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The Choy Wun Lion Dance Troupe performs a traditional Chinese lion dance for the 2023 Lunar New Year celebration.

Join Us for Rockville's Lunar New Year Celebration

Celebrate Rockville's Asian cultures with performances, interactive displays, kids' crafts and to-go snack boxes at the city's Lunar New Year celebration.

The annual celebration will be held from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 17, at Rockville High School, 2100 Baltimore Road. Multicultural performances begin at 10:30 a.m. and include dancing, drumming, martial arts, singing and instrumental performances. Admission is free.

In its 16th year, the Lunar

New Year celebration is a source of pride for the city's Asian community and an opportunity for neighbors to learn about Asian culture. The city is organizing the celebration in partnership with Rockville's Asian Pacific American Task Force. The celebration will mark the Year of the Dragon on the Chinese Zodiac calendar.

Visit www.rockvillemd. gov/lunarnewyear for more information, including a full list of performers. •



KING'S LEGACY LIVES ON IN SERVICE AND FELLOWSHIP ... The City of Rockville honored the life and legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. in January with a week of service activities and the city's 52nd annual celebration of the civil rights leader. The celebration at Rockville High School included a film screening of "Finding Fellowship," which recounts how three racially segregated churches in Gaithersburg merged in the months following King's death. The celebration included a discussion of the film with (L-R) Rockville Human Rights Commission member Amina Shafi-Rogers; the Rev. Gerard A. Green, who is featured in the film; and Kisha Davis, the film's co-producer. Find Rockville II's coverage of the celebration at youtube.com/cityofrockville and learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/mlk.

Second Post-Election Forum to Be Held in February

Candidates, Treasurers Encouraged to Take Part

The City of Rockville Board of Supervisors of Elections will host its second post-election forum to discuss Rockville's 2023 vote-bymail election.

This in-person-only forum will be held in the Mayor and Council chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Feb. 24.

The first forum was held in January. The City Clerk/Director of Council Operations Office will accept comments by email at city clerk@rockvillemd.gov until close of business on Thursday, Feb. 29.

These meetings are the first

step in the planning process for the 2027 election. Members of the public are welcome to attend, though the board would particularly appreciate input from 2023 candidates and campaign treasurers in evaluating the elections

In preparation for the meeting, attendees are encouraged to review Chapter 8 of the City Code. It can be found at bit.ly/ CityCodeCh8 or by calling the City Clerk's Office.

For more info or to RSVP, contact Judy Penny at jpenny@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8280.

Rockville's Vision Zero Efforts Roll (and Walk and Bike) On With Projects Citywide

The City of Rockville is moving forward with projects citywide focused on making all forms of mobility safer for all users as part of the city's Vision Zero initiative.

The plan, adopted in 2020 by the Mayor and Council and discussed with them in a report by the city's Vision Zero coordinator on Jan. 22, seeks to eliminate traffic-related deaths and serious injuries.

In 2023, there were three fatal and 12 serious-injury crashes in Rockville. Of the three fatalities, two were pedestrians and one was a motorist.

Ongoing improvements associated with Vision Zero include sidewalk studies, intersection audits and Complete Streets projects.

The city has completed several sidewalk feasibility studies and has advanced the following segments to the design phase:

- Frederick Avenue, from North Stonestreet Avenue to Westmore Avenue.
- Highland Avenue, from Grandin Avenue to South Stonestreet Avenue.
- Monroe Street, from the shared-use path to Dogwood Park.

continued on pg. 7...

Tips for Walking Safely in Town Center

The City of Rockville's Traffic and Transportation Division offers the following tips for navigating Rockville Town Center's newly redesigned roadway safely as a pedestrian:

- Sidewalks can be used for travel in either direction.
- Cross the street at marked crosswalks.
- When crossing at an intersection, be mindful of motorists or bicyclists making turns.
 Pedestrians have the right of way in the crosswalk when the pedestrian signal is on.
- Walk, roll or wait outside of the bike lane.

Find more tips for safe driving, biking and walking under "Resources" at www.rockville md.gov/visionzero. Watch pedestrians put these tips in action: Visit youtube.com/city ofrockville and search "pedestrian tips."

Learn more about Vision Zero-associated improvement projects at www.rockvillemd. gov/visionzeroprojects and more about biking in Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling.

Presidents Day Brings Closures in Rockville

City government, including City Hall and most city facilities, will be closed on Presidents Day, Monday, Feb. 19.

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center and the Rockville Skate Park will be open for regular hours on Feb. 19. Visit www.rockville md.gov/swimcenter or www.rockvillemd.gov/skatepark for details.

All other city facilities will be closed, including the Rockville Senior Center; Croydon Creek Nature Center; Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers; Glenview Mansion; the Rockville Civic Center business office; and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office. Theater tickets are always available at www. rockvillemd.gov/theatre.

Recycling, trash and yard waste normally collected on Mondays will occur one day later than usual throughout the week. For more information on recycling and trash collection, visit www.rockvillemd. gov/recycling-trash or call 240-314-8568.

Parking will be free at city-owned meters on Feb. 19.

Learn more at www. rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-5000.

In This Issue...

- Zoning Rewrite Milestone
- Budget Work
 Continues
- Be an
 Energy Star
- Your Holiday Drive Generosity

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Compliance Engine System Makes Rockville Safer

The Compliance Engine continues to improve fire safety in Rockville, with a 30% reduction in unwanted fire alarm and sprinkler activations citywide.

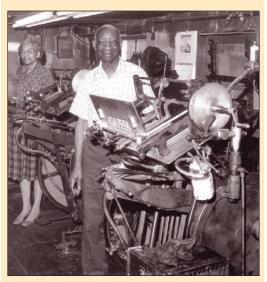
The service allows oversight by Rockville's fire marshal and Inspection Services Division of fire alarm, sprinkler, smoke control and commercial cooking extinguisher systems installed within commercial and multifamily dwellings in the City of Rockville.

This facilitates a more efficient review, tracking and follow-up process with building owners to correct deficiencies and maintain systems.

The system, which allows for accurate and timely inspection reporting and tracking of those fire-protection systems, has meant greater safety and protection for the community.

