Rockville Reports

NOVEMBER 2015 • VOL. 61 #11

• A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE •

FIND CAREGIVING AGENCIES GUIDE INSIDE

City Invests in East Rockville Infrastructure

Projects Include Road, Sewer and Pedestrian Safety Improvements

The city broke ground this fall on the first of 15 projects totaling over $13 million in infrastructure investment in East Rockville. The projects will replace aging water and sewer infrastrucutre and improve traffic and pedestrian safety and water quality. They include:

Stonestreet Pedestrian Bridge Abutment Removal

Removes remnants of the former pedestrian bridge, eliminating future maintenance responsibility and liability from people climbing the structure or defacing it with graffiti. The project began over the summer and was completed in September. Cost: $75,000.

Crabb Avenue Water Main Replacement

Replaces aging infrastructure and upgrades water mains to deliver adequate flow to fire hydrants. Begun in September, construction is expected to last three months. Cost: $1 million.

Howard Avenue Water Main Replacement

Replaces aging infrastructure and upgrades water mains to deliver adequate flow to fire hydrants. Begun in September, construction is expected to wrap up this month. Cost: $400,000.

Sharrows

Increases the visibility and comfort of people riding bicycles on North Horners Lane by adding shared lane markings (a bicycle symbol with two arrows above it). Application of sharrows is planned for late October or early November. Cost: $8,000, with 100 percent covered by a state grant.

Accessible Pedestrian Signals

Improves pedestrian safety by providing a countdown pedestrian signal and new push buttons at the intersection of South Stonestreet Avenue and the Rockville Metro station entrance, to assist people with impaired vision. Work is scheduled for one week in February. Cost: $15,000.

Frog Run Storm Drain Improvement

Repairs 1,900 linear feet of storm drain built in the early 1960s. The work rehabilitates the bottom of the pipe to prevent further deterioration and extend its useful life. Construction is scheduled to begin this month and last for six months. Cost: $440,000.

East Rockville Sanitary Sewer Capacity Improvements

Renews infrastructure in order to increase sewer capacity and decrease the risk of sewer overflows and backups, which can create health hazards and cause serious and expensive damage to city infrastructure, private property and the environment. Construction is scheduled to begin in December and last one year. Cost: $3 million, $1.5 million of which is developer-funded.

Baltimore Road Improvements

The city is also planning $5.1 million in improvements to the Baltimore Road corridor. The majority of the work will be between Route 28 and the city limits, just east of Rockville High School. It will create a safer roadway and will include pedestrian safety measures at several intersections. Construction, $3.6 million of which is covered by a grant, is scheduled to begin in fall 2016 and take 18 months.

For more information about these and other projects in East Rockville, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/eastrockvilleprojects or contact engineering supervisor John Scabis at 240-314-8514 or jscabis@rockvillemd.gov.

Remember to Vote!
Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3
Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/election

City Hall, Other Facilities Close Several Days this Month

Rockville City Hall will be closed on Veterans Day and Thanksgiving weekend and other city facilities will be closed or will operate on limited schedules as follows:

Wednesday, Nov. 11/ Veterans Day:

- City Hall, Rockville Senior Center, Glenview Mansion and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office are closed.
- Recycling and refuse collected as usual.

Thursday, Nov. 26/Thanksgiving Day and Friday, Nov. 27:

- City Hall, Rockville Senior Center and Glenview Mansion are closed.
- Recycling and refuse collections normally made on Thursdays will be made on Friday, Nov. 27.

The following facilities are closed Thanksgiving Day and are open for the hours indicated on Friday, Nov. 27:

- Croydon Creek Nature Center (10 a.m.-2 p.m.).
- Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers (10 a.m.-6 p.m.).
- F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office. (2-7 p.m.). Tickets are always available at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre.
- Rockville Swim and Fitness Center north pool (6 a.m.-9 p.m.). Note: The south pool remains closed for renovations. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter for lap and program schedules.

For more information on the recycling and refuse collection schedule, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse, or call 240-314-8568.

For more information, visit www. rockville md.gov or call 240-314-5000.

Rockville Invites Public to Veterans Day Ceremony

Korean War Veteran to Speak on Nov. 11

Rockville will honor veterans of our nation's armed forces in a special ceremony on Veterans Day, Wednesday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m.

The ceremony, which is open to the public, will be held in Veterans Park, at the intersection of Route 28 and Rockville Pike. It will include a wreath-laying and 21-gun salute by the American Legion Post 86 Honor Guard.

This year's guest speaker is retired Navy Yeoman 3rd Class Roger Langley, who served on active duty in the U.S. Navy for the entire duration of the Korean War. His service included an eight-month combat tour on the battleship USS Missouri. Among his duties were writing press releases on the ship's combat operations and supervising the publication of the ship's daily newspaper and other ship publications.

After his naval service, Langley earned bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism from Syracuse University and worked for a number of newspapers and national magazines. He has had 10 print and audio books published and has taught part-time at 10 colleges and universities.

Roger and his wife Norma have been residents of Rockville for more than 40 years. Their three children, (David, Jennifer and Michael) are graduates of Richard Montgomery High School. Roger served two terms as president of the Woodley Gardens homeowners association. He retired from the Montgomery County government in 1998 as manager of the Silver Spring Urban District.

Parking for ceremony attendees will be available at the Sandy Spring Bank building, between Fleet Street and Rockville Pike.

For details on parking, directions and general event information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/veteransday.

For additional information, email specialevents@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620.

Get Into It…

PAGE 3 **Lincoln Park Legacy** *Wilma Shelton Bell to be honored with renamed park.*

PAGE 5 **'Open' to All** *City's new open data website wins rave reviews.*

PAGE 7 **Noticias en Español** *Lean artículos breves en este boletín.*

PAGE 8 **Nifty Neighbors** *"Good Neighbors" honored for good deeds.*

MAYOR & COUNCIL
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Development Watch

PROJECTS AND THE PROCESS

Proposed single-family homes at Tower Oaks.

Approved Tower Oaks Office Site Proposed for Residential Development

Originally approved for up to 755,000 square feet of office space in the Tower Oaks Planned Development, project applicant, EYA, has submitted an application to convert the unbuilt office use into 336 for-sale residential units. The project consists of a proposed mix of 30 single-family homes, 194 attached townhomes and a condominium building with 112 units on the undeveloped 40-acre property east of Preserve Parkway.

If approved by the Mayor and Council, the project would be constructed in multiple phases. Consistent with city policy, 12.5 percent of the residential units would be made available as Moderately Priced Dwelling Units (MPDUs), provided as for-sale townhouse units.

For more information, find the project at www.rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch under the "Applications in Process" page with the title "Tower Oaks – Preserve Parkway."

Southlawn Industrial Area Study

The planning study of the Southlawn Industrial Area is approaching its final phase, with three remaining community meetings focusing on potential redevelopment scenarios for the area and a set of recommendations for land use, traffic and aesthetic improvements. All recommendations made by the study consultants will seek to identify possible land use and traffic solutions to lessen the impact of industrial uses on the city's near east side neighborhoods.

> An analysis of potential redevelopment scenarios for the industrial area will be presented by the study consultants from 6:30-8 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 9 at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.

