



RockvilleReports

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Meetings to Gather Community Input on RedGate Park Proposed Concept

Members of the public will, at two community meetings in April, have an opportunity to review and comment on the Mayor and Council's preferred concept for the future of the 131-acre RedGate Park.

A virtual meeting will be held 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 19, via WebEx. The second meeting will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 23,

in person at RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road.

Participants at both meetings will receive a presentation on the preferred park concept, project exhibits and other information, and have an opportunity to provide comments. Additionally, participants of the in-person meeting may arrive anytime from 10 a.m. to noon and will be able to review

hard copies of project materials and ask questions of staff.

The preferred concept includes a small-scale amphitheater, community gardens, a nature playground, an arboretum, picnic areas, a network of trails and renovating the existing clubhouse.

Plans for the park were developed based on the city's strategic plan for recreation and parks in Rockville, considerable engagement with and feedback from the community, input from the Mayor and Council, and environmental constraints of natural features at the park.

For more info, and to see the presentation to the Mayor and Council, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter, and click the TV icon next to the Feb. 7 agenda item.

Learn more about the RedGate Park visioning and engagement process at engagerockville.com/redgate-park. ✚

City Pays Police to Protect, Serve — and Converse in Multiple Languages

¿Habras español? Rockville city police employees who speak multiple languages can now earn extra pay under a new city program that pays a stipend to multilingual members of city law enforcement.

Under the program, Rockville City Police Department employees who interact with the public are eligible for a stipend totaling \$3,120 per year if they speak English and are certified as proficient in one of the following: Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Pashto, Persian (Farsi), Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

A city-contracted vendor recently began administering tests to eligible RCPD employees seeking language certification. So far, four RCPD officers have been tested and certified, one each in German, Italian, Mandarin and Spanish. Additional officers are expected to complete their proficiency testing in the coming weeks.

"This is a tremendous benefit, not only to our officers and prospective new hires, but also to our community, as our personnel come into contact with many individuals whose native language is not English," Chief Victor V. Brito said.

More than 45% of city residents aged 5 and older speak a language other than English at home, according to the latest available census data.

The new certification and stipend program is being funded during the current fiscal year with unspent personnel funds. It is included in the city manager's proposed RCPD budget for Fiscal Year 2023, which begins July 1. While currently limited to RCPD employees, the program could be expanded to other city departments in the future.

The RCPD is recruiting lateral/certified police applicants to join the department, as well as entry-level officer candidates for the Montgomery County Police Academy session starting in July. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/278/Recruitment. ✚

Rockville Earns Win Ensuring Reimbursement When Taxpayers Are Taxed Twice

County Council Approves Municipal Tax Duplication Legislation

Rockville's Mayor and Council played a vital role in a big win for county municipalities in March, helping to secure money to reimburse incorporated towns and cities for property tax duplication collected by Montgomery County.

The County Council on March 1 unanimously approved the legislation, making county municipalities eligible for millions of dollars in reimbursements that were significantly underfunded for more than two decades.

Tax duplication occurs when the county and a municipality both levy a property tax on municipal residents to fund specific services, but only the municipality provides the services. When this occurs, the county reimburses city governments to offset the cost to the city of providing services that would typically be funded by county taxes. Under the county legislation, services eligible for reimbursement can include certain transportation and police services, crossing guards and park maintenance.

The county legislation revises reimbursement for-

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COVID-19

City Hall Reopens — What You Need to Know

City Hall has reopened and "Rockville Reports" is running down what that means for visitors.

Mayor and Council Meetings

The Mayor and Council will continue to hold hybrid meetings. The public is welcome to participate in person or virtually, until further notice.

Seating capacity in the Mayor and Council chambers is 42 people. Overflow seating will be available.

Community members attending in person who wish to speak during community forum or a public hearing should sign up using the form at the entrance to the Mayor and Council chambers. In-person speakers will be called on after those who have signed up to speak virtually by following instructions on the first page of the meeting agendas at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

Meetings can be viewed on-demand or live streamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville 11, and can be watched on Rockville 11 on Comcast and

Verizon cable channel 11.

Visitor Information

Visitors will be required to enter through the main entrance, which faces Vinson Street, but will be able to exit via any publicly accessible door on any of the building's three floors. The third-floor Vinson Street entrance was recently reconstructed to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act and to enhance City Hall security with a single entrance for visitors.

Limiting how visitors can enter and exit City Hall is also one of several provisions the city has in place to protect the health of Rockville employees and the public and prevent the spread of COVID-19. The single entrance will allow the city to provide face coverings to visitors who request them.

Face Coverings

Face coverings are optional for city employees and visitors to all City of Rockville facilities. In announcing the policy, City Manager Rob DiSpirito cited Montgomery County's "low"

COVID-19 community transmission level, as defined by a new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention tool that considers daily case count and hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area.

"The city will continue to monitor changes in public health requirements and recommendations and may need to adjust our face-covering requirements as recommendations change from the CDC, Maryland Department of Health, and for certain programs licensed by the Maryland State Department of Education," DiSpirito said.

Other Information

Rockville mandates vaccinations and booster shots for all city employees and provides frequent COVID testing opportunities.

Information about free testing and vaccinations can be found on Montgomery County's COVID-19 information portal at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19.

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Puede encontrar esta información en su idioma. Visite RockvilleReports.com y abra el menú de «Selección Idioma» de Google Translate, situado en la esquina superior derecha de la página.

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In This Issue...

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3 Addressing Flooding

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8 Hometown Holidays Save the Date

MAYOR & COUNCIL
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Rockville, Maryland
20850-2364

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Register Now: Suds & Soles 5K to Return in June

Registration is now open for the return of the Suds & Soles 5K.

The Montgomery County Road Runners Club and the City of Rockville are teaming up again to present this 5K race at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 18. The course winds through neighborhood roads and begins and ends in Rockville Town Center.

The post-race party will feature live music and refreshments, including beverages from local breweries.

The race is open to adults, youth and children, and features a tiered pricing structure offering limited slots at reduced prices. Register early and save. Race-day registration will be available only if slots remain.

For more information and to register, visit www.mcrrcsudsandsoles.org.

Proceeds benefit the Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation, Inc. and MCRRC's youth and beginning running programs. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/sudsandsoles.



City Hall Reopening

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City Hall has been closed since March 14, 2020, however, city services have been available virtually, with city employees working in person and, when possible, teleworking throughout the pandemic. Community centers, the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, Rockville Civic Center Park, and the Rockville Senior Center are open for in-person use.

For more info about the City of Rockville's response to the pandemic, visit www.rockvillemd.gov and RockvilleReports.com. 🍀



Help Make Rockville More Walkable!

The City of Rockville is developing its first Pedestrian Master Plan.

The plan will help guide the development, construction and maintenance of safe, convenient and equitable pedestrian facilities across the city.

Help envision – and design – the future of walking in Rockville.

Take our survey, engage with us and stay informed at engagerockville.com/pedestrian-master-plan



TAKE THE SURVEY
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Be the first to take REDI's upcoming business survey



Sign up at:

<https://ip.constantcontactpages.com/su/28k8tBD>



Public Hearing and Survey Provide Final Opportunities for Budget Input

Rockville's Mayor and Council begin wrapping up budget deliberations this month with their final public hearing and work session before the scheduled adoption of the Fiscal Year 2023 budget.