Of the 2,083 fire protection systems in the city, 1,313 (63%) are current on annual inspections. Of the 2,083 systems, 1,933 (90%) were found compliant due to ongoing inspection and testing, and prompt repairs when deficiencies were found

Learn more about the Compliance Engine at www.rockvillemd.gov/firemarshal.



Black History in Our City: Rockville Celebrates Black History Month in February

Explore our city's rich African American heritage with the city's African-American Heritage Walking Tour story map at www.rockvillemd.gov/history.

Discover activists, pioneers, places, city leaders, Black history facts and community members who remind us of the many contributions made by African Americans to Rockville and our country. Find Rockville I I's YouTube channel at bit.ly/RkvBHMPlaylist.



Help the Rockville City
Police Department

Take the Plunge

at the Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge

Friday, Feb. 2 • Sandy Point State Park, Annapolis

Pledge in Support of Rockville's Plunge Team and Support Special Olympics Maryland at: support.somd.org/team/539762.



Drive Wisely With These Tips for Winter Travel

February can bring some of the snowiest, iciest conditions to Rockville. Drive safely with these tips:

Keep your vehicle wellmaintained for the winter driving season:

Check to see that the brakes, heating/cooling system, electrical system, engine, exhaust, tires, oil, lights, defrosters and wipers are working properly. Consider installing winter or snow tires with deep treads to help keep traction.

Equip vehicles with an emergency kit:

Kits should include blankets, flashlights, extra clothes, a shovel, tow chain, matches, traction aids, flares, jumper cables and nonperishable snacks and water.

While driving in winter weather conditions:

- Always drive with your lights on to help increase visibility.
- Increase your following distance. Stopping distances are three to 12 times longer on winter surfaces.
- Come to a gradual stop. To reduce the risk of skidding, don't slam the brake pedal.
- Brake before curves and turn your steering wheel slowly and smoothly to help maintain control.
- Always wear your seatbelt. •

Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Update Project Reaches Key Milestone

The first phase of a project to rewrite and update Rockville's zoning ordinance is complete, resulting in the production of a zoning diagnostic report that will serve as a road map for the next phase of the project, known as "Calibrate."

This report includes:

- An evaluation of the zoning ordinance against the objectives of the city's comprehensive plan and recommendations for revisions to bring them into alignment.
- A map-based assessment to determine whether existing zoning standards are consistent with the built environment.
- An organization and consistency analysis to highlight shortcomings in code language and organization.
- An assessment of administration and procedures to build an understanding of processes, supplemented by interviews with code administrators.
- A review of waiver and variance applications to identify potentially burdensome or unnecessary regulatory hurdles for residents.

The diagnostic report identifies several key focus areas during the zoning rewrite's Calibrate phase, which will focus on revisions to the city's development standards and zoning districts.

Among recommendations outlined in the report is an emphasis on the need for streamlined development review processes and clearer, more understandable language in the zoning ordinance, ensuring consistency with city code.

New development and design standards will be necessary to promote housing variety while maintaining compatibility with existing neighborhoods. The report also proposes new standards for open spaces, neighborhood amenities and specific "community nodes," per the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan. It recommends a significant focus on development around high-capacity transit stations and reconsidering parking minimums in these areas.

This report will serve as a road map for the Calibrate phase of the project.

The executive summary of the report and full Zoning Diagnostic Report are available for review on the project webpage at www.rockvillemd.gov/2521/Zoning-Ordinance-Rewrite.





FOLLOW US! ... ON FACEBOOK: Including the following pages: City of Rockville Government; City of Rockville Recreation and Sports; Rockville City Police Department; Croydon Creek Nature Center; City of Rockville Hometown Holidays Music Fest; and City of Rockville Farmers Market. ON INSTAGRAM: @city_of_rockville, @rockvillerec and @rockvillecitypolice. ON X (FORMERLY TWITTER): @Rockville411 and @RockvilleCityPD. ONLINE: RockvilleReports.com.





Mayor Monique Ashton 240-314-8290 mashton@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Kate Fulton 240-314-8293 • kfulton@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Barry Jackson 240-314-8295 • bjackson@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember David Myles 240-314-8294 • dmyles@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Izola (Zola) Shaw 240-314-8297 • ishaw@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Marissa Valeri 240-314-8296 • mvaleri@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Adam Van Grack 240-314-8292 • avangrack@rockvillemd.gov

Mayor and Council to Continue Budget Work, Receive Proposed Budget in March

Community Budget Priorities Survey Available in Multiple Languages

Acting City Manager Craig L. Simoneau is scheduled to present Rockville's proposed Fiscal Year 2025 operating budget and Capital Improvements Program on Monday, March 4, followed by Mayor and Council public hearings and work sessions in March and April.

The proposed budget will be available beginning Friday, March 1 at www.rockvillemd. gov/budget.

Public participation in the budget process is a high priority for the Mayor and Council and city staff. A community budget priorities survey at www. rockvillemd.gov/budget is now available in simplified Chinese, French, Korean and Spanish, as well as English. The survey allows community members to identify their budget priorities and options for maintaining a balanced budget. Survey responses provide valuable input to the Mayor and Council for their budget discussions.

A discussion on Dec. 4 gave the Mayor and Council their first opportunity to discuss their priorities. Find video of the discussion with the Dec. 4 meeting listing, information

SPEAK UP

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

about how to testify at hearings and upcoming agendas, posted the week before each meeting, at www.rockvillemd.gov/ AgendaCenter.

The \$157.2 million budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which began July 1, keeps the city's real property tax rate at \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation. All residential and commercial property owners pay this tax. Rockville has not increased its property tax rate since 1995.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. *****

FY25 BUDGET AT-A-GLANCE

- March: Proposed budget available on www.rockvillemd.gov/ budget (Friday, March 1). A presentation of the city manager's proposed FY25 operating budget and Capital Improvements Program (Monday, March 4). Public hearing and work session.
- **April:** Public hearing and work session. Close of budget survey and budget public record (Friday, April 12). Work session.
- Monday, May 6: Adoption.
- Monday, July 1: FY25 begins. Note: Budget calendar dates are subject to change.