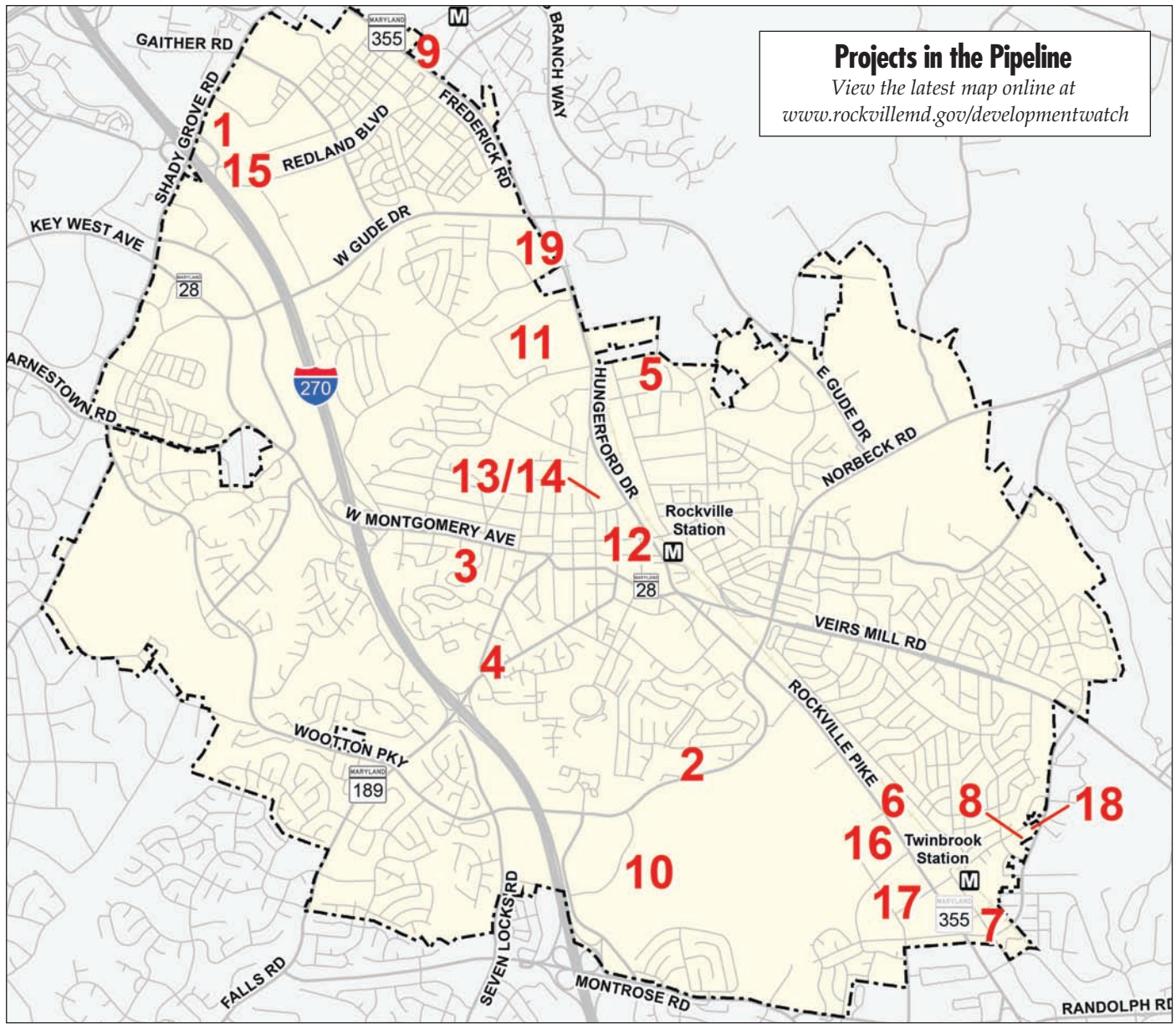
Early next year, two final public meetings are expected to be held. One in January will include a preview of the final study recommendations. The February meeting is anticipated to be a joint meeting of the Mayor and Council and Planning Commission, at which final recommendations will be considered for further action.

The public is invited to attend these public meetings and provide feedback. More information on the study, and an online comment form, can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/southlawnstudy.

Know the Process, Stay Informed

Take part in decisions about development projects in the city. Stay informed by:

- Checking www.rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch for status updates on projects in your neighborhood and throughout Rockville.
- Attending an area meeting led by project applicants to provide input on projects before they are considered by city boards or commissions. Find upcoming meeting details at www.rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch.
- Finding meeting schedules, agendas and information packets for the Mayor and Council and all city boards and commissions at www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter.
- Calling 240-314-8200 to ask about projects near you.



Major Development Review Applications

Applications Under Review

These applications are currently in the development review process:

1. ***5 Choke Cherry Road (Upper Rock District):*** Site plan application to implement PJT2014-00004 for development of 34,700 square feet of retail space on blocks B, C and D of the Upper Rock District. File# STP2015-00238
2. ***332 West Edmonston Drive (Elementary School #5):*** Mandatory referral submittal for construction of a new elementary school. File# STP2016-00264
3. ***500 West Montgomery Ave. (Chestnut Lodge):*** Project plan amendment for a proposed seven-unit townhouse development. File# PJT2015-00005
4. ***626 & 628 Great Falls Road (Chinese Jehovah's Witnesses):*** Proposed development of a new place of worship. File# STP2012-00114
5. ***900 Westmore Ave. (Church of God Iglesia de Dios of Rockville):*** Proposed demolition of an existing church, construction of a new church with additional on-site parking and pedestrian paths. File# STP2014-00193
6. ***1450 Rockville Pike (BMW of Rockville):*** Proposed consolidation and expansion of the service facility and structured parking. File# STP2013-00165
7. ***1900 Chapman Ave.:*** Major site plan amendment (STP2012-00112) to change from 339 multi-unit residential to 70 townhouse units. File# STP2015-00251
8. ***12720 Twinbrook Parkway (Avalon Bay):*** Site plan application for a proposed 240-unit multi-family residence. File# STP-2009-00008
9. ***15931 Frederick Road:*** Site plan application for a 425-unit multi-family development. File# STP2016-00267
10. ***Tower Oaks - Preserve Parkway:*** Project plan amendment to allow up to 366 residential units to replace 755,000 square feet of office development under the Tower Oaks planned development. File# PJT2016-00006

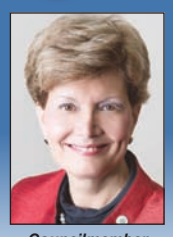
Recently Approved Applications

These applications were recently approved and are currently, or may soon be, under construction:

11. ***51 Mannakee St. (Montgomery College - Student Services Center):*** Mandatory referral submittal for construction of a new student service building. Approved Aug. 12, 2015. File# STP2016-00263
12. ***198 E. Montgomery Ave. (Duball Rockville):*** Project plan application for an amendment to PDP1994-0001E to allow for the addition of 178 dwelling units to Block 2 and application of a currently approved non-residential parking waiver to the new residential uses. Approved Dec. 8, 2014. File# PJT2014-00003
13. ***255 North Washington St. (Rockville Town Center, LLC):*** Site plan application for a proposed mixed-use building with 275 dwelling units and approximately 6,000 square feet of street level commercial. Approved Oct. 22, 2014. File# STP2014-00214
14. ***285 North Washington St. (Brightview Rockville Town Square):*** Site plan application for a 195-unit rental community for independent senior living and assisted living with street-level retail. Approved July 23, 2014. File# STP2014-00189
15. ***900/901 King Farm Blvd. (King Farm F6/F5):*** Proposed developments of 53 and 76 residential townhouses, respectively. Approved Dec. 10, 2014. File# STP2014-00217/STP2014-00216
16. ***1451 Rockville Pike:*** Proposed site plan amendment to add retail and office to the ground floor of an existing office building. Approved May 18, 2015. File# STP2014-00209
17. ***1626 East Jefferson St. (Crest II):*** Site plan for a multi-family development. Approved Aug. 6, 2014. File# STP2014-00196
18. ***12750 Twinbrook Parkway (Bright Horizons Day Care):*** Site plan application for the proposed change of use from office to day care. Approved March 18, 2015. File# STP2015-00234
19. ***15190 Frederick Road (M&T Bank):*** Proposed development of a walk-in bank with drive-through. Approved May 4, 2015. File# STP2015-00237

Mayor & Council

Mayor
Bridget Donnell Newton


Councilmember
Beryl L. Feinberg

Councilmember
Tom Moore

Councilmember
Virginia D. Onley

Councilmember
Julie Palakovich Carr

Important Mayor and Council Dates

Nov. 15: Inauguration Ceremony at 1 p.m. at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Nov. 16: Meeting at 7 p.m. at Rockville City Hall.
Nov. 23: Meeting at 7 p.m. at Rockville City Hall.
Nov. 30: Meeting at 7 p.m. at Rockville City Hall.