The budget, which covers the fiscal year that begins July 1, is planned for adoption on Monday, May 9.

The proposed FY23 operating budget of \$148.6 million is a 5.2% increase over the FY 2022 adopted budget. The general fund budget, which supports the largest portion of the operating budget, is \$93.1 million, a 7.7% increase.

The city's current real property tax rate of \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation would remain the same for FY23. All residential and commercial property owners pay this tax. Rockville has not increased its property tax rate since 1995.

Find video of the city manager's proposed budget presentation with the Feb. 28 meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. 🍀

Offer Your Ideas

- At www.rockvillemd.gov/budget, using the budget survey, in English and Spanish, before the public comment period closes at 5 p.m. Friday, April 15.
- At the public hearing during the Mayor and Council meeting on Monday, April 4.



FY 2023 BUDGET AT A GLANCE CALENDAR

- **Monday, April 4:** Public hearing.
- **Friday, April 15:** Close of budget public record.
- **Monday, April 18:** Work session.
- **Monday, April 25:** Final direction on budget.
- **Monday, May 9:** Adoption of the operating budget and Capital Improvements Program.
- **Friday, July 1:** FY 2023 begins.

For information about how to testify at hearings, find agendas, posted the week before each date, at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

Meetings are broadcast on channel 11 on county cable, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

To review the proposed budget, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget.



Bike to Work Day Rides Again in May

Trade your gas pedal for bicycle pedals on Bike to Work Day, Friday, May 20.

Registration is now open for all 12 Montgomery County pit stops, including at Dawson's Market in Rockville Town Square and Falls Grove Village Center, near Smoothie King. Pit stops will have free snacks, beverages and bicycling giveaways while supplies last, and free T-shirts for the first 15,000 people in the Washington metropolitan region to register and stop by a pit stop. You don't need to be biking to work to participate.

If you're working from home that Friday, feel free to take a leisurely morning bike ride around the neighborhood before you start the workday.

Visit www.biketoworkmetrodc.org for registration, a list of pit stop locations and more information.

Rockville's YouTube channel has a series of safety tips for bicyclists. Visit www.youtube.com/cityofrockville and search for "bike safety." Learn more about bicycling in Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling and www.rockvillemd.gov/rbac. 🍀

Return of the Robots! ... And Rockets, Reptiles and More Rockville Science Day is April 24 at Montgomery College, Rockville Campus

After a two-year pandemic pause, Rockville Science Day returns for an afternoon of rockets, robots, reptiles, chemistry, and more from noon-5 p.m. Sunday, April 24 at Montgomery College, Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee St.

The 31st edition of the free, popular event offers a chance to experience science hands-on, with science and technology-related exhibits, activities, games, and demonstrations from over 70 local organizations and businesses.

Activities and exhibits include building and launch-

ing rockets, telescopes, robots, backyard wildlife, microscopes, snakes, stream science, Civil War medical practice, coding challenges, math puzzles, chemistry in action, electric vehicles, quadcopters, archaeology mini-digs, 3D printing, and brain games.

Volunteers are needed. Student Service Learning hours are available for students 16 and older who help with setup on Saturday and exhibits on Sunday. Learn more about registering an exhibit or volunteering at www.rockvillesciencecenter.org/rsdc.

Can't Wait for Science Day?

The Rockville Science Center sponsors online science presentations the second and third Tuesday of every month. For something a bit more hands-on, the center hosts classes and engaging activities, such as a new family chess club. Open discussion periods are on Thursday evenings and STEM Activities Day is monthly on a Saturday.

Activities are held in the center's storefront at 36C Maryland Ave. in Rockville Town Square and in the Makerspace in at Rockville

Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave.

The center also hosts spring break and summer camps at its storefront home, and in schools and recreation centers. Learn more about these and other upcoming events at www.rockvillesciencecenter.org.

RSC is a nonprofit supported by the generous donations of its members and sponsors, including the City of Rockville. Learn more about supporting the center at www.rockvillesciencecenter.org/supporter. 🍀



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER: @rockville411, @rockville11, @RockvilleCityPD and @alertrockville and @RockvilleRec. **LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:** City of Rockville Facebook pages include City of Rockville; Rockville City Police Department; Fitzgerald Theatre of Rockville, Maryland; Croydon Creek Nature Center; City of Rockville Recreation and Sports and City of Rockville Farmers Market. Read more online at RockvilleReports.com.

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THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ARE HOLDING HYBRID MEETINGS. The public is welcome to participate in person or virtually, until further notice.

Meetings Schedule: Mondays, April 4 and 25 at 7 p.m., with a work session at 7 p.m. April 18. Find Mayor and Council agendas and staff reports at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

The April 4 meeting will be preceded by a drop-in session by telephone with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and Councilmember David Myles from 5:30-6:30 p.m. To participate, sign up by 10 a.m. the day of the drop-in at www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter/City-Clerk-11/Sign-up-for-Drop-in-Meetings-227.

If you wish to submit comments in writing for community forum or public hearings, email mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov by 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting. To participate virtually, follow instructions on the first page of the meeting agenda at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. All comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website. Community members attending in person who wish to speak during community forum or a public hearing should sign up using the form at the entrance to the Mayor and Council chambers. In-person speakers will be called on after those who have signed up to speak virtually.

Mayor and Council meetings are broadcast live on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

Everyone Has a Role in the City's Climate Action Plan

Rockville's Climate Action Plan provides a role for everyone to play in addressing climate change.

The plan, passed Jan. 10 by the Mayor and Council, sets forth 26 community actions and 16 city actions to reduce climate-warming pollution and foster resilience, especially for the city's most vulnerable neighborhoods.

Each person, household, business and organization has a unique carbon footprint and, with it, a unique set of opportunities. Start by calculating your carbon footprint by using the Environmental Protection Agency's Carbon Footprint Calculator at www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator or the Energy Star Home Energy Yardstick at www.energystar.gov/campaign/home-energy-yardstick. Then, establish a personal or household greenhouse

gas reduction goal.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/climate to find the city's Climate Action Plan and learn more about what you can do to help address climate change. The webpage includes ideas for reducing your carbon footprint, including walking and biking more, switching to efficient light-emitting diode lightbulbs, switching to sustainable energy, joining a community garden and adopting sustainable gardening practices, reducing waste and buying local, volunteering, and making an emergency kit to be prepared for any weather.

Subscribe to the city's "Environment and Sustainability News" email newsletter at www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters to receive news about the Climate Action Plan, seasonal sustainability tips, environmental events and program updates. ✚



CITY HALL, IN A NEW LIGHT ... Contractors in March installed new energy-efficient light-emitting diode, also known as LED, lights with occupancy sensors at City Hall. The project upgrades 325 interior light fixtures on the second floor, including 256 sensors to reduce energy costs, maintenance and greenhouse gas emissions. Funding for the project leverages a \$35,000 grant from the Maryland Energy Administration and Pepco utility rebates to work towards the Mayor and Council's goals of leading by example to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions from municipal facilities.

Mayor and Council Hear City Plans to Address Flooding

A citywide Flood Resiliency Master Plan and a program to provide property owners with grants for building improvements aimed at preventing flood damage are part of the city's proposed plans to mitigate the impacts of flooding caused by more frequent and extreme storms.