Fourth Graders: What Would You Do

March 8 is the Deadline for the 'If I Were Mayor ...' Essay Contest

Rockville fourth graders have a chance to meet Mayor Monique Ashton and imagine what they would do if they were mayor by taking part in the Maryland Municipal League's statewide "If I Were Mayor" essay contest.

If You Were Mayor?

This year's theme is "Inspiring Leadership in Your City/Town/Community." Students are asked to write an essay of no more than 275 words about what they would do to inspire leadership in their city, town or community and describe a project they would undertake to make others want to help make their city, town or community better.

One winning essay will be selected from each of MML's 11 districts. Winners will receive a cash prize and a citation from the governor and will be honored, along with their parents

and teacher, during an awards ceremony in late April.

The entry deadline is Friday, March 8. For more information, including contest rules and forms for submitting entries online, visit mdmunicipal.org/ mayors-essay-contest.

The Mayor and Council consider the contest to be a wonderful exercise in government studies and encourage fourth graders attending schools in Rockville to participate.

Mayor Ashton welcomes the opportunity to speak with students about the essay contest, municipal government and what it is like to be Rockville's mayor. Teachers or school administrators may email Judy Penny at jpenny@rockvillemd. gov to arrange a visit by the mayor, though a mayoral visit is not required for students to participate in the contest. **‡**

LEARN MORE ON

ROCKVILLE II

www.youtube.com/cityofrockville

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

Meetings Schedule:

Mondays, Feb. 12 and 26 at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/Agenda Center for details. The Feb. 12 meeting will be preceded by a drop-in session with Mayor Monique Ashton and Councilmember David Myles, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Share comments live during community forum. Sign up by calling the City Clerk/Director of Council Operations at 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. the day of the meeting. All comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website.

If you wish to submit comments in writing, please email mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov by 10 a.m. on the day of a community forum or public hearing.

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

Get Involved with the City

- · Send an email to mayor council@rockvillemd.gov.
- Testify at a hearing or in writing to mayorcouncil@ rockvillemd.gov or by mail to Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, III Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer** 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, III Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280, or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockville md.gov/boardscommissions.

While some meetings are canceled, other board and commission meetings will take place virtually. See times and dates, and ways to participate on the city's online calendar: www.rockville md.gov/calendar.

Feb. 7 and 28 Planning Commission 7 p.m. (To participate, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ AgendaCenter.)

Vacancies

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

- Community Policing Advisory Board (3)
- Cultural Arts Commission (2)
- Education Commission (I)
- **Environment Commission (2)**
- Ethics Commission (I)
- Human Rights Commission (2)
- Planning Commission (2)
- Senior Citizens Commission (I)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises (I) For more, visit www.rockville md.gov/boardscommissions or call 240-314-8280.



















City Hall: 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.

FEBRUARY 2024 ROCKVILLE REPORTS Page 3



Winter Plumbing Protection: Tips for Preventing Frozen Pipes

Freezing temperatures can lead to frozen pipes or meters, leaving homes without running water or burst pipes that cause costly damage to homes and infrastructure. To prevent frozen pipes:

- When freezing weather is forecast, turn off inside valves that control the water supply to outside hose attachments (known as bibs). Open the outside hose bibs to allow any water in the line to drain out. Keep the valve open. Remove and drain garden hoses and drain in-ground irrigation systems.
- Eliminate sources of cold air near pipes. Close off crawl spaces, seal drafty windows and doors, and insulate walls and attics.
- Use insulation, pipe sleeves or newspaper to wrap pipes that are exposed to cold air.
- During extended absences, set the thermostat to at least 55 degrees, or shut off the main water valve.
- In severe cold, keep water moving through pipes. Turn on the faucet farthest from your main valve to a very small, steady trickle.

If pipes freeze:

- Shut off the water immediately at the main
- Warm air around the pipes using a hair dryer. Do not use a kerosene heater, blow torch or
- Once pipes are thawed, slowly turn the water back on. Check joints for leaks and other areas for cracks that may have resulted from the freeze.

More Tips

- · Find tips for safely shutting off water and other utilities in your home at www.ready. gov/safety-skills.
- The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service provides tips for preventing frozen fire sprinkler pipes at ht.ly/H4KSE.
- Freezing water can cause rain barrels to crack or deform. When freezing temperatures are forecast, store barrels in a garage or shed, or disconnect the barrel and divert water to the ground using a downspout.
- Learn more at www.protectyourpipes.org/ frozen-pipes and www.rockvillemd.gov/water. Property owners are responsible for calling

a plumber to repair frozen and broken pipes on their property and inside their buildings. If you suspect your meter might be frozen and you pay water bills to the City of Rockville, call 240-314-8567 to schedule a service call. If the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission provides water for your property, call 301-206-4002.



Nominate a Neighbor for an Environmental Excellence Award

The City of Rockville's Environmental Excellence Awards recognize individuals and organizations that contribute to Rockville's environmental health and sustainability.

Nominations are being accepted in the following categories through 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 16 for awards to be presented during Earth Month in April:

- Outstanding Individual Environmental Stewardship.
- Outstanding Leadership in Environmental Practices.
- Outstanding Achievement in Green Building Technology/ Design.
- Outstanding Environmental Education and Academic Achievement. Eligible individuals

must live, work or study within the city. Eligible or-

sented to an individual or organization by the Mayor and Council. Nominations and supplemental materials are received by the Environment Commission, which review the materials and recommend awards to the Mayor and Council.

For more information about the award categories and guidelines, application forms and eligibility, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ environment/awards, email environment@rockvillemd. gov or call 240-314-8870. **‡**

ganizations must have an office in Rockville or must be able to demonstrate significant operations within city limits. Building projects considered as part of a nomination must be within the city. The awards are pre-

learn more about her role. What's it like heading up a community center?