Drop-ins sessions for community members to speak with the mayor and a councilmember will resume in December.

Neighborhood Park Renamed in Memory of Longtime Community Leader

Lincoln Terrace Park Renamed in Honor of Wilma Shelton Bell

A ceremony to rename Lincoln Terrace Park for Wilma Shelton Bell will honor a woman who gave greatly to the community she called home. The ceremony will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31, at the park, at the corner of Westmore Avenue and North Horners Lane.

The Mayor and Council voted Oct. 5 to rename the Lincoln Park neighborhood park in honor of Bell, who died July 5 at age 70. The three-quarter acre park was recently renovated with new playground equipment and landscaping.

Bell was a longtime advocate for Lincoln Park, with a passion for land use issues, affordable housing and community policing. Her community activities included serving as president of the Lincoln Park Civic Association and as a member of the Rockville Housing Enterprises Board of Commissioners. A city staff report to the Mayor and Council called Bell "one of Rockville's most revered citizens."

IF YOU GO
WHAT: Wilma Shelton Bell Park Naming
WHEN: Saturday, Oct. 31, 9 a.m.
WHERE: Lincoln Terrace Park, 798 North Horners Lane

"Just as the Lincoln Terrace Park was recently renovated… Ms. Bell used her passion, dedication and persistence to drive for renovation at a broader scale within Lincoln Park," Angela C. Younger, president of the Legacy at Lincoln Park Homeowners Association Board of Directors, wrote in a letter to the Mayor and Council supporting the renaming. "She had a desire to rejuvenate the place where Lincoln Terrace once dominated, pushing for renovation to bring new housing, new homeowners and new energy to the area. Our homes would, quite frankly, not be here today if it were not for Ms. Bell and her relentless efforts to take her community back and redevelop Lincoln Park – a true gem of a neighborhood within the City of Rockville."

Former mayor Phyllis Marcuccio also wrote the Mayor and Council in support of the renaming. "[Bell] and her family have been cornerstones of the Lincoln Park community for generations," Marcuccio wrote. "Her contributions are many and varied in her modest and purposeful devotion to preserving her neighborhood."

For video of the Mayor and Council discussion, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter and select the television icon next to the Oct. 5 meeting listing. Learn more about Wilman Shelton Bell Park and other city parks at www.rockvillemd.gov/parks.

Mayor and Council Follow County's Lead on Smoke-Free Areas

City Parks, Facilities to Go Smoke-Free this Spring

The Mayor and Council unanimously voted on Oct. 5 to expand the city's smoke-free area rules to include all city facilities and city parks.

Expanding Rockville's smoke-free area rules means that areas such as the plaza in Rockville Town Square (a city-owned park) will be smoke-free. Privately-owned outdoor restaurant dining areas adjacent to Town Square and throughout Rockville will not be affected.

Rockville's newest smoke-free area rules will take effect by March 1, with signage posted at parks and facilities.

Enforcement of the smoke-free area will be complaint-driven. Complaints may be directed to Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services, the agency tasked with monitoring the smoke-free area rules.

Rockville's existing smoke-free rules apply to several outdoor locations on city property, such as the:

- Outdoor complex at the Swim and Fitness Center.
- Dog park at Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park in King Farm and its nearby playing fields.
- Area within 50 feet of entrances to community centers and within 40 feet of playground equipment in city parks.

The Mayor and Council's action followed a unanimous recommendation by the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board that all city parks and facilities be smoke-free.

For more on the change, including a list of city parks and facilities that will be smoke-free, go to the Oct. 19 Mayor and Council agenda at www.rockvilllemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

Rockville is cordially invited to attend the inaugural ceremony for your

Newly Elected Mayor and Council

on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 1 p.m.
F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre
603 Edmonston Drive

SAVE THE DATE • SAVE THE DATE

IN BRIEF

Rockville Thanks Moore

Councilmember Tom Moore, shown above receiving a proclamation from state Sen. Cheryl Kagan, was honored during his last Mayor and Council meeting, on Oct. 19, with a resolution recognizing his two terms of service. Moore, who is not seeking re-election this year, was first elected in 2011. A "thank you" tribute can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube.

Workshop to Focus on Valuing Diverse Neighbors

Rockville's Human Rights Commission presents "I Could Be Your Neighbor," a workshop to help community members develop ways to interact with, and understand, neighbors of different cultures. Rockville is changing. With this change comes new faces, cultures and traditions. The two-part workshop will be held over two dates – from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5 and from 7-9 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 8 – at a location to be determined. It seeks to create a community that is enriching, stimulating, secure and peaceful.

For more information, including the workshop location, and to register, call 240-314-8316.

Rockville to Install Solar Canopy at the City's Maintenance Facility

Solar Power Purchase Agreement to Yield Savings, Environmental Benefits

A canopy over the employee parking lot at the City of Rockville's maintenance facility, unanimously approved Oct. 12 by the Mayor and Council, will provide shade to vehicles while converting sunlight into electricity using an array of solar panels.

The canopy will cover a portion of the parking lot at the facility at 14625 Rothgeb Drive. Based on conceptual designs, the solar panel system is anticipated to generate about 26 percent of the facility's electricity needs.

Under a solar power purchase agreement, the city will avoid upfront installation costs for the solar panel system and lock into a price per kilowatt-hour for 20 years that is lower than electricity rates the city paid over the past 10 years. The project will help stabilize the facility's energy costs, advance the city's renewable energy goals, support green jobs and reduce regional air pollution.

Similar solar canopies have been installed over parking areas at Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, FedEx Field and on the Verizon campus in Silver Spring.

Find the staff report and video from the Oct. 12 meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

In The Community

IN AND AROUND ROCKVILLE

Shop Safely This Holiday Season

Friday, Nov. 27 is "Black Friday" – the unofficial kickoff of the holiday shopping season. With increased vehicle and foot traffic, the Rockville City Police Department offers these tips for a safe and happy holiday season:

Pedestrians

- Stay alert in parking lots. Look and listen attentively.
- Treat parking lots like streets – look both ways twice before proceeding.
- *Remember:* Vehicles have blind spots. Don't trust that drivers see you, even if you see them.
- Walk in the main aisles of parking lots, not between parked vehicles.
- Avoid loading docks and other places where drivers may have difficulty seeing someone on foot.
- Walk in groups for greater visibility.
- Be extra cautious at night, due to low visibility and a greater likelihood of criminal activity.
- When possible, stay within sight of surveillance cameras. Report suspicious persons to Rockville police at 240-314-8900.

Drivers

- Never drive faster than 10 mph in a parking lot. Drive slower when visibility is low.
- If possible, pull forward into parking spaces so there's no need to back out when leaving.
- Before shifting into reverse, take a moment to look around.
- Use extra caution in parking garages due to low ceilings, tight corners and reduced lighting.