City staff presented details of Rockville's Flood Resiliency Program to the Mayor and Council on March 7. Funding for the master plan and grant program is included in the city manager's budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2023, which begins July 1. *Learn more about the Mayor and Council's budget deliberations on page 2.*

The Flood Resiliency Master Plan would identify flood-impacted areas and issues caused by more frequent and extreme storms, provide a process for working with stakeholders to prioritize flood mitigation projects, and develop a plan to improve flood resilience throughout the city. The Flood Mitigation Pilot Grant program would assist property owners through education and grants for building improvements to prevent flood and moisture damage.

The staff presentation also included a summary of the city's response to widespread flood damage from remnants of Hurricane Ida, which swept through Rockville as a tropical depression on Sept. 1.

Find the staff report and video of the presentation with the March 7 Mayor and Council meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. For information about reducing flood risk, purchasing flood insurance and making an emergency plan, visit www.ready.gov/floods and www.rockvillemd.gov/flooding. ✚

Get Involved with the City

- **Send an email** to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov.
- **Testify at a hearing** or in writing to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov or by mail to the Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer** to be on a board or commission. Find ways to give of your time and talents at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

Boards and Commissions

Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission may write to: Mayor and Council, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280, or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions.

Some meetings are canceled. Other board and commission meetings will take place virtually. See times, dates and ways to participate on the city's online calendar: www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx.

- **April 13 and 27 Planning Commission 7 p.m.** (Meetings will be held by teleconference. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details closer to the meeting dates.)

Vacancies

The Mayor and Council are seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Board of Appeals (1)
- Cultural Arts Commission (2)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (3)
- Personnel Appeals Board (3)
- Planning Commission (3)
- Senior Citizens Commission (3)

For more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions or call 240-314-8280.

Help Shape Our Community
Taxes • Community Services • Utility Rates

TAKE THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE FY 2023 Budget Survey

Public participation in the budget process is a high priority for the Mayor and Council and city staff. By completing the 2023 Budget Survey, you are providing valuable input to the Mayor and Council for their FY23 budget discussions.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget

THE FINAL SAY ... It's the final days to weigh in on the city's Fiscal Year 2023 budget. The public record closes on Friday, April 15. Until then, a community priorities survey, in English and Spanish at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget allows community members to identify their priorities, initiatives for reducing the negative impacts of COVID-19 and options for maintaining a balanced budget. Don't miss this opportunity to provide valuable input.

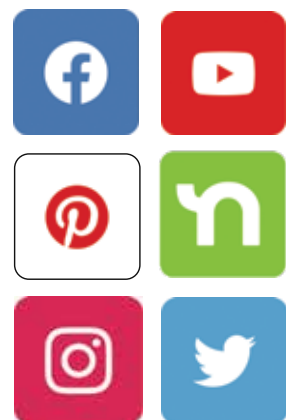
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COMPLETE LA ENCUESTA Presupuesto de la Ciudad de Rockville Para el Año Fiscal 2023

La participación pública en el proceso del presupuestario es de alta prioridad para la Alcaldesa y el Consejo y el personal de la ciudad. Al llenar la encuesta sobre el presupuesto para el año fiscal 2023, estará proporcionando comentarios valiosos a la Alcaldesa y al Consejo para sus discusiones sobre el presupuesto para el año fiscal 2023.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget

Connect with us on Social Media.



► SPEAK UP ◀

Report potential fraud, waste and abuse related to City of Rockville government services and employees.

Call 1-866-921-6714

Email rockvillemd@integritycounts.ca
Visit www.integritycounts.ca/org/rockvillemd
For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/fraud-waste-abuse.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS: Main: 240-314-5000
Police Non-emergency: 240-314-8900
24-Hour Utility Emergency Report Hotline: 240-314-8567

STAY INFORMED: The Mayor and Council meeting schedule and agendas can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil. Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting.

Summer Camps Now Hiring Leaders and Directors

The City of Rockville Recreation and Parks Department is looking for creative and energetic camp directors and leaders to work with children and teens aged 5-15 for a summer filled with fun and memorable moments.

Expand communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creative skills that are essential for success in today's world!

Morning, afternoon, evening and all-day shifts are available, and all levels of experience are welcome. Directors are required to be 21 or older and have had prior experience working with children.

Visit www.governmentjobs.com/careers/rockville?keywords=camp to apply.

Take-Back Day Offers a Way to Get Rid of Unwanted Medication

RCPD Offers Drive-Up Collection April 30; New Drop Box Available Year-Round

The Rockville City Police Department and the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office offer a safe, free and anonymous way to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs during National Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 30.

In cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Administration, city police will accept leftover — including expired — prescription drugs from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Rockville City Police Station parking lot at 2 W. Montgomery Ave. To make it quick and convenient, officers will be outside with easy drive-up and drop-off access, so there is no need to get out of your vehicle.

Illicit drugs, liquids, needles, sharps or syringes cannot be accepted, only pills or patches. All returned medications will be destroyed by the DEA.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a convenient and responsible means of disposal, keeping prescription drugs from potentially polluting our drinking water, while educating the public about the potential for abuse or theft of these medications.

Learn more about National Drug Take Back Day at www.dea.gov or call Cpl. Ronnie Crowe at 240-314-8974.

Residents can now also safely dispose of unused, unwanted or expired medication, with no questions asked, in a new prescription drug drop box that is available to the public 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, in the front lobby of the Rockville City Police Station. For more information, visit RockvilleReports.com/prescription-drug-drop-box-debuts-at-rockville-city-police-station.

Pruning City Street Trees: Don't Do It Yourself

Pruning of city street trees can only be performed by City of Rockville forestry crews or by an official city tree-care contractor. Do not prune them yourself or hire a contractor to prune or remove city trees.

The city is obligated under the Maryland Roadside Tree Law, as administered by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, to maintain trees within the public right of way. As a public agency, Rockville is regulated by the Roadside Tree Blanket Permit that is issued to the city annually.

Maintenance includes pruning, removing hazardous or dead trees, and plantings.

Tree care performed on a roadside tree without a permit, or unauthorized plantings within city rights of way, can lead to a fine or action from the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service. Rockville's Code Enforcement Division may additionally issue a notice of violation or fines.

Questions about the health or pruning of city street trees, and requests for tree inspections by the city forester, can be directed to the Parks and Facilities Maintenance Division at 240-314-8700.

Earth Month Events All April in Rockville

Find Stream Cleanups, Climate Solution Speakers, Science and Nature and More

The Mayor and Council recently proclaimed April as Earth Month in Rockville, declaring the city's support for "global and local environmental stewardship and education."

Earth Day is Friday, April 22 and Rockville has an important environmental milestone to celebrate this year. Rockville joined the ranks of hundreds of U.S. cities on Jan. 10 as the Mayor and Council approved the city's first plan for addressing climate change. Read more at www.rockville.gov/climate.

For the Mayor and Council's Earth Month proclamation, including video of the presentation, find the March 7 listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

Rockville celebrates Earth Month and the adoption of the Climate Action Plan with events through May, including the following activities, many of which are free:

Tuesday, April 5- Wednesday, April 6: Annual Montgomery County Energy Summit, in Silver Spring. Learn more at www.mcenergysummit.org.