As supervisor, I am re-

sponsible for intermediate

Park Community

Frederick Ave. We

questions to get to

know her better and

Center at 357

asked her a few

Yvette Yeboah-Schools grew

up in the City of Rockville's rec-

reation and parks programs. She

is the supervisor of the Lincoln

professional and administrative work involving dayto-day management and supervision of a community center. I supervise a full-time assistant, 17-20 part-time staff and a host of volunteers. I work closely with the program staff and other department staff to facilitate coordination of center usage and programming. I also work as a team member with

> staff from other departments to ensure smooth coordination of facility management and services. Since the center is open seven days a week, you may find me here some evenings, weekends and holidays.

When did you join the city?

I began volunteering in high school with Rockville's Department of Recreation and Parks. Once I was of age to apply for a part-time position, I was selected to join the city's Summer Youth Employment Program, working at summer camps, then began working during the school year. I attended Towson University, majoring in sociology and social work with a minor in art. On graduating, I was offered a full-time position with the Department of Recreation and Parks and worked my way up and, 23 years later, the rest is history.

What is it like being in charge of a community center at the heart of a historic community like Lincoln Park?

It's truly an honor to be part of the Lincoln Park community. I'm thankful to serve a proud and special place in Rockville, one with such a rich and beautiful history. As I enter the facility each day,

I walk by the many faces on the wall that poured into this amazing community, and I'm reminded of the path

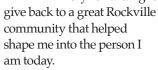
Meet A Rockville Employee:

Yvette Yeboah-Schools

vette Yeboah-Schools,

supervisor, Lincoln Park

they paved before me. Sometimes, I can't believe this is my job. Having grown up in this community, participating in the community center as a youth and enjoying the many programs, it's truly rewarding to



What does your position entail?

As a community center supervisor, I juggle many duties at once. When the doors open, I ensure the facility is safe for all who step on the grounds. Day-to-day operations include handling rentals, year-round programming, memberships, special events, open gym, registrations and anything that may come up. I wear many hats, including being a mentor, counselor, social worker, nurse, chef, teacher, afterschool childcare provider, life coach and more. With over 32,000 visitors annually and nearly 600 activities/ programs, special events and classes offered, we are often the first call for many seeking the city's services and beyond. Being here for the community is very important

Is there something else we should know about the facility?

First opened in 1968, the center is a special place for people of all ages. We offer programs for beginners to advanced. When you're here, you feel the pride and sense of community. I'm thankful for all who have mentored, supported and encouraged me along the way. To those who've worked with me at LPCC, thank you for all you gave and continue to give to this special place.

In spring, we're slated for a renovation to help us meet the ever-growing needs of the community. If you've never been to LPCC, come visit — we'd love to have you. See you soon!



FLUSH QUARTERBACKS, NOT TRASH ... Defense wins championships. A good defense in football will flush a quarterback from the pocket. And a good defense against costly clogs and sewer backups means never flushing trash down your toilet. Flushing dental floss, sanitary napkins, tampons, hair, kitty litter, and even "flushable" wipes can cause costly clogs and sewer backups. Be sure your toilet bowl is a super bowl. Protect your pipes and make sure trash ends up where it belongs — in your trash can. Because no one wants a backup at quarterback — or in their pipes — on gameday. Learn more about Rockville's flushing problem at rockvillemd.gov/toilets-arent-trash-cans.

SIGN UP

FOR THE CITY'S MANY NEWSLETTER: from environment to our newest volunteer news! www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters



PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS FROM THE COLD ... Montgomery County issues hypothermia alerts when temperatures and/or wind chill are expected to be 32 degrees or lower. Call 301-279-8000 to report a safety concern for a person or a pet. Learn more at www.montgomerycounty md.gov/OPI/alerts/hypothermia.html.

Good with a Snow Shovel? City Seeks Volunteers to Help Neighbors in Need Dig Out

Rockville is looking for a few strong-armed winter heroes to help shovel snow for those who can't manage the digging themselves.

Each winter the Rockville Senior Center looks for ways to help with snow removal for seniors aged 60 and older and individuals with disabilities who live in the City of Rockville to keep them safe and mobile.

If you're handy with a shovel and don't mind digging out an extra driveway or clearing a walkway or sidewalk, it's easy to sign up. Fill

out an application at www. rockvillemd.gov/snow removal. While there, find more information about Rockville's snow removal policies.

The senior center's home maintenance coordinator organizes the program and can connect you with neighbors in need near your home.

To volunteer or request snow-shoveling assistance, email Jerry Jones at gjones@ rockvillemd.gov, call him at 240-314-8819 or contact the Senior Center Support Services office at 240-314-8810. *****

Be an Energy Star and Go Electric on Your Next Vehicle

Buy Energy-Saving Products Feb. 17-19 and Search for EV Incentives

Homeowners thinking about upgrading an appliance, replacing a refrigerator, or even changing a light bulb, can do so tax free on Presidents

SAVE TODAY. SAVE TOMORROW. SAVE FOR GOOD. Day weekend.

On Feb. 17-19, purchases of the following energy-efficient Energy Star products are free from Maryland's 6% sales tax:

- Air conditioners.
- Washers and dryers.
- Furnaces.
- Heat pumps.
- Boilers.
- Solar water heaters (tax exempt year-round).
- Standard-size refrigerators.
- Dehumidifiers.
- Programmable thermostats.
- LED light bulbs.

Learn more about Energy Star products at www. energystar.gov. Learn more about the tax-free weekend by visiting www.maryland taxes.gov and searching "Shop Maryland Energy."

In addition, Pepco offers customers rebates on Energy Star appliances. Learn more at homeenergysavings. pepco.com/appliancerebate-program.

Washington Gas also offers residential and commercial rebates, including, for residential customers, rebates on furnaces, gas clothes dryers and standard or tankless water heaters. Learn more at washington

gas.com/rebates.

Energy assistance may be available for customers having trouble paying their utility bills. Visit bit.ly/ utilityassistance.

Find more energy-saving tips at www.washingtongas. com/safety-education/ education/winterpreparedness and additional resources at mygreen montgomery.org.

Thinking of purchasing an electric vehicle? The Montgomery County EV Purchasing Co-op works with local dealerships to highlight incentives and discounts that save customers money when purchasing or leasing a new or used electric vehicle. For more information and quick links to dealership incentives, visit www.montgomery countymd.gov/green/zev/ ev-dealership-incentives. html.