The National Crime Prevention Council offers tips to help shoppers avoid crime at stores and online. Visit www.ncpc.org and search "shopping."

Fall Leaf Collection Continues

Rockville's crews will continue to vacuum leaves from neighborhoods in November and December. Leaves can be raked anytime immediately before or during collection week.

DO: Place leaves at the curb by 6 a.m. on the collection dates. Remove sticks and all other objects from leaf piles.

DO NOT: Use plastic bags. Biodegradable paper lawn bags are acceptable.

DO: Use alternatives methods for disposing of leaves such as mulching or composting. This saves collection and disposal costs.

DO NOT: Dump leaves, grass clippings or other yard waste into storm drains, along stream banks or directly into streams.

An interactive map at www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection allows community members to input their address to learn when their leaves will be collected.

Avoid Clogs, Fight FOG

When the Thanksgiving feast is finished, don't pour fats, oils and grease (FOG) down the drain.

FOG poured down sinks solidifies when deposited into sewer lines, trapping solids and forming hard deposits that can cause blockages and breaks in pipes. Blockages and breaks can lead to sewer backups and leaking pipes, which can lead to costly damage to city infrastructure and private property.

These tips will help prevent clogs and blockages:

- Avoid placing food that contains FOG in the garbage disposal.
- Scrape food and grease into the garbage before washing dishes.
- Use a paper towel or napkin to absorb cooking oil or grease before washing dishes.
- Pour FOG into an empty can, let it cool to solidify and dispose of it as refuse.

For more information, call the Environmental Management Division at 240-314-8870.

Share Your Thoughts on Rockville's Future

City Seeks Input from Adults, Youth

What do you want Rockville to be like in 2040? City planners are seeking input from community members, including students, as the city works on an update to the Comprehensive Master Plan. Upcoming listening sessions will focus on the following:

- Orchard Ridge, Potomac Woods and Falls Ridge at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 5 at Saint Raphael Church, 1513 Dunster Road.
- Rockville seniors, at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 13 at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.
- Woodley Gardens and College Gardens at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 17 at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.
- East Rockville at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 1 at the Pump House, 401 South Horners Lane.
- Rockville Pike at 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3 at Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.
- Lincoln Park at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5 at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.

The master plan aims to preserve and improve the quality of life in Rockville by guiding development and conservation and ensuring the city's ability to provide high-quality community facilities.

At the listening sessions, planning staff will share information about the master plan update and hear views about the future of the community from residents, businesses and others.

In addition to neighborhood listening sessions, city planners are visiting with student groups at the three high schools in Rockville (Richard Montgomery, Rockville and Wootton) to hear ideas from the city's youth. During National Community Planning Month in October, which raises awareness of the importance of plans in building great communities, students learned what a master plan is and how it impacts what the city looks like. They also shared their ideas on what could improve Rockville in the future.

"If there's a park in their neighborhood, it's because there was a plan to do it," said David Levy, Rockville's chief of long range planning. "We're helping them understand the role of the plan in development, environmental preservation, the economy, transportation, parks, community centers and more and we're asking them to think about what they'd like the plan to say."

Learn more about Rockville 2040 and view the listening session schedule at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040, where you can also sign up to receive email updates and provide input on the plan.

For more information, email Ann Wallas at awallas@rockvillemd.gov or Hjarman Cordero at hcordero@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8200.

Rockville's Recycling is More Than Just Bottles and Cans

Single-Stream Program Recycles a Wide Variety of Items

In honor of "America Recycles Day," on Sunday, Nov. 15, Rockville offers a reminder of the many ways community members can recycle.

While most people think first of recycling newspapers, bottles, cans and cardboard, many other items can also go into the city's single-stream recycling bins.

Other Items to Recycle:

- Empty aerosol cans.
- Soft plastics, including shrink wrap, bubble wrap, newspaper sleeves and retail bags placed in a single plastic bag and secured with a knot.
- Rigid plastics, including toys, buckets, flower pots, laundry baskets and clothes hangers.
- Wax-coated milk and juice boxes, all junk mail (including those with plastic windows), catalogs and pizza boxes with minor grease.

America Recycles Day
NOVEMBER 15

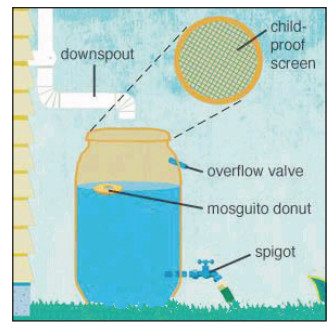
The city accepts unsorted recyclable material through single-stream recycling, which allows for all recyclables to be placed in the same recycling cart.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse for a complete list of accepted materials. Call 240-314-8568 or email refuse@rockvillemd.gov to start service; get a larger recycling cart; schedule a special pickup of scrap metal recycling, electronics recycling, hazardous household waste or bulk refuse; report a missed collection; verify collection schedules; or ask a question about the program.

For more information on America Recycles Day, visit americarecyclesday.org.

Get Your Rain Barrels Winter-Ready

Rain Barrel Rebates and More Now Available for Nonprofits, HOAs



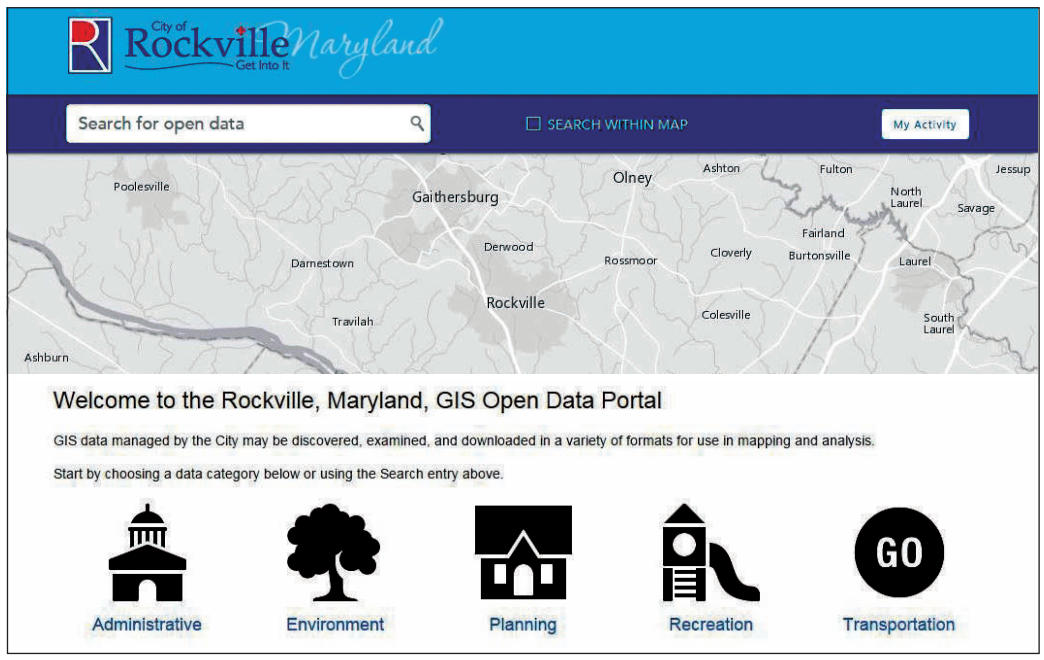
Cold weather can wreak havoc on rain barrels, leaving the conservation tool cracked or deformed. Avoid having to repair or replace your rain barrel by taking the following steps when temperatures are expected to fall below freezing for more than a few nights:

- Disconnect the barrel from the downspout, making sure to redirect the water flow away from your home.
- When possible, store the barrel in an enclosed space like a garage, shed or basement.
- Barrels stored outside should be placed upside-down so water doesn't gather and freeze inside the barrel. Place a brick or other heavy object on top to keep the wind from blowing the barrel over.