Thursday, April 7: Sustainable Home Landscaping 101, 7-8 p.m. Virtual. Learn first steps and practical tips for creating a beautiful and sustainable home garden with Beth Ginter, executive director of the Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council. Topics will include planning and design tips, choosing plants, using natives and reducing invasives, and creating wildlife habitat. Register at bit.ly/SustainableLandscaping2022. Part of the Climate Solutions Speaker Series.

Saturday, April 9: Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup. Stream cleanup sites include:

- Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, 10 a.m.-noon.
- Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway, 9:30-11 a.m.
- Maryvale Park, 812 First St., 10 a.m.-noon.

City staff will greet volunteers. Gloves and bags will be provided. Student Service Learning hours are available. Children under 14

must be accompanied by an adult. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. To register, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/Adopt-a-Stream.

Saturday, April 23: iNaturalist Training, 2-3 p.m. at Croydon Creek Nature Center. iNaturalist is an easy-to-use citizen science app and social network that helps you to identify living organisms and record biodiversity. Learn how to use iNaturalist to identify and map local species and improve your natural history knowledge. Download the app to your mobile device for free on the App Store or Google Play before April 23. Register for course #22665 at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration.

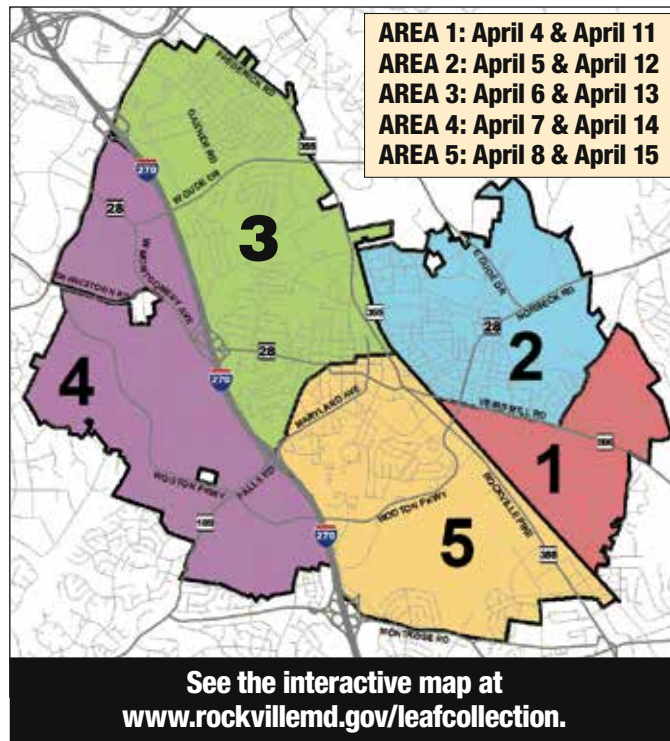
Sunday, April 24: Rockville Science Day, noon-5 p.m. at Montgomery College, Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee St. *See the article on page 2.*

Sunday, April 24: Exploring Vernal Pools, 1-3 p.m. at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Ages 8-12 \$8/\$10. Discover what makes a vernal pool and who lives in one. Hike off the beaten path to see the best vernal pools in the Hayes Forest Preserve. Wear good hiking shoes and a mask and dress for the weather. This program will be entirely outdoors. Register for course #22662 at rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Outdoor Nature Club, various dates in April and May at Croydon Creek Nature Center. \$40 resident/\$50 nonresident. Ages 9-11 (Saplings) and 6-8 (Acorns). Spending time in nature builds resilience, self-confidence and creativity. Join a nature exploration pod and spend the hour outdoors investigating and learning about nature. Dress for the weather, wear a mask and be prepared to spend 60 minutes in the great outdoors roaming the forest preserve with experienced naturalists. Meets every other week for four sessions. To register, search "Outdoor Nature Club" using the filter bar at rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Sunday, May 1: Invasive Species Pull, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Help remove invasive plant species and

continued on pg. 7...



Raking News: Spring Leaf Collection in April

The city will vacuum leaves from neighborhood curbs from April 4-15 in five collection areas throughout Rockville.

An interactive map at www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection allows residents to input their address and learn when their leaves will be collected. Unlike the fall leaf collection, which has two collection rounds, city crews make only one pass to collect leaves in spring.

Rake leaves next to, but out of, roadways, gutters and bike lanes, and away from parked vehicles. Leaves should be raked by 6 a.m. on the first day of their collection period, but no earlier than one week before the collec-

tion dates to avoid grass damage or fire hazards. Remove sticks and other objects from leaf piles. Avoid parking near leaf piles or other vehicles.

After the collection period ends, use biodegradable paper lawn bags or 32-gallon trash cans (without plastic garbage bags) to set leaves out on your recycling and trash collection day. Use alternative disposal methods such as mulching or composting. Do not dump leaves, grass clippings or other yard waste into storm drains, along stream banks or directly into streams, where they can cause blockages that contribute to localized flooding or release nutrients that lead to fish kills. ❖

Climate Solutions Speaker Series to Feature Sustainable Landscaping and a Net-Zero Energy Home

Rockville's Climate Solutions Speaker Series continues this spring with virtual presentations exploring sustainable landscaping and a net-zero energy home.

Thursday, April 7:

"Sustainable Home Landscaping 101," 7-8 p.m. Virtual. Learn first steps and practical tips for creating a beautiful and sustainable home garden with Beth Ginter, executive director of the Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council. Topics will include planning and design tips, choosing plants, using natives and reducing invasives, and creating wildlife habitat. Register at bit.ly/SustainableLandscaping2022.