Curious to learn more about EVs? Join "Ask an EV Owner" and ask questions to long-time EV aficionados with the Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month (see each month's listing at www.rockvillemd. gov/calendar for a link). **



Climate Solutions Speaker Series Presents 'Planting Trees in a Changing Climate¹

Join the City of Rockville and Robert Shaut, director of tree operations at Casey Trees, to learn how trees contribute to a more resilient community and get tips for choosing and planting trees on your property in the latest installment of Rockville's Climate Solutions Speaker Series.

The free virtual webinar, from 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, will explore how climate change impacts trees, choosing the best trees for your property and tips on planting and caring for your trees.

Register at bit.ly/PlantingTrees2024.

Go Green When Battling the Freeze

A Mug-Full Will Suffice When You Deice Follow these tips to keep your sidewalks and driveway snow- and ice-free, while minimizing the environmental impact:

- Shovel Early, Shovel Often. Deicers work best for melting thin layers of snow or ice. Shovel first before snow hardens into ice, breaking up any icy patches you can, then add the salt.
- Use Salt Sparingly. Scatter deicer, leaving space between the grains. A 12-ounce mug full of salt can treat a 20-foot driveway or 10 sidewalk squares. Using more won't speed up melting and can harm soil and water quality.
- · Buy Early and Check Labels. Buy before a storm forecast to avoid empty shelves at the store. Check the label: While slightly more expensive, calcium chloride (CaCl2) requires less salt, works at lower temperatures and does not contain cyanide, unlike sodium chloride (NaCl, also known as rock salt). Urea is sometimes promoted as lawnfriendly fertilizer. However, the application rate for urea is far greater than the amount your lawn needs and can wind up polluting streams as runoff.
- · Avoid Kitty Litter and Ashes. While environmentally friendly, kitty litter and ashes are only marginally effective at adding traction and won't melt ice. For traction, a better option is to mix in a small amount of sand and use less salt.

Scoop the Poop, Even in Winter

Cold weather doesn't reduce the need for cleaning up pet waste. In fact, it's even more important to grab the poop before it becomes a serious mess in the thaw. Leaving it for later, or not picking it up at all, leads to bacteria, parasites and viruses in our soil and local streams

Follow these winter pet-removal tips:

- Use a small dustpan or trowel lined with a plastic bag (bread, produce and newspaper bags are great for this) to scoop poop immediately and dispose of it in the trash.
- Create an easily accessible and designated area for your pet to do their business and keep it clear of snow and ice. If you use a deicer, be sure to choose a pet-safe product.
- Make sure dog walkers or pet sitters know to pick up after your pet and have proper supplies.
- Don't like doing your duty after your doggy does theirs? Hire a pet waste service company to take care of the work during the cold months or all year.

Learn more about perils of pet waste at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/water/ education/pet-waste.html.

When Winter Weather Strikes...



For closure and snow emergency information turn to the city's website at www.rockvillemd.gov and follow the city on Facebook and X (formerly Twitter). For information about snow emergencies, sign up for Alert Rockville notifications at www.rockvillemd.gov/alerts.

3 STEPS TO SNOW SERENITY

STEP 1: Check to be sure your address is within the city limits. Find the Address and Residency Check map at www.rockvillemd.gov/maps. **STEP 2:** Removing snow from sidewalks, driveways and entrances is the responsibility of the property and/or business owner or community association. Learn rules about snow removal in Rockville at

www.rockvillemd.gov/snowremoval. STEP 3: Help a neighbor in need. Find opportunities to help shovel snow for seniors and individuals with disabilities who live near you at www.rockvillemd.gov/snowremoval.



OH, WOW! HERE COMES THE SNOW PLOW! Crews treat and plow roads in priority order.

- First are primary roads, including: Major arterial roads.
 - · Emergency routes.
 - Central business districts. Primary residential roads near
 - **Next are secondary roads,** including:
 - Remaining neighborhood streets.
 - Alleyways. Cul-de-sacs.

Dept. of Public Works....240-314-8500 Water Main Breaks/ Sewer Line Overflows ...240-314-8567

Report a Downed Tree.. 240-314-8700 Rockville City Hall..... 240-314-5000 Rockville City Police Department (non-emergency) 240-314-8900 Report a Power Outage or Downed Wire 1-877-737-2662

Cancellation Line240-314-5023 Rockville Senior Center (operating status updated by 6:15 a.m.). . . 240-314-8800



Rec. Programs

Montgomery Co. Hypothermia Alerts

MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel (www. youtube.com/cityofrockville): Rockville celebrates Martin Luther King Jr.; find out what a snow emergency is; and learn all about new traffic patterns in Rockville Town Center (see the article on page I for more details).

rockvillemd.gov/VisionZero.

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ROCKVILLE II BRINGS YOU THE WHERE, WHY

AND HOW OF ROCKVILLE TOWN CENTER'S

playlist offers tips and tells you more about the city's

Vision Zero plan to eliminate traffic-related deaths

VisionZeroPlaylist. For information about biking in

Rockville, visit www.rockville.gov/bicycling. Learn more

about Vision Zero and other Vision Zero improvement

NEW ROADWAY ... Rockville II's Vision Zero

and serious injuries. Find it on YouTube at bit.ly/

projects in the article on page I and at www.



Register Now for Spring Sports

Adult Sports Are Now Registering

Looking to connect while competing on the field? The City of Rockville's adult and youth sports leagues are now recruiting for spring play.

Spring leagues available are: men's softball; co-rec softball; co-rec indoor volleyball; co-rec outdoor sand volleyball; co-rec kickball; and co-

Game nights vary. Registration deadlines for adult league players and teams are in late

Youth sports for spring are youth T-ball, soccer, and track and field.

The registration deadline is Tuesday,

Practices begin at the end of March, with games and track meets beginning in mid-April.

Coaches are needed for teams in spring youth sports leagues. If you're interested in taking part, contact sports@rockvillemd.gov.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/ sports for league details and registration information, or call 240-314-8620.

RPAC Seeks Neighbors to Talk the Walk (and Walk the Talk)

The Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee is a resident-led city committee that meets monthly to advocate for improving Rockville's pedestrian environment, implementing the city's Pedestrian Master Plan, raising pedestrian issues with city staff and increasing walkability in Rockville.