Rebates for rain barrel installation are just one of the rewards offered by Rockville's RainScapes Rewards program, which also offers money back for planting trees, installing conservation landscapes and removing pavement. The program's recent expansion means homeowner, condominium and neighborhood co-op associations; nonprofits; and individual homeowners can receive up to $3,500 in rebates for reducing the amount of runoff leaving their property. Taking simple actions to encourage rain to soak into the ground can reduce flooding and decrease pollution in local streams.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes for applications. Projects must be approved by the RainScapes coordinator before work begins to receive a rebate. Contact rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8877.

News You Can Use



New Website Offers 'Open Data' For All

Rockville Earns Praise as Model for Use and Presentation of GIS Technology

A new City of Rockville website that allows anyone to discover, examine and download geographic information systems (GIS) data for analysis and mapping is getting the attention of leaders in the "open data" movement.

Rockville launched its new GIS Open Data Portal on Aug. 12, joining many other government organizations, such as the State of Maryland and the District of Columbia, in using open data technology.

Two days after the launch, Bern Szukalski, chief technology advocate and product strategist for GIS software vendor Esri, tweeted: "New Rockville #opendata site. I like the clean look and branding … All orgs should be doing this!"

The new site replaces an older GIS data download Web page. It takes less effort to maintain and offers users a richer experience for interacting with geographic data such as the city's boundary, zoning and planning areas, Historic Building Catalog and bicycle routes. City staff and members of the public can use the data for analysis and map production.

The open data movement encourages organizations to increase transparency by making data available for free to anyone for use, reuse and distribute without copyright and other restrictions. In recent years, Rockville has participated in a trend toward a growing number of Web maps and applications by offering many Web maps for public use.

Rockville's open data portal site can help contractors, developers and utility companies create more useful maps. It is also useful to government agencies in, near, or close to Rockville, to community members seeking to learn more about the city and to students engaged in geographic data projects. Esri makes the GIS Open Data Portal site available at no extra cost to software licensees, including Rockville.

Explore the site at http://data.rockvillemd.opendata.arcgis.com. Find more interactive Rockville maps at www.rockvillemd.gov/maps.

Mayor and Council Approve Watts Branch Watershed Assessment

Report Shows Success, Challenges for Projects Funded by City's Stormwater Fee

A recently completed assessment of the Watts Branch watershed shows that steps taken by the city are keeping erosion in check and catching trash and other pollutants.

The assessment, approved by the Mayor and Council on Oct. 12, included a stream survey, geomorphic and hydrologic analyses, and identification of areas with active stream erosion, exposed utility lines and failing storm drain outfalls.

The assessment of the 22.3-square-mile watershed (6 square miles of which are within the city) is the last of the planned updates to studies of Rockville's three watersheds. Updates of the Cabin John and Rock Creek watershed studies were completed

in 2011 and 2013, respectively.

Stream pollution negatively impacts Rockville parks and drinking water as the watersheds each drain through the city to the Potomac River and, ultimately, the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland's most treasured natural resource. Since a 2001 study of Watts Branch, the city has constructed ponds to treat water quality, pervious paving that reduces runoff by allowing rainwater to seep into the ground, storm drain improvements and measures to stabilize stream banks and prevent erosion. However, stream erosion continues in many portions of the watershed.

The city will continue to use its Stormwater Management Utility Fee to fund needed improvements to Rockville's stormwater and storm drainage infrastructure. Learn more about the Stormwater Management Utility Fee at www.rockvillemd.gov/index.aspx?NID=854.

Find the city's watershed assessment reports at www.rockvillemd.gov/watersheds or contact Lise Soukup, public works environmental engineer, at lsoukup@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8874.

City Staying Engaged on Bus Rapid Transit Work

Local Elected Leaders to Meet in Early December

A county and state effort to improve traffic mobility throughout Montgomery County continues to move ahead, with Rockville helping to define how key areas in the city should be addressed.

The new high-capacity bus rapid transit (BRT) routes being studied by the county and state include Route 355 (Rockville Pike) and Veirs Mill Road. Earlier this year, the city initiated a preliminary design study to explore options for integrating BRT routes into Rockville Town Center. A particular concern is where the routes would meet at the intersection of Route 355 and Veirs Mill Road (the "mixing bowl"), and how BRT will interact with the Rockville Metro Station.

The Mayor and Council heard a presentation at their Sept. 28 meeting and asked city staff to develop a plan to gather input from the community on the study's concepts and options. Community members who are interested in hearing more about the study or scheduling a presentation for their group to learn more can contact Andy Gunning at 240-314-8206 or agunning@rockvillemd.gov.

Early this year, the county formed advisory committees comprised of people who travel in or live near various transit corridors. They continue to meet to discuss design options for the Route 355 and Veirs Mill Road routes and others in the county. To learn more about the committees, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/RTS/cacs.html.

Elected officials from Rockville, Gaithersburg and Montgomery County are expected to discuss rapid transit corridors at a meeting that is open to the public, at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 3 in the lobby-level auditorium of the Executive Office Building, 101 Monroe St.

Find background materials and the consultant's presentation with the Mayor and Council's Sept. 28 meeting agenda at www.rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter.

INFO. AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

City Seeks Contractors for Housing Rehab Program

Rockville's Single-Family Rehabilitation program helps eligible low- and moderate-income homeowners within the city limits to repair their homes.

The city is expanding its list of contractors who work with the program, and invites interested licensed contractors to apply. Most of the contract work is expected to be in the $15,000-$25,000 range. Contractors will be selected through a competitive bidding process.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/singlefamilyrehab.

Contractors interested in learning more or applying to be added to the list may contact the city's rehabilitation specialist, Martin Dasler, at 240-314-8208 or mdasler@rockvillemd.gov.

Rockville Business by the Numbers

Rockville Economic Development, Inc. Executive Director Laurie Boyer presented a quarterly update of REDI's activities to the Mayor and Council on Oct. 19.

REDI, a public-private partnership created by the City of Rockville to strengthen and broaden the city's economic base, helps businesses launch, locate and expand in Rockville. The following numbers are taken from a summary of REDI's activities provided to the Mayor and Council:

- 8,600: Businesses with Rockville addresses.
- 75,000: People employed by Rockville businesses.
- 4.4 percent: Rockville's average unemployment rate for 2014, the lowest in Maryland for municipalities that are tracked.
- $16.4 million: Commercial property taxes contributed to the city, about 40 percent of the total property taxes collected.
- Over 50 percent of Rockville's residents age 25 and older have at least a bachelor's degree.
- Over 36 percent have a graduate or professional degree.

In Fiscal Year 2015 (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015):

- REDI staff made 73 company visits and provided assistance to 161 companies.
- 43 REDI ambassadors visited 50 companies during Business Appreciation Week in March.
- REDI staff had 18 meetings with commercial brokers to discuss Rockville properties and provided 49 market reports to business prospects.
- The Maryland Women's Business Center, a REDI program, provided 116 workshops to 1,211 attendees and counseling services to 292 clients.

Find video of the Oct. 19 update to the Mayor and Council at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand. For more information, call 301-315-8096 or visit www.RockvilleREDI.org.

Hydrants Painted in New Mark Commons

Boy Scout Troop 457 painted 27 fire hydrants in the New Mark Commons neighborhood in October. The project, organized by Rockville High sophomore Daniel Jacobson with the city's Department of Public Works, used colors to indicate the hydrants' gallons-per-minute output, according to national standards used to help firefighters.