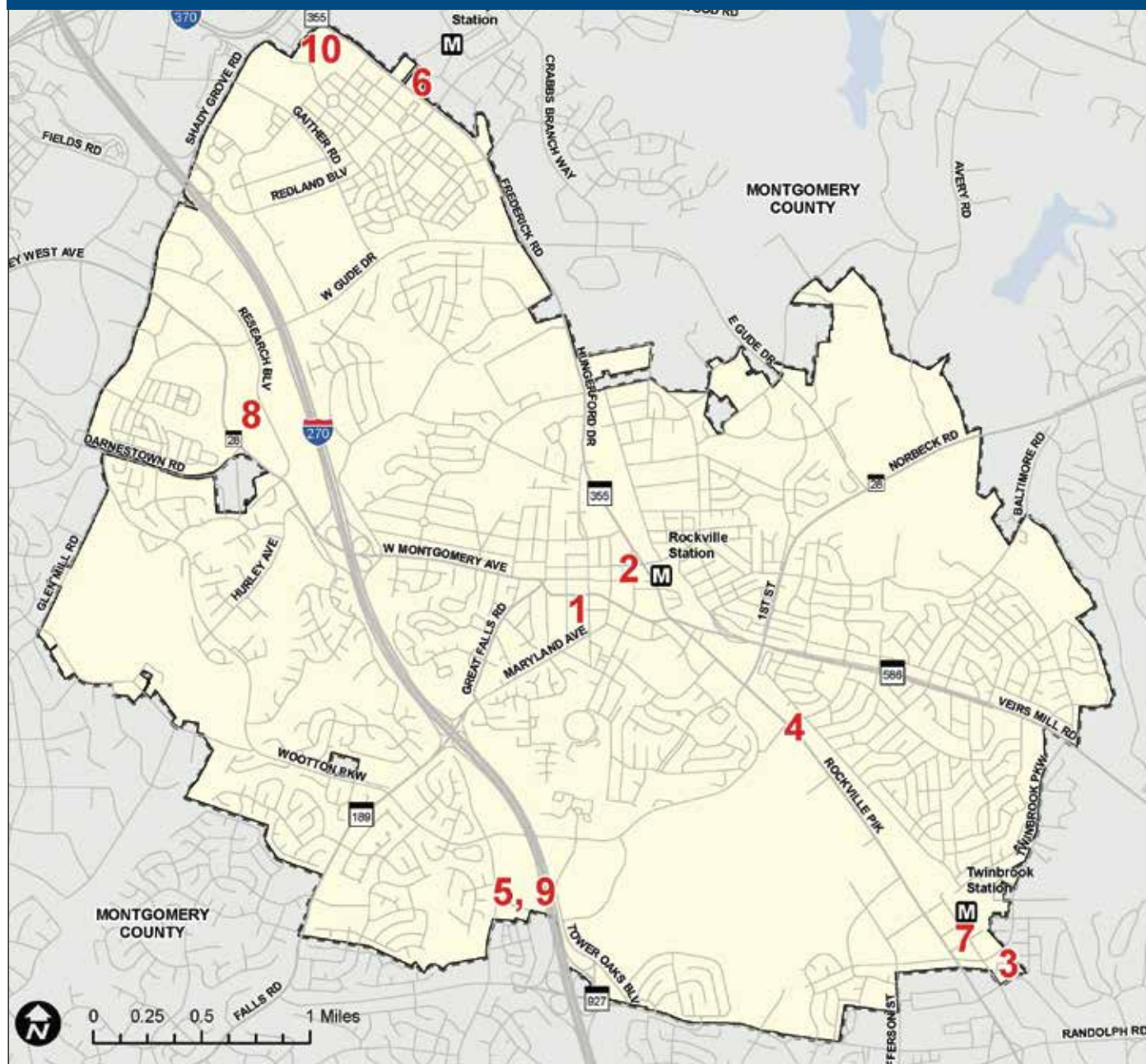
Thursday, May 12:

"Building and Living in Montgomery County's First Certified Net Zero Energy Home," 7-8 p.m. Virtual. A

middle-income family living in a 1951 Twinbrook Cape Cod remodeled their home to be 100% powered by the sun. Learn from Clark Reed, chair of the Rockville Environment Commission, how his home became Montgomery County's first certified net-zero energy home, using colonial architectural features to improve climate resiliency. Register at bit.ly/NetZeroHome2022.

Future lectures in the series will be held monthly in the fall. To stay up to date on speakers as they are announced, check the city's online calendar at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx and future issues of "Rockville Reports." ❖

Major Development Review Applications



Projects in the Pipeline

View the latest map at www.rockvillemd.gov/developmentwatch

Recent Pre-Application Submittals

The following projects are under pre-application review:

1. **22 W. Jefferson St.:** Pre-application submittal for a proposal to convert an existing office building into a multifamily residential building of 12 condominium units and to construct 17 new townhouse units. Case PAM2022-00134.
2. **198 E. Montgomery Ave. (Duball Rockville Phase 2):** Pre-application submittal for the conversion of up to 20,153 square feet of previously approved retail space into 15 multifamily dwelling units on the first floor of a mixed-use building. Case PAM2021-00133.
3. **975 Rollins Ave. (Flagship Carwash):** Pre-application submittal for a proposal to demolish the existing self-service car wash building and complete changes to parking and circulation. Case PAM2022-00135.

Applications Under Review

The following applications are in the development review process:

4. **900 Rockville Pike:** Project plan amendment for a proposed 6,000-square-foot retail center with approximately 9,000 square feet of office use. Case PJT2018-00010.
5. **11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Final record plat for one lot (for existing fitness facility) to facilitate development approved with STP2020-00399. Case PLT2021-00592.
6. **15931 Frederick Road (Lidl and The Henson at Shady Grove Metro):** Level 2 site plan application for a pro-

posed 30,000-square-foot grocery store (Lidl) and a 200-unit multifamily building with associated parking and site improvements. Case STP2022-00434.

7. **1700-1818 Chapman Ave.:** Minor project plan amendment to block B of the planned development, Twinbrook Commons, and a level 2 site plan application for construction of a mixed-use building containing approximately 440 multifamily residential units and 5,870 square feet of ground-floor retail. Cases PJT2022-00014 and STP2022-00436.

Recently Approved Applications

The following applications were recently approved and are currently, or soon to be, under construction:

8. **1800 Research Blvd.:** Project plan application proposing the development of a five-story multifamily residential building of up to 350 units with a maximum height of 120 feet. Case PJT2020-00012.
9. **11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Preliminary plan of subdivision to create 103 lots and several parcels for a mixed-use development consisting of townhomes, multifamily residential, senior housing and retention of an existing fitness facility. Case PLT2021-00591.
10. **16200 Frederick Road (King Buick Redevelopment):** Level 2 site plan application for a proposed residential development consisting of 252 townhomes, 118 condominium townhomes and a 2,000-square-foot community building. Case STP2022-00433.



Proposed building elevation of multifamily building at 1800 Research Blvd.



Proposed building elevations for townhomes at 16200 Frederick Road.

Faster, More Efficient and Streamlined Services on Tap from Community Planning and Development Services

Several changes to the city's zoning code will streamline customers' experience with the Department of Community Planning and Development Services, making Rockville's development review and permitting services quicker, and more flexible and efficient.

While modifications to the code will make the process easier for customers, they will also allow city staff greater approval authority over reuse of existing buildings, small site changes, and/or minor expansions of 5,000 square feet and less.

Improvements also allow several items that once required minor plan amendments to now go through a building permit or simpler process. Items include adding generators, bicycle racks, seating, benches, pergolas, transformers, trash enclosures, sidewalks and small storage sheds.

The amendment also includes new definitions for research and development and life science uses, as well as a new parking standard for both.

This streamlined process allows administratively amended site plans in specific areas within Rockville's main nonresidential corridors, away from existing residential communities.

It allows for minor expansions to existing buildings and minor modifications to existing sites. Allowing for limited building additions will be a benefit to nonresidential property owners, as it would provide for greater flexibility to reuse, revitalize or repurpose underused buildings, while reducing costs and time.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/2135/Development-Zoning to find out more about Rockville's development and zoning services.

SIGN UP

FOR THE CITY'S MANY NEWSLETTERS –

from environment
to our newest
volunteer news!

www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters

**ROCKVILLE TOWN SQUARE
PARKING UPDATE**

2 HOURS
OF FREE
PARKING

**NO
VALIDATION
REQUIRED**



MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/cityofrockville): See the city's progress with encouraging volunteering; the Rockville City Police Department responds to community concerns; the Mayor and Council issue proclamations for National Women's History Month and Earth Month; and a recognition of the Rockville Concert Band's 65th anniversary.

Glenview Mansion is Ready for You

The 1926 Neo-Classical Revival venue will return to hosting gorgeous weddings and one-of-a-kind special events.

Visit Glenview Mansion 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Don't miss visiting during the third week of April when the cherry blossom season begins. To hold your special event at Glenview Mansion, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/Glenview.

Did you know that the City of Rockville has park shelters available to rent? Celebrate the return of spring by hosting your next event outside. More information is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/rentals.