RPAC meets virtually on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting is at 7 p.m. Feb. 8. Find a link to join with the meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.

RPAC is a key supporter of the city's Vision Zero Action Plan, which seeks to eliminate fatal and serious-injury crashes in Rockville. RPAC provides guidance to the city about roadway projects and sharing information about traffic crashes. Learn more about Vision Zero at www. rockvillemd.gov/visionzero.

RPAC is also a key supporter of the city's recently adopted Pedestrian Master Plan. RPAC not only provided insight and recommendations for the plan, but will also provide guidance related to project prioritization and the plan's implementation. Learn more about the plan and projects related to Vision Zero at www.rockville md.gov/visionzeroprojects.





Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization established to:

- Improve recreational activities. programs, parks and facilities.
- Support the Rockville Youth Recreation Fund.
- Assist with fundraising, and the acquisition and maintenance of new parks and open space.
- Purchase equipment and other amenities for the city's parks and facilities.



Please send your tax deductible gift to: 200-B Monroe St. Rockville, MD 20850 www.rrpfi.org • 240-314-8867



International Night Cultural Celebration Returns to F. Scott Theater

International Night is back with a free evening of multicultural fun and entertainment at 6 p.m. Friday, March 8, at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

International Night showcases dance performances and traditional clothing displays, with an opportunity for attendees to sample unique and traditional foods from around the world, engage with and learn the customs of people from different countries,

and discover our community's different cultures.

Are you a performer who'd like to be on the International Night stage? Limited spaces are still available. Contact Yvette Yeboah-Schools at yyeboah @rockvillemd.gov.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ internationalnight. The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre is located at 603 Edmonston Drive. 🕈

Medicare and African American Health, This Month at the Senior Center

Stay healthy, informed and entertained with seminars and events from the Rockville Senior Center in February.

Register with the course number at www.rockville md.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.rockville md.gov/life for more

information.

Medicare Coverage Options — What You **Need to Know**

Mark Gottlieb, president of Gottlieb Insurance Advisory, will help you understand your Medicare options and discuss:

- Medicare Parts A and B and what's covered; eligibility and guidelines.
- Enrollment periods: opportunities for changing

continued on pg. 7...



Mistaken Identities, Lost Dogs and Colorists This Month at the Civic Center

Victorian Lyric Opera Company presents "Die Fledermaus"

8 p.m. Feb. 23 and 24 and March 1 and 2; 2 p.m. Feb. 25 and March 3.

On New Year's Eve, Gabriel von Eisenstein is sent to jail for punching a police officer; however, he decides to evade jail for one night to attend Prince Orlofsky's lavish party. His wife, Rosalinde, gets wind of his scheme and follows him to the ball in disguise as a Hungarian countess. Adele, their maid, also feigns an excuse to be released from work that night so she can go to the ball disguised as a Russian actress named Olga. Mistaken identities abound and frivolity ensues.

Presented fully staged with full orchestra.

Tickets cost \$28, \$26 for seniors 65 and older, and \$24 for students.

Visit fscottfitzgerald. showare.com/Fledermaus for tickets and more information.

Civic Center Park Puppet Show presents "Rufus: A Story of Acceptance and Inclusion"

11 a.m. Saturday, March 2 and 12:30 p.m.

Visit www.rockvillemd. gov/registration and use course #29833 to register for the 11 a.m. performance, or course #29834 for the 12:30 p.m. show.

Rufus, a shy little dog, has lost his owner. Stuck in the rain and hungry, he meets the audience and asks for their help. He meets Dr. Tooth, a walrus dentist, who believes Rufus is "different looking." Dr. Tooth learns the importance of acceptance and inclusion, and that Rufus is special because he's different. Of course, everyone lives happily ever after. Features the world of Blue Sky Puppets.

Recommended for ages

2-10. Includes a craft project. Tickets cost \$4 for residents and \$6 for

Rockville Concert Band presents "In the Footsteps of Russian Composers"

nonresidents.

3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11. Music of the 20th century St. Petersburg School, with guest conductor Steven Wampler. Featured composers include Gliére, Prokoviev, Tchesnokov, Bernstein (for Mstislav Rostropovich), Shostakovich and Stravinsky

No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation. For more information, visit rockvilleconcertband.org.

Rockville Swing Band presents "Swing! Swing! Swing!"

7:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11. Featured vocalists are Stu Knazik and Jocelyn Knazik Phelps. With conductor Josh Frayer.

No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation.

On Exhibition at the **Glenview Mansion Art** Gallery

Meet the artists behind "The Colorists" — Holly Buehler, Sandy Fritter, Joanie Grosfeld, Jeanne Powell, Penny Smith and Kathleen Zeifang — 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 25 at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery.

"The Colorists" will be on exhibition Feb. 25-March

The Americans with Disabilities Act-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.

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@rockville md.gov. 💠



WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH? ... Don't forget that Valentine's Day is Wednesday, Feb. 14 (you can't say we didn't give you a heads-up)! Also, American Heart Month, Black History Month, National Bird-Feeding Month and National Children's Dental Health Month are some of the celebrations marked in February. Remember, this is a leap year, so February has 29 days.

February

FACILITIES LEGEND:

- Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
- Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
- Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
- Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
- Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.

 Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
- Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Fallsgrove Dr., 240-314-8840.
- Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.
- Virtual Program/Offering
- Hybrid: Offering both Virtual and In Person
- Facebook Live Event





THE GOLDEN ERA AT "THE WASHINGTON POST" Bob Levey speaks about the golden era at "The Washington Post." Register with course #29455. 1-2:30 p.m. \$\frac{1}{8}\$

2 GO RED FOR WOMEN Celebrate Go Red for Women Day, which seeks to increase awareness about women's heart health. Wear red and join Collingswood Rehabilitation & Healthcare Center's medical director of cardiology, Dr. Michael Chen, discussing what's new in cardiac care in 2024. Register with course #29707. 10-11:30 a.m.