THINGS TO DO IN ROCKVILLE

Treat Yourself to a Recreation Mini-Session this Holiday Season

Looking for a short fitness commitment during the holidays? Take advantage of Rockville's opportunities to improve your health with mini-sessions of some of the city's popular recreation classes.

Mini-sessions offer the chance for people to:

- Continue their fall recreation class workouts through mid-December.
- Try out programs they may want to take for a full session during the winter recreation season that starts in early January.

Among the mini-session options are several yoga classes as well as Zumba, Pilates, core training and more.

View the full schedule of adult fitness mini-sessions, with links to online registration, at www.rockvillemd.gov/classes. Questions? Call the recreation line at 240-314-8620.

Limited Spaces Remain in Winter Sports Leagues

Learn the fundamentals of sports, from teamwork and life skills to socialization and healthy habits, in Rockville's youth or adult leagues.

The city is finalizing teams for winter sports, with play beginning in early January. Limited spaces may remain in the following sports:

Adult:

- Co-Rec Volleyball (men and women).
- Women's Volleyball.
- Men's Basketball.
- Adult Winter 5K Run/Walk Program.

Youth:

- Basketball:
  - Mighty Mites (grades K-3).
  - Boys (age 9-18).
  - Girls (age 9-17).
  - Clinic (age 6-15).
- Wrestling (age 6-14).

Everything is close at hand when you play in Rockville sports leagues – fields, facilities, friends and fun. Spaces are filling fast. Register yourself or your young player by calling the city's Sports Division at 240-314-8620. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/sports.

Run the **40th Annual Rockville 10K/5K** on Sunday, Nov. 1, at King Farm Village Center. Adults and youth can choose from the 10K, 5K or Kids 1-Mile Fun Run. Runners may register up until race day morning. Learn more at www.rockville10k5k.com.

Arts & Entertainment

The Holidays Come to Rockville

Save These Dates for Holiday Events

Hey Rockville! Pencil some fun activities into your calendar as the holiday season approaches. These will be sure to make your spirits merry:

- **Holiday Bazaar,** *presented by Rockville Seniors, Inc. Saturday, Dec. 5; 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.* Get your pick of homemade crafts and baked goods, peruse the book selection or take part in a raffle. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter or 240-314-8800.
- **Natural Holiday Crafts** *Sunday, Dec. 6; 1:30-3 p.m. at Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road.* Use natural or recycled objects to make holiday crafts and ornaments. Each participant will complete at least three projects. Adult participation required for children under age 8. Register by Nov. 30. Cost is $12 for Rockville residents/$14 for nonresidents. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/croydoncreek or 240-314-8770.
- **Holiday Open Houses at Glenview Mansion** *(free) Sundays, Dec. 6, 13, 20 and 27; 1-4 p.m.* Enjoy the 1926 mansion at its finest with Christmas trees and spaces decorated by community organizations. A variety of musical performances are on tap for several of the open houses. Children's Sunday with Santa and Mrs. Claus, featuring activities for kids, is Dec. 13. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/glenview or 240-314-8660.
- **Tiny Tots Winter Wonderland** *Tuesday, Dec. 8; 10 a.m.-noon at Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Fallsgrove Drive.* Preschool children and their parents will enjoy a special visit from the North Pole, play equipment in the gym, crafts, games and a light snack. Ages 5 and under. $2 per child; current membership or day passes required for adults. Call 240-314-8840 to register.
- **Gingerbread House Workshop** *Saturday, Dec. 12; 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Thomas Farm Community Center.* Fee ($45 for Rockville residents /$50 for nonresidents) includes one house and sweet decorating supplies. Working conditions include plenty of cookies and drinks. Call 240-314-8840 to register.
- **Cookies with Santa** *Saturday, Dec. 19; 2-4 p.m. at Thomas Farm Community Center.* Visit with Santa and bring a camera for a photo with him, take part in face painting, cookie decorating and more. Cost: $4 per person at the door (children under age 1 are free). Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Find more December holiday events at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.

'Footloose' Dances On at Fitzgerald Theatre

Music from English Composers and 'Nutcracker' Performances on Tap

Enjoy the musical version of a classic 1984 film, give a nod to merry old England and buy tickets now for December's performances of a holiday favorite at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

Learn more about the following shows and buy tickets at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre or call the box office at 240-314-8690:

Rockville Musical Theatre presents "Footloose" at 8 p.m. on Nov. 6, 7, 13 and 14; and 2 p.m. on Nov. 1 and 8. After moving to a small middle-America town where dancing is forbidden, a rebellious teenager encourages his classmates to defy the local pastor and call for a rock 'n' roll prom. Tickets: $22 adults; $20 students and seniors (62 and older).

Heart of Maryland Women's Chorus presents "Magical Musical Tour" at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 21. Hear a sentimental journey down Route 66 on a "tour" that takes you from coast to coast. Tickets: $15.

Rockville Concert Band presents "British Invasion" at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 22. From the Renaissance to today, the band will explore England's finest composers of traditional and popular music in this free concert. $5 suggested donation. No tickets required.

Rockville Civic Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" on Dec. 5, 6, 12 and 13 (showtimes vary). The city's ballet company will present the holiday classic that has become a Rockville tradition. Join Clara on her magical journey! Tickets: $17 adults; $13 children (12 and under) and seniors (60 and older). Assigned seat tickets may be purchased in person, by phone or by mail order at the box office beginning Nov. 10.

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre is located in Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Holiday Shopping?

Eat. Shop. Save Money. Do Good.

Rockville Rewards cards are now available for 2015-2016! Cards are valid through Aug. 31, 2016 and offer discounts at 125 Rockville area businesses. Purchase the card for $25 and support any one of 29 participating local nonprofits, which keep 100% of the card sale proceeds.

Find a list of participating nonprofits and businesses where you can buy the card or purchase it at www.rockvillerewards.com/buy-the-card.

Jazz-Themed Mixed Media, Chinese Brush Paintings at Glenview Gallery this Month

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery's free monthly exhibition opens on Sunday, Nov. 1 with a public reception and afternoon concert.

On display Nov. 1-25:

- **"Art 4 All – Think Jazz"** (mixed media art) by Cynthia Farrell Johnson.
- **"The Beauty of Nature"** (Chinese ink and rice paper) by Sue Hsu.

The free reception, from 1:30-3:30 p.m., will include a concert at 2 p.m. by **impersonator extraordinaire Billy Finch**. He'll celebrate Frank Sinatra's 100th birthday and perform music from other legends.

Also this month: Cynthia Farrell Johnson will discuss the jazz musicians who influenced her artwork for the November exhibition during an artist's talk from 7-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 19 at the gallery.

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. It is closed on weekends and holidays, including Thanksgiving and the rest of that weekend. No tickets or reservations are required for the opening reception and concert or for visiting the gallery during normal hours.

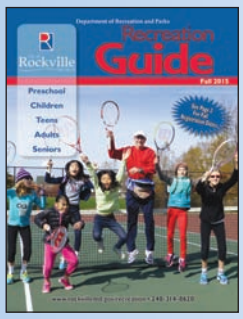
Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery or by calling 240-314-8682.

November Calendar

R = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

FACILITIES ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- **Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** GM, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre** FSF, Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- **Croydon Creek Nature Center** CC, Rockville Civic Center Park, 852 Avery Road. Note: Registration is required, register online at www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8770.
- **Rockville Senior Center,** SR 1150 Carnation Drive. Call 240-314-8800.
- **Rockville City Hall** CH 111 Maryland Ave. Call 240-314-5000.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Use course numbers found in the calendar to register at rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov.