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery: 'Lost, Found, and Looking Forward'

"Lost, Found, and Looking Forward" will be on exhibition until Friday, May 6. The ADA-accessible gallery on the second floor of Glenview Mansion is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and closed on official city holidays.

City Academy Offers a Fresh Perspective of Rockville's Government, in Spanish

The Rockville City Academy will offer Spanish-speaking community members an opportunity to better understand how the City of Rockville operates, with a closer look at city departments and services. This session of the academy will be presented in Spanish only.

It will be comprised of four sessions connecting participants with some of the city staff who help keep Rockville running. Sessions will be held 7:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 3-12, via Webex, allowing participation from the comfort and safety of home. Topics will include:

- Understanding the City of Rockville and how to voice your opinion.
- Housing and community services.
- Community-friendly policing.
- Recreation and resources for families and children.

Registration will be open from Monday, March 14- Friday, April 22 at www.rockvillemd.gov/academy. Spaces are limited. Participants must be 16 or older. Student Service Learning hours are available.

For more information, contact Hjarman Cordero at hcordero@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8344.

'Rockville City Academy' Ofrece Una Nueva Perspectiva Del Gobierno Del Ciudad, En Español

La Academia de la Ciudad de Rockville ofrecerá a los miembros de la comunidad de habla una oportunidad para comprender mejor cómo opera la Ciudad de Rockville con una mirada más cercana a los departamentos y servicios de la ciudad. En esta sesión, la academia se presentaría solo en español.

Estará compuesto por cuatro sesiones que conectarán a los participantes con algunos miembros del personal de la ciudad que ayudan a que Rockville funcione. Las sesiones se llevarán a cabo de 7:30 a 8:30 p.m. los martes y jueves, del 3 al 12 de mayo, y permitirá la participación desde la comodidad y seguridad del hogar. Los temas incluirán:

- Cómo funciona de la ciudad de Rockville y como dar su opinión.
- Vivienda y servicios comunitarios.
- Policía amigable y comunitaria.
- Recreación y recursos para las familias.

La inscripción estará abierta del lunes 14 de marzo al viernes 22 de abril en www.rockvillemd.gov/academy. Los espacios son limitados. Los participantes deben tener 16 años o más. Las horas de aprendizaje del servicio estudiantil (SSL) están disponibles.

Para obtener más información, comuníquese con Hjarman Cordero a hcordero@rockvillemd.gov o al 240-314-8344.



Music and Shows at Rockville Civic Center Park

Rockville Little Theatre presents **"She Stoops to Conquer."**

This Oliver Goldsmith romp of mistaken identities has delighted audiences for over two centuries.

8 p.m. April 29 and 30 and May 6 and 7; and 2 p.m. May 1 and 8. Tickets are \$22; \$20 for seniors 62 and older and students.

Purchase tickets at fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/sheconquers.

Rockville Concert Band presents **"Music for an Anniversary."**

3 p.m. Sunday, April 10. Directed by Juan Gallastegui, former concert band music directors Robert Tennyson, Vincent Patterson and John Saint Amour will also conduct

musical selections to celebrate the concert band's 65th anniversary.

The celebrations will include the world premiere performance by the Rockville Concert Band of "The Year 2020," by Johan de Meij, which was rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances.

No tickets are required, however, a \$5 donation is appreciated.

Buy tickets online and learn more about performances and events at Rockville Civic Center Park: Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre; call 240-314-8690; or visit the box office, 2-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For more info, email theatre@rockvillemd.gov. ❀

'E' is for Electronic, Efficient and Eliminating Paper

Rockville to Debut eSourcing Tools for Vendors Doing Business With City Government

Rockville's Procurement Division is scheduled to debut a new gateway this month offering tools that will make it easier for vendors to do business with the city.

The eSourcing and Vendor Collaboration Gateway, scheduled to launch Friday, April 15, allows vendors to submit electronic bids and proposals and conduct procurement via an online portal at www.rockvillemd.gov/procurement.

The Vendor Collaboration Gateway will be the only means of submitting bids and proposals to the city. Hard copy and emailed bids or proposals will no longer be accepted.

Vendors will find instructions for setting up their Vendor Collaboration Gateway account and registering to access bidding opportunities with the city

via the web. A documents library within the Vendor Collaboration Gateway will offer a full user manual with detailed instructions on how to navigate the system.

The Vendor Collaboration Gateway offers vendors the convenience of a single resource for updating their information, reviewing active bid opportunities, managing contact documents and registering to receive bid notifications for goods or services they may provide.

The gateway makes the city's bidding process more efficient and less time intensive, as bidders no longer need to visit the city's procurement office to submit bids in person, saving them the cost of delivery services, paper, envelopes, printing and packaging, time and vehicle expenses. ❀

Losing Weight, Loneliness and Driving: This Month at the Senior Center

Stay home and stay healthy with free online seminars from the Rockville Senior Center in April. Register with the course number at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Learn about 60-plus programs, courses, activities and services at www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter or by calling 240-314-8800. See the "Adults 60+" recreation guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/life for more information.

Activities are free, virtual and held 1-2 p.m., except where noted.

Your Heart, Your Life Series, Session 7: *Protect Your Heart, Take Good Care of Your Diabetes for Life*

Lessons in this series provide information for understanding, skill building, self-assessment and goal setting for healthy lifestyle changes. Presented by Adventist HealthCare. Course #22032. Tuesday, April 5.

Weight Loss

Have you gained weight this winter? Join Carlos A. Martinez, director of CAM Physical Therapy and Wellness Services, for safe tips and tricks for weight loss and exercise.

Course #21890. Wednesday, April 6.

Coping with Loneliness

This workshop teaches skills for individuals experiencing loneliness. Topics include identifying triggers, developing healthy routines, self-care and coping skills, and establishing a mental-wellness plan. Presented by Lauren Newland, clinical manager for behavioral health integration, Adventist HealthCare.

Course #22031. Tuesday, April 12.

Older Drivers Workshop

How to stay safe while driving. Presented by AAA. Course #21874. Wednesday, April 13.

Oral Meds Versus Topicals or Injectables

for Musculoskeletal and Neuromuscular Conditions

Medical management of chronic musculoskeletal conditions includes a wide range of options in medications. Dr. M. Massumi of Massumi Associates will discuss examples and treatment options.

Course #20998. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 19.

Intimacy and Aging

This workshop will discuss sexual expression and attitudes towards sex as we age, including the important considerations of physical and psychological effects on individuals. Presented by Maria Khadar, director of JK House of Grace.

Course #21892. Wednesday, April 20.

Emotional Engagement 1.0: *A Pathway to Harmony and Humanity*

Address some of the embedded barriers that inhibit or sabotage our individual and community wholeness. Discuss the journey we want to pursue and some of our unprocessed challenges and emotions.

Presented by Bill Neely, chaplain and director of Getting Along Better LLC.

Course #22664. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 26.

Vertigo and Dizziness

Neurologist Dr. Omid Motabar will highlight treatment options and some of the latest tests and methods to pinpoint the cause of dizziness and vertigo.

Course #21888. Thursday, April 28.

Stress Reduction/ Meditation

Tools to focus, relax and come to a more peaceful sense of being with time for both meditation and discussion.

Presented by senior center wellness coordinator Betty Figlure.