2,3,4 ROCKVILLE LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS "THE GRAPES OF WRATH" The quint-essential American story of hope and survival. Tickets: \$22, \$20 for students and seniors at fscott fitzgerald.showare.com/Grapes.

4 FAMILIES OUTSIDE: ANIMAL SIGNS Explore the habitats of the John Hayes Forest Preserve with naturalist-led nature outings that help you and your family enjoy wonders surrounding the center. Adults and children must register; all children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 3 and older. Dress for the weather. Register with course #30240. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

5 • ARCTIC DISCOVERIES: POLAR BEARS 101 Meet Alaska Zoo's resident polar bears and discover these amazing animals through an up-close encounter at the polar bear habitat. Learn how these unique animals thrive in an Arctic environment and what adaptations make them the ultimate survivors. Presented by the Alaska Zoo. Register with course #29573. 2-3 p.m.

6 VALENTINE DESIGN The history and art behind Valentine's Day cards. View vintage cards and learn about basic elements of art and principles of design. Presented by Central Michigan University's Museum of Cultural and Natural History. Register with course #29568. 11 a.m.-noon.

T ESTATE PLANNING AND ELDER LAW ESSENTIALS Lead attorney Stephen Elville, of Elville and Associates, answers questions about estate planning and elder law: wills and trusts, powers of attorney, advance directives, asset protection, keeping plans up to date, and more. Held in coordination with Sunrise of Rockville. Register with course #29749. 10 a.m.-noon.

LITTLE EXPLORERS Is your little one curious about nature? Join a naturalist for crafts, hands-on sensory activities, games, stories, hikes and more, all with a nature theme. Preregistration required with course #30233 (Feb. 7) and #30234 (Feb. 17). Ages 2-5. 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

7 W ASK AN EV (ELECTRIC VEHICLE) OWNER Join EVADC on the first Wednesday of each month for the online Ask An EV Owner event. Are you shopping for an electric vehicle? Do you have questions about your new EV? Or are you just curious about EVs? If you answer yes to any of these questions, this event is for you. 7:30-8:30 p.m.

PAINTING WITH CATHY: DAZZLING PICTURE FRAME Instructor Cathy Pasquariello brings the instructions and all the supplies. No painting experience required. Hand paint and decorate a 4-by-6-inch frame with sequins and sparkles. Register with course #29468. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. §

8 H MEDICARE COVERAGE OPTIONS: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW See article on page 6. Register with course #29776. 1-2:30 p.m.

SCIENCE LIVE! THE DIFFERENCE A DREAM MAKES In celebration of Black History Month, the Don Harrington Discovery Center highlights the many contributions Black scientists have offered the world. Register with course #29567. 1-2 p.m.

9 NATURE AFTER DARK Grab a date and join us to celebrate Valentine's Day. From casual flybys to mating for life, animals have developed intriguing and sometimes weird mating rituals. Enjoy wine





and snacks while looking at dating, mating and procreating in the animal world. Weather permitting, this program will take place around a campfire. Ages 21 and older. 6:30-8 p.m. ()

10 SUPERB OWL SATURDAY Before cheering your favorite team, why not give a hoot for some superb owls? Learn all about these perfectly adapted nighttime predators, get up close and personal with our owl ambassador, Cricket, and dissect an owl pellet. Preregistration required. Register with course #30244. Ages 6-12. 1-2 p.m. (f)

11 ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS "IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF RUSSIAN COMPOSERS" See the article on page 6. 3-4 p.m. (\$\frac{1}{3}\$)

11 ROCKVILLE SWING BAND PRESENTS "SWING! SWING!" See the article on page 6. 7:30-8:30 p.m.

13 VALENTINE'S DAY FLOWER ARRANGING Learn basic floral design during a fun-filled hour hosted by Flowered. Make and take a beautiful arrangement of locally grown flowers, foraged greenery and store-bought flowers in a small mason jar. All materials provided. Register with course #29508. 1-2 p.m. (1)

14 WILL ADAMS, FIDDLER OF KEN-GAR Will Adams had deep roots in the Black communities of Montgomery County, from Sandy Spring to Norbeck to Ken-Gar. In 1953, he was recorded by folklorist Mike Seeger (half-brother of Pete Seeger). Adams' family history offers a glimpse of African American life, from slavery to the mid-20th century. Register with course #29562. 2-3 p.m.

15 AFRICAN AMERICAN TRAILBLAZERS Examine the contributions of African American pioneers in pro football, beginning in 1904 with the signing of Charles Follis, to modern-day players and coaches. Presented by the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Register with course #29570. 1-2 p.m.

16 MANAGING STRESSORS Learn how to improve your emotional awareness, reactions and self-care with Dr. Swanzey-Mahon, a licensed Maryland psychologist. Register with course #29751. 10-11:30 a.m.

17 LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION Organized in partnership with Rockville's Asian Pacific American Task Force. *See the article on page 1.* Rockville High School, 2100 Baltimore Road. Free. 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

17 THE LANTERN FESTIVAL Featuring dance, music and performances, a magic show and more. This family-friendly event is organized/hosted by the Rockville Sister Cities Corporation in partnership with WQER 96.7 FM, the Asian American Chamber of Commerce and the Chinese Culture Institute. 1-4 p.m.

21 H AFRICAN AMERICAN HEALTH PROGRAM See the article on this page. Register with course #29752. 10-11:30 a.m.

23,24,25 VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY PRESENTS "DIE FLEDERMAUS" See the article on page 6.

26 WHO INVENTED THAT? VULCANIZED RUBBER AND SAFETY PINS Who created the safety pin or that crispy potato chip? Register with course #29476. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

28 WILLS AND ESTATES: LIVING WILLS Looking for resources? The Montgomery County Office of the Register of Wills will provide information and answer questions. Register with course #29811. 10-11:30 a.m. 🔐

 $R = Residents \cdot NR = Nonresidents \cdot M = Member \cdot NM = Nonmember$

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

Senior Center Offerings This Month *continued from pg. 6...*

- plans and late enrollment periods.
 Medicare Part D, prescription drug coverage: How plans work and how to
- determine the best plan/cost for you.Medicare supplements and Medigap
- Medicare Advantage plans: Reasons, advantages and disadvantages of joining, costs, and dual-eligible plans for those on Medicare and Medicaid.