November

1 Glenview Gallery Art Gallery Opening Reception and Concert FREE! 1:30-3 p.m. *See article on page 6.* GM

1,6,7,8,13,14 "Footloose" presented by Rockville Musical Theatre. Nov. 1 and 8 at 2 p.m. Nov. 6,7, 13 and 14 at 8 p.m. *See article on page 6.* FSF

2,9,16,23,30 Mommy and Me Emphasizes play between caregiver and child using age-appropriate equipment in the gym. Center pass or daily membership required for caregivers. Age 4 and younger free. 10 a.m.-noon. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

Saturday Farmers Market – The one-stop shop for everything 'fall.'

2 Adventure Series Montgomery County Public Schools are closed. Center staff lead a trip to Build-a-Bear and a movie at Westfield Montgomery mall. 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Fallsgrove Drive.

5 Rockville 2040 Listening Session 7 p.m. St. Raphael Church, 1513 Dunster Road. *See article on page 4.*

7,14,21 Saturday Farmers Market Fresh produce, flowers, baked goods and more as they become available throughout the season. Accepts EBT benefits. 9 a.m.-1p.m. Jury parking lot at Route 28 and Monroe Street.

7 Croydon Creek Campfire: Nocturnal Animals Learn about the animals that might be out at night in your neighborhood. All ages. Preregistration required. 6-7 p.m. CC

8 ADA Anniversary Celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act with a basketball performance, face painting, crafts, a nature presentation, a DJ, refreshments and more. Call 240-777-6871. 12:45-3:30 p.m. Mid-County Community Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring.

8 Family Ramble: Fall Discover how nature gets ready for winter as you enjoy a hike through the forest preserve. All participants must register, including adults. 1:30-2:30 p.m. CC

10 Microcosm of Montgomery County: 200 Years of Education in Rockville FREE! Join Peerless Rockville for a slideshow on the 200-year history of education in Rockville, from the earliest days of private education for the wealthy to today's universal free public schools. 7 p.m. Richard Montgomery High School, 250 Richard Montgomery Drive.

11 Veterans Day City Hall is closed. Recycling and refuse collected as usual. *See article on page 1.*

11 Veterans Day Ceremony 11 a.m. Veterans Park, at routes 355 and 28. *See article on page 1.*

13 Rockville 2040 Listening Session 10:30 a.m. *See article on page 4.* SR

14,19 Nature Tots "Trees" on Nov. 14. **"Mammals"** on Nov. 19. A naturalist helps children ages 2-5 explore nature through play, crafts, stories and hikes. Adult participation required. Ages 2-5. Preregistration recommended. 10-11:30 a.m. CC

14 Star Party Discover objects easily visible in the night sky, look through telescopes with an astronomer and enjoy a campfire treat. All participants must register, including adults. Program is dependent on good weather and clear skies. Ages 5 and older. Preregistration required. 6-7 p.m. CC

17 Zumba Party 1:30-3 p.m. Get a taste for salsa, merengue and other Latin dances. Instruction provided. All experience levels welcome. SR

17 Rockville 2040 Listening Session 7 p.m. *See article on page 4.* SR

20 Peerless Awards of Excellence Peerless Rockville's 36th annual awards honor community members, businesses, architects and others whose work contributes to Rockville's unique character. Featuring drinks, hors d'oeuvres and music by the Rockville Swing Band. Tickets: $40 for Peerless members, $50 for non-members. Visit www.peerlessrockville.org/2015-awards. 7 p.m. GM

21 Off-Leash Testing 10 a.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/offleash. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center outdoor pool parking lot, 355 Martins Lane.

21 Saturday Story & Hike Ages 2-5. Adult participation required. 10-11 a.m. CC

21 Heart of Maryland Women's Chorus presents **"Magical Musical Tour"** 1-3 p.m. *See article on page 6.* FSF

22 "British Invasion" presented by the Rockville Concert Band. FREE! 3-4 p.m. *See article on page 6.* FSF

26-27 Thanksgiving. City Hall is closed. Recycling and refuse normally collected on Thursdays will be collected on Friday, Nov. 27. *See the article on page 1.*

28 "A Christmas Carol" presented by Hope Garden Children's Ballet Theater. Experience the world's favorite humbug through movement and emotion in this original ballet interpretation of Charles Dickens' timeless classic danced to the music of Claude Debussy. Two performances: 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets: $19 students and seniors; $22 adults. FSF

Boards and Commissions

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted. Please check the city website for the latest on cancellations, rescheduling and contact information at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

5 Environment Commission 7 p.m.

4 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee 7 p.m.

14 Board of Appeals 9 a.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

10 Human Services Advisory Commission 6:30 p.m.

18 Cultural Arts Commission 7 p.m.

18 Planning Commission 7 p.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

19 Historic District Commission 7:30 p.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

17 Rockville Seniors Inc. 1 p.m. Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

19 Senior Citizens Commission 1 p.m. Rockville Senior Center.

24 Traffic and Transportation Commission 7:30 p.m.

25 Rockville Housing Enterprises Board of Commissioners 6:30 p.m. RHE Office, 621-A Southlawn Lane.

Vacancies

The city is seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Animal Matters Board (1 regular; 2 alternates)
- Board of Appeals (1)
- Board of Supervisors of Elections (1)
- Compensation Commission (1)
- Environment Commission (1)
- Financial Advisory Board (1)
- Historic District Commission (1 regular; 1 alternate)
- Human Rights Commission (1)
- Human Rights Advisory Commission (1)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (1 regular; 1 alternate)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (1)
- Rockville Seniors, Inc. (1)
- Senior Citizens Comm. (3)

Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission may write to the Mayor and Council, c/o City Clerk, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280 or submit the Expression of Interest Form found at www.rockvillemd.gov/boards commissions.

For the most up-to-date event listings visit www.rockvillemd.gov/thisweek and sign up for the weekly email newsletter.

Nominate a Neighbor for a Human Rights Award

The City of Rockville's Human Rights Commission will present two awards as part of the city's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration on Monday, Jan. 18.

Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Award: Honors a Rockville high school student for advancing the goals and dreams of Dr. King.

F. Michael Taff Award: Honors an individual, business or organization from Rockville for improving the lives of people with disabilities.

Find nomination forms and more information at www.rockvillemd.gov/mlk.

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTING, VISIT WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV

Días Festivos de la Ciudad, Recolección de Hojas y Proyectos de Construcción de East Rockville

El siguiente es un resumen de algunas de las historias más importantes en este ejemplar de "Rockville Reports":

Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad, otras instalaciones van a cerrar varios días este mes

El Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Rockville estará cerrado el Día de los Veteranos, miércoles 11 de Noviembre y el fin de semana del Día de Acción de Gracias jueves 26 de noviembre y viernes 27 de noviembre. Otras instalaciones de la ciudad estarán cerradas o funcionarán con un horario limitado. Los reciclables y desechos serán recolectados como siempre el 11 de noviembre. En la semana de Acción de Gracias, las recolecciones normalmente hechas los jueves serán hechas el viernes 27 de noviembre. Más información en www.rockvillemd.gov o llame al 240-314-5000.

La recolección de hojas de otoño continúa en noviembre

Las cuadrillas de Rockville continuarán aspirando las hojas de las guarniciones del vecindario en noviembre y diciembre. Las hojas pueden ser barridas en cualquier momento antes o durante su semana de recolección hacia la cuneta o inmediatamente a un lado del pavimento si no existe guarnición o cuneta. Un mapa interactivo en www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection permite a los miembros de la comunidad poner su dirección para saber cuándo van a ser recogidas las hojas.

