. If that bulk trash is not removed before pickup, you will be cited with a \$300 fine, that will appear on your City of Fort Lauderdale utility bill.

Schedules and Routes

Bulk trash is collected once per month. Edgewood's pick-up is the 1st Thursday of the month. If you cannot wait for your collection day, you may schedule an appointment for pick-up. There is a fee for this service.

Set Out Instructions

Please place all items at least four feet away from any waste carts, mailboxes, trees, and/or power lines. Avoid blocking storm drains; lay items in such a way as to minimize the likelihood of them blowing over.

Alternatives to Bulk Trash Pick-Up

Often, the items you place in bulk trash can actually be useful to others. Before you throw something away, please investigate whether donating, scrapping, or otherwise disposing of your old items is a possibility. Find out more here.

Yard Waste

Yard waste, such as tree branches and large quantities of leaves in boxes/bags, may also be set out on bulk collection days.

More Information

For all questions regarding Bulk Trash or other sanitation and Clean City services, please call the 24-Hour Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000 or online.

Download the Bulk Trash Program Information Guide Download the Bulk Trash Pickup Schedule Map.

Edgewood participates in Fort Lauderdale's Green Your Routine Program. Interested in becoming a volunteer and helping us earn money for our neighborhood? Send us an email!

Click HERE to learn more!

FTL Happenings

- Calendar of Events
- City Commission Meetings
- Stormwater Updates



The Edgewood Editor

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