Course #21889. Mondays, April 4-June 13. \$30 members/\$40 non-members. ❀



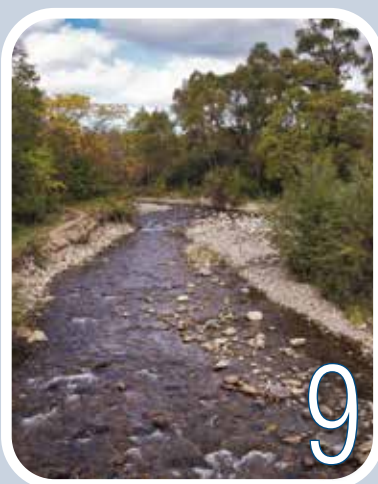
WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH? ... April is not only the month of April Fools (watch out for pranksters), it's the month for awareness of sexual assault, child abuse, internships, distracted driving, Parkinson's disease and autism. It's also a month to appreciate volunteers, couples, jazz, poetry, pecans and Earth (see page 4 for Earth Month activities).

APRIL CALENDAR

FACILITIES LEGEND:

- CC** Croydon Creek Nature Ctr., 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
GM Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
FSF F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
LP Lincoln Park Community Ctr., 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
CH Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
SR Rockville Senior Ctr., 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
SFC Rockville Swim and Fitness Ctr., 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
TF Thomas Farm Community Ctr., 700 Falls Grove Dr., 240-314-8840.
TC Twinbrook Comm. Rec. Ctr., 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.

- V** Virtual Program/Offering
F Facebook Live Event
E Earth Month Event



9



10



16



30

4,25 **V** **MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING** Participate in person or virtually. 7 p.m.

5 **V** **YOUR HEART, YOUR LIFE SERIES SESSION 7** See the article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. Free.

6 **V** **WEIGHT LOSS** See the article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. Free.

7 **V** **E** **SUSTAINABLE HOME LANDSCAPING 101** Learn steps and practical tips for creating a beautiful and sustainable home garden with Beth Ginter, executive director of the Chesapeake Conservation Landscaping Council. See article on page 4. 7-8 p.m.

8 **V** **SENIOR FORUM** An interactive presentation by John McCarthy, Montgomery County State's Attorney, and Eric Friedman, director of the Office of Consumer Protection, who will discuss common fraudulent activities, scams and other types of financial exploitation that target seniors. Course #22773. Free.

9 **E** **TRASH-FREE POTOMAC STREAM CLEAN UP** Join this regionwide watershed cleanup event to help our streams. Preregistration required. Wear closed-toed shoes and come prepared to get dirty. Ages 5 and older. See article on page 4 for times and locations. 10 a.m.-noon. **CC**

10 **ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS "MUSIC FOR AN ANNIVERSARY"** A musical in celebration of the Rockville Concert Band's 65th anniversary, conducted by music director Juan Gallastegui. See the article on page 6. Free, but tickets required. 3 p.m. **FSF**

12 **E** **NATURE SERVICE LEARNING DAY** Spend the morning earning up to three Student Service Learning hours working on projects outdoors at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Students must participate to earn hours. Dress for the weather. Register by April 5. Preregistration required with course #22673. \$30. Ages 11-15. 9 a.m.-noon. **CC**

12 **V** **COPING WITH LONELINESS** See the article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. Free. **SR**

13 **OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB: SAPLINGS** Spend time investigating nature and building resilience, self-confidence and creativity in a nature exploration pod. Dress for the weather and be prepared to spend 60 minutes roaming the forest preserve with experienced naturalists. Meets every other week for four sessions. Preregistration required with course #22678. \$40 R/\$50 NR. Ages 9-11. 4-5 p.m. **CC**

13 **V** **READY, SET, SLEEP!** Learn new techniques to promote a restful night and improve overall wellbeing. Course #22926. Free. Hybrid. **SR**

13 **V** **OLDER DRIVERS WORKSHOP** See the article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. Free. **SR**

16 **ROCKVILLE SKATE JAM** Join our first Skate Jam event at the new Rockville Skate Park. Bring family and friends for a day of fun activities, including morning yoga, a skating competition, professional demos, a build-your-own skateboard activity, food

and more. Event is free to attend, with a cost for the skateboard build activity and food. Preregistration is required with course #22763. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Rockville Skate Park, 355 Martins Lane.

18 **V** **MAYOR AND COUNCIL WORK SESSION** Participate in person or virtually. 7 p.m.

19 **V** **ORAL MEDS VERSUS TOPICALS OR INJECTABLES FOR MUSCULO-SKELETAL AND NEUROMUSCULAR CONDITIONS** See the article on page 6. 1-2:30 p.m. Free. **SR**

19 **V** **REDGATE PARK COMMUNITY MEETING** 7 p.m. See article on page 1.

20 **V** **INTIMACY AND AGING** See the article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. Free. **SR**

23 **REDGATE PARK COMMUNITY MEETING** Join anytime from 10 a.m.-noon. See article on page 1. RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road.

23 **E** **iNATURALIST TRAINING** iNaturalist is an easy-to-use science app and social network that helps identify living organisms and record biodiversity. Learn how to use iNaturalist to identify and map local species and improve natural history knowledge. Download the app from the app store for your smartphone or tablet before April 23. Ages 12 and older. Preregistration required with course #22665. 2-3 p.m. Free. **CC**

24 **E** **EXPLORING VERNAL POOLS** Hike off the beaten path to see the best vernal pools in the Hayes Forest Preserve. Wear hiking shoes and dress for the weather. Program will be entirely outdoors. Preregistration required with course #22662. Ages 8-12. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 1-3 p.m. **CC**

24 **E** **ROCKVILLE SCIENCE DAY** Noon-5 p.m. See article on page 2. Montgomery College, Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee St.

26 **V** **EMOTIONAL ENGAGEMENT 1.0: A PATHWAY TO HARMONY AND HUMANITY** See the article on page 6. 1-2:30 p.m. Free. **SR**

28 **V** **VERTIGO AND DIZZINESS** See the article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. Free. **SR**

29,30 **ROCKVILLE LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS "SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER"** See the article on page 6. 8 p.m. **FSF**

30 **LITTLE EXPLORERS** Go on hiking adventures with naturalists, play games and discover outdoor fun. Spaces limited. Dress for the weather. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Preregistration required with course #22658 (9:30-10:30 a.m.) or #22659 (11 a.m.-noon). Ages 2-5. \$8 R/\$10 NR. **CC**

30 **E** **NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY** See article on page 4. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Rockville City Police Station parking lot, 2 W. Montgomery Ave.

R = Residents • NR = Nonresidents • MEM = Member • NM = Nonmember

FOR MORE INFO AND UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS: WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/CALENDAR.ASPX

April is Earth Month

continued from pg. 4...

improve the Hayes Forest Preserve. SSL hours available. Register for course #22666 at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Saturday, May 7: 20th Annual Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale, 10 a.m.-noon at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Bring the entire family and enjoy the wonders of nature in an urban setting. Activities include woodland hikes, spring native plant sale, nature games/crafts and children's entertainment.

Thursday, May 12: Building and Living in Montgomery County's First Certified Net-Zero Energy Home. 7-8 p.m. Virtual. A middle-income family living

in a 1951 Twinbrook Cape Cod remodeled their home to be 100% powered by the sun. Learn from Clark Reed, chair of the Rockville Environment Commission, how his home became Montgomery County's first certified net-zero energy home, using colonial architectural features to improve climate resiliency. Register at bit.ly/NetZeroHome2022. Part of the Climate Solutions Speaker Series.