Gottlieb will also address Medicare Savings and the low-income subsidy program, which assists with services and medications.

Register with course #29776. 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 8. Free. Hybrid.



African American Health Program

The African American Health Program's mission is to eliminate health disparities and improve the lifespan of African Americans and people of African descent in Montgomery County. AAHP will provide an overview of its senior program.

Register with course #29752. 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 21. Free. Hybrid. •

Vision Zero Efforts Roll On

continued from pg. 1...

• Nelson Street, from the shopping center to Beall Avenue.

A second group of sidewalk feasibility studies set to begin this spring and includes:

- Carr Avenue, from Forest Avenue to Luckett Street.
- Charles Street, from McArthur Drive to the road terminus.
- Croydon Avenue, from Park Road to McArthur Drive.
- Gail Avenue, from Lewis Avenue to Veirs Mill Road.
- Woodland Road, from Virginia Avenue to North Horners Lane.
 For more information, including a

form for requesting new sidewalks, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/sidewalks.

The city also recently completed several intersection safety audits and is in the process of making improvements to intersections at:

- East Gude Drive and Taft Court.
- Edmonston Drive and Lewis Avenue.
- Wootton Parkway at Fleet Street, at Seven Locks Road and at Preserve Parkway.

The next round of studies and improvements includes intersections at East Gude Drive and Rothgeb Drive; East Jefferson Street and Rollins Avenue; and West Gude Drive at Research Boulevard, Piccard Drive and Gaither Road.

continued on pg. 8...

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Your Adventure Awaits with Rockville's 2024 Summer Camps

Rockville's 2024 summer camp season will be here before you know it and it's almost time to plan your adventure!

Find the "Summer Camps 2024" guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/life. Don't wait to start your kids' adventures and give them memories and stories to last a lifetime.

Registration opens at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 15 at www.rockvillemd. gov/registration.

full-day and extendedday hours at local elementary schools and



Adventure Camps will have full- and half-day options, and will be held at neighborhood park locations throughout Rockville.

Summer Blast and Park Adventure camps both welcome children aged 5-12 and run from Monday, June 24 until mid-August. Park Adventure features swimming, field trips and a variety of games, crafts, water activities and outdoor playtime.

Specialized camps include cooking, drama, STEAM, gymnastics and art. New pottery camps and basketball camps have been added. Teens can earn Student Service Learning hours in in-service learning camps or take daily trips with our Teens on the Go camps.

College and high school students aged 16 or older who are looking to refine their leadership skills can apply for summer camp positions at www.rockvillemd.gov/careers.

Rockville's camp staff are chosen for their enthusiasm, passion and experience in working with children. All camps are licensed by the state of Maryland and follow federal, state and local health and safety guidelines.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/camps for more information and view the "Summer Camps 2024" guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/life.

60-Plus? Make Friends and Learn Something New This Spring at the Senior Center

Rockville is springing the 60-plus crowd forward into warmer weather with its packed 2024 spring guide, full of programs, courses and events coming for Rockville's seniors.

"Adults 60+" will be available online at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide and in print beginning Friday, Feb. 2 at the Rockville Senior Center.

The guide outlines activities, such as health, fitness, events, classes, programs and services, that are available at the Rockville Senior Center,

- Cooking classes with Chef Alba, where you learn how to cook a meal like a pro (even if
- Crafty projects to bring some beauty to your home, whether painting a lemonade pitcher, personalizing a welcome mat or learning
- Trips near and far (some of which you can take from the comfort of your favorite chair).
- Going from computer neophyte to digital native with expert tuition.
- Getting fit and healthy, whether ballroom dancing or sampling the senior center's numerous fitness programs, from yoga to car-

Registration for classes and programs begins Tuesday, Feb. 27 for senior center members and Thursday, Feb. 29 for general registration.

Register online at www.rockvillemd.gov/ registration or in person at City Hall, III Maryland Ave., or the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. Learn more about the senior center at www.rockvillemd.gov/ seniorcenter.

Your Generosity Was on Display During 2023 Holiday Drive

More than 100 people volunteered and 147 individuals and organizations that donated delivered a brighter Thanksgiving and Christmas for those in need in Rockville through the 2023 Holiday Drive.

Thirty-one organizations and individuals will be recognized with certificates and plaques based on their level of donations.

Donors receiving certificates recognizing their kindness are: Astor Sanders Corporation; Stephanie Beckett; Marika Brown; Burke Legal, LLC; Laurel Nikol and Dana Keoki Jackson; Aileen Klein; Howard and Joanne Lewis; Rodney and Evonne Ludema; Raymond James Global Account; Susan Reinsch; Joe Roediger; Kristina Sullivan; United Bank, Rockville branch; Vanguard Marketing Corporation; Wealth Tea, Inc.; ISS Corporate Solutions; Apex Companies; and the Julius West Middle School Student Government Association.

Distinguished donors receiving plaques are: Kaye A. Craft; Christopher Kern; Bridget Donnell Newton and Frederick W. Newton; Loren J. Scherbak; Nancy Taylor; Sandra Yerkes Trust; Faith United Methodist Church; Robert Frost Middle School; and Shady Grove Medical Center.

The 2023 Holiday Drive raised a total of \$40,097 in combined money and in-kind donations (which included gift cards worth \$3,375). This year, the drive helped 694 families at Thanksgiving, and 492 families, with 1,279 children, during the December holiday season.

Tax-free donations to the Holiday Drive are accepted year-round at bit.ly/ HolidayDriveDonate. *



Free, Reconditioned Bikes for TERRIFIC Kids

Preregister by Friday, Feb. 6

Rockville has outstanding kids, and every T-E-R-R-I-F-I-C kid needs a bike. How do you prove you're TERRIFIC? Show us you're Trustworthy, Earnest, Respectful, Responsible, Involved, Fair, Industrious and Caring!

The TERRIFIC challenge gives free bikes to Rockville residents in grades 1-5 who fulfill six good deeds, such as volunteering with a charity, picking up litter in a public place or helping someone who is sick or elderly. Due to the limited number of bicycles, participants must