La Ciudad invierte en proyectos de infraestructura en East Rockville

La ciudad dio la primera palada este otoño en el primero de 15 proyectos totalizando más de $13 millones de dólares en inversión de infraestructura en East Rockville. Los proyectos van a reemplazar infraestructura envejecida de agua y alcantarillado y mejorar el tráfico, la seguridad del peatón y la calidad del agua. Encuentre la lista de los proyectos y aprenda más en www.rockvillemd.gov/eastrockvilleprojects o contacte a John Scabis, supervisor de ingeniería al 240-314-8514 o a jscabis@rockvillemd.gov.

Para más información en Español, visite www.rockvillemd.gov y refiérase a la casilla "Select Language" en la esquina inferior derecha de la página.

Neighborhood Notes

IN BRIEF

City Celebrates Wellness Year-Round

Health was the focus of a free city expo in Rockville Town Square earlier this fall (above), when community members enjoyed fitness demos, connected with a variety of health providers and got cooking tips at a demo from a local chef.

Improve your health and spark your creativity with a variety of programs offered by the city in the Winter Recreation Guide, due out in late November at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide and mailed to Rockville homes.

Find details on fitness demos and mini-sessions being offered during the holidays on page 6 of this issue of "Rockville Reports." Register for winter recreation programs starting the first week of December.

City Kicks Off Study of Senior Needs

Findings of a new study will help determine if programs and services provided by the city and other government, private and nonprofit partners are expected to meet the needs of Rockville seniors.

The Senior Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis Study, which the Mayor and Council named as a priority in the Fiscal Year 2016 budget, is expected to be complete in March.

Rockville's senior population is changing rapidly and is expected to grow faster than any other age group in Rockville. The city and other service providers face the challenge of maintaining existing services and developing and funding new programs and services to address the needs of a demographically diverse population.

The study will include several parts:

- A review of the 2006 Senior Services Long Range Plan.
- A full inventory of existing services provided to seniors by Rockville Senior Services, as well as other city, county and state government agencies; nongovernmental agencies; nonprofits and faith-based organizations.
- In-depth stakeholder interviews.
- Focus groups.
- A needs assessment survey (online and on paper).
- A review of local and national trends and best practices for senior services.
- An evaluation report and final report.

To learn how you or your organization can be involved, contact Terri Hilton, the city's senior services manager, at 240-314-8802 or thilton@rockvillemd.gov. For more information on programs and services the city provides for seniors, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter.

Feed Birds, Wildlife this Winter

Croydon Creek Nature Center's annual bird seed sale is taking orders until Tuesday, Dec. 1. On sale this year are black oil sunflower, Nyjer, patio mix, suet cakes and more.

Feeding wildlife helps animals and provides enjoyment to those who appreciate nature during the cold winter months.

Order forms are available at the nature center, at 852 Avery Road (off Baltimore Road), or at www.rockvillemd.gov/croydoncreek. For more information, call 240-314-8770 or email ccnc@rockvillemd.gov.

Mayor and Council Honor Five 'Good Neighbors'

Awards Recognize Good Deeds and Community Service

The Mayor and Council presented Rockville's annual Good Neighbor Awards on Monday, Oct. 19.

The awards honor community members for their exceptional contributions to preserve and improve the quality of life in their neighborhood through good deeds or acts of service.

This year's honorees were:

- **David Hoddinott**, a senior at Richard Montgomery High School, came to the aid of a man who collapsed and lost consciousness on a Metro train traveling between White Flint and Twinbrook in August. Hoddinott cooled the man down and stayed with him until emergency medical personnel arrived. "To me, David is a special kind of hero," said Marian Osher, who nominated Hoddinott.
- **Nadia Hirsch**, a neighborhood day care provider, is representative of "all day care business owners who invest their energy, time and resources to help parents arrive at their employment having the assurance their children are safe in the hands of good people," said Jack Martinelli, who nominated Hirsch.
- **Aileen Klein's** volunteer efforts as a nine-year board member of the Rockville chapter of Friends of the Library, Montgomery County include responsibility for a gala that raised more than $60,000 for library enhancements, work on the upcoming 10-year anniversary celebration for the Rockville Memorial Library and advocacy and fundraising in support of ongoing renovations to Twinbrook Library. "Without her leadership, advocacy, thoughtfulness, follow-through and kindness, the City of Rockville would be a very different place," said state Sen. Cheryl Kagan, who nominated Klein.
- **Bruce Redding** helps snowbound fellow seniors in his neighborhood each winter. "Regardless of how much [snow,] Bruce brings out his huge snow blower and walks the neighborhood clearing off not only sidewalks but driveways for these seniors. If he did not do this many residents would be trapped in their homes until the snow melts. He does it with a smile and without being asked. Many times he completes the job without the resident even being aware of it," said Melissa Bourne, who nominated Redding.
- **Charles "Bob" Simpson,** was recognized for his regular patrols of Wootton Parkway near the Hungerford neighborhood, picking up trash. "Most neighbors have probably noticed Bob with his 'pick-up stick' and have enjoyed the benefits of his action as they drive, bicycle or walk along Wootton Parkway," said Sarah Navid, who nominated Simpson.

The 2015 Good Neighbor Award recipients (L to R): Bruce Redding, Charles "Bob" Simpson, Aileen Klein, David Hoddinott and Jack Martinelli, who nominated and accepted for Nadia Hirsch.

Good Neighbor Award nominations are accepted throughout the year. To learn more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/goodneighbor or contact Hjarman Cordero, at 240-314-8344 or hcordero@rockvillemd.gov.

Rockville Police Station Offers a Safe Haven for Online Transactions

You're looking to sell that old coffee table on Craigslist, but you're reluctant to invite a stranger into your home to complete the sale. Look no further than the Rockville City Police Department station, which offers its parking lot as a safe place for buyers and sellers to complete a transaction arranged on Craigslist or other online service.

The parking lot of the station, at 2 W. Montgomery Ave., is well-lit, under constant video surveillance and open to the public for transactions 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The RCPD offers these recommendations for buying or selling items via an online service:

- Ask questions before going to buy an item. If the seller can't answer questions, there is a strong possibility they may not actually have the item and could be looking to commit a crime.
- Consider not buying from sellers who only list an email address. This could be a sign that the seller has something to hide. Request a telephone number and be cautious if they refuse.
- Meet in a public place, like a police station. Criminals seek easy targets and do not want witnesses.
- Do not go alone. Ask a friend to accompany you.
- Never go to a second location. If you arrive at a prearranged meeting place and are asked to go somewhere else, refuse.
- Trust your instincts. If a deal sounds too good to be true, it more than likely is.
- Stay in communication. Let your spouse, friends, family or coworkers know where you are going, who you are meeting and when you will be back.
- Be on guard and be smart. Don't wear expensive or "flashy" clothing. Doing so can invite criminal activity.
- Report suspicious activity. Call Rockville police at 240-314-8900.

Learn more about the RCPD and its programs and services at www.rockvillemd.gov/police.

ROCKVILLE CITY POLICE HELPED STUDENTS GET TO SCHOOL… ***With safety in mind at Beall, College Gardens (shown above) and Maryvale elementary schools on Oct. 7 as part of Walk to School Day, which raises awareness about the importance of safe routes for students walking and bicycling to school.***

Get Into It

Mayor
BRIDGET DONNELL NEWTON
Councilmembers
BERYL L. FEINBERG
TOM MOORE
VIRGINIA D. ONLEY
JULIE PALAKOVICH CARR

City Manager: Barbara B. Matthews
Deputy City Manager: Jennifer Kimball
Communication Mgr.: Marylou Berg
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