Saturday, May 21: Kids to Parks Day, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Croydon Creek Nature Center. The National Park Trust and the City of Rockville Department of Recreation and Parks invite the community to spend time in the Hayes Forest Preserve and celebrate Kids to Parks Day. Free drop-in activities while supplies last. Learn more at parktrust.org/kids-to-parks-day.

Ongoing Opportunities

Plog Rockville. Pledge to clean up litter while you walk, jog or run through Rockville and receive a free plogging bag while supplies last. For more details and to take the pledge, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/environment.

Self-Guided Litter Cleanup. Volunteer to complete a self-guided litter cleanup to help keep Rockville free of trash and earn SSL hours while doing it. Learn more and register at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

Weed Warrior Workdays. Join Rockville Weed Warrior Leaders for a non-native, invasive plant removal workday. SSL hours available. Space is limited. Find upcoming events

and register at www.rockvilled.gov/weedwarriors.

Looking for more to do both outside and virtually? Croydon Creek Nature Center offers programs throughout the year including camps, hikes and school programs. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/croydoncreek.

Don't forget to sign up for the "Environment and Sustainability News" email newsletter to get speaker series announcements, news about Rockville's Climate Action Plan, and tips for living greener year-round. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters and select "Environment and Sustainability."

For more Earth Month events, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/earthmonth. ✚



The IDEA
Inclusion • Diversity •
Equity • Access
Leadership Workshop

Register Now for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access Training

The city's Human Rights Commission presents its annual IDEA Leadership Workshop for students from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 23.

The IDEA — which stands for Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access — Leadership Workshop is open to students living in and/or attending Rockville-area high schools or Montgomery College. The dynamic, interactive online training will provide students with tools to recognize how prejudice, stereotypes and bias create barriers to inclusion; navigate difficult situations with an understanding of diverse populations; and create an environment of inclusion and access among their peers.

Student Service Learning credits will be offered.

For more information, or to register visit www.rockvillemd.gov/HRC or contact Ali Hoy at 240-314-8304 or ahoy@rockvillemd.gov.

Students will receive information for joining the training after they register.

Performers and Sponsors Wanted for Rockville Pride

Rockville is seeking performers and sponsors to help celebrate its LGBTQ community during the sixth annual Rockville Pride festival.

Hosted by the city's Human Rights Commission, Rockville Pride will feature a virtual event on Sunday June 5, and a celebration in Rockville Town Square Park from 2-4 p.m. Sunday, June 26.

Interested in performing or becoming a sponsor? Contact Ali Hoy at 240-314-8304 or ahoy@rockvillemd.gov.

Find more information about Pride, as details become available, at www.rockvillemd.gov/pride.

Saturdays, May 14-Nov. 19

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Corner of Rt. 28 and Monroe St.

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FARMERS

MARKET

Fruit • Vegetables • Meat • Flowers • Cheese • Bread • Baked Goods

WIC and EBT/SNAP accepted

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www.rockvillemd.gov/farmers • 240-314-8620

City of Rockville

Get Into It



Questions, Concerns or Ideas?

Reach out to Rockville City Manager Rob DiSpirito at rdspirito@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8102.

RedGate Park to Host 'A Community Gathering' for Hometown Holidays

Save the Date for the City's Memorial Day Weekend Celebration

Rockville residents will reunite with neighbors as the city's annual Memorial Day weekend festival moves to RedGate Park. Hometown Holidays: A Community Gathering will offer local entertainment, excellent food and a laid-back way to ease into summer.

The free festival at the city's newest park, at 14500 Avery Road, will feature local flavor, with two stages of entertainment by local acts, a Taste of Rockville from local restaurants and activities for kids, from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, May 28 and Sunday, May 29.

In keeping with Hometown Holidays tradition there will be no shortage of musical acts, including performances by The Nighthawks, Capital Effect, Blaggards,

Daryl Davis, Jah Works, Hayley Fahey, Moosejaw Bluegrass, Justin Trawick and the Common Good, and more. Kids performers will include KidSinger Jim and Ferrets and Friends.

Kick off your shoes and kick off summer with your feet in the sand at two sand pits, join a game of cornhole, or take a morning yoga class with Thrive Yoga from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Sunday.

The city's 78th annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday, May 30, in Rockville Town Center, will cap off the holiday weekend celebration.

Find more details, as they are announced, at www.rockvillemd.gov/HTH and "City of Rockville Hometown Holidays" on Facebook. 🍀

Tax Duplication

continued from pg. 1...

mulas established in 1996. It no longer links reimbursements to amounts derived from the property tax. Instead, reimbursements will now be available regardless of the city's funding source, providing greater predictability for city budget planning. The reimbursements, subject to annual approval by the County Council, would be at 80% of the formulas in Fiscal Year 2023, 90% in FY24 and 100% beginning in FY25.

Ahead of the three-year phase-in of the new reimbursement formulas, the County Council also approved \$5 million in reimbursements in a special appropriation to the county's Fiscal Year 2022 budget. That money will be shared by 20 county municipalities, with more than \$2.5 million for Rockville.

"This legislation is a tremendous step forward for Rockville and all of Montgomery County's municipalities," the Mayor and Council wrote to the County Council in a letter supporting the bill.

In the letter, the Mayor and Council praised the collaborative negotiation process between County Executive Marc Elrich, the County Council and municipalities to resolve the decades-long issue.

The unanimous support of the Maryland Municipal League Montgomery Chapter, whose recent efforts were led by chapter president and Rockville Councilmember Monique Ashton, was crucial to the legislation's success. The chapter was formerly led by Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, who helped lay the groundwork for the chapter's successful advocacy on this longtime priority of the Mayor and Council. 🍀

VISARTS' 10TH ANNUAL

ROCKVILLE ARTS FESTIVAL

MAY 7-8, 2022 / 10 AM-5 PM / ROCKVILLE TOWN SQUARE

130 Fine Artists & Artisans / Artisanal & Festival Food / Live Music & Cultural Performances

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

CAMBRIA

www.visartscenter.org

City of Rockville

Get Into It

EXPLORE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES WORKING FOR A GREAT CITY

we're hiring

Multiple laborer positions are available, including:

- Maintenance Workers
- Sanitation Workers/Operators
- Tree Climbers

Plus, other positions throughout city government. Offering great benefits and health care.

COME JOIN OUR TEAM!

More Information:

rockvillemd.gov/careers

SKATE JAM

SAVE THE DATE

Date: Saturday, April 16 (RAINDATE: April 23)

Time: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Location: Rockville Skate Park, 355 Martins Lane

Skating Competition, Professional Demos (Women's Spotlight), Yoga, Build Your Own Skateboard. Food available for sale.

SPONSORS:

Email skatepark@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620 for more information.

rockvillemd.gov/skatepark



Get Into It

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BACK IN THE DAY ... The Rockville Senior Center was set to open a brand-new fitness center, including a new entrance, locker rooms and an expanded fitness room, according to the April 2013 edition of "Rockville Reports." Work at the center included a 6,000-square-foot addition and a 4,000-square-foot renovation that was expected to be complete by summer. (Find some of our 60-plus programs on page 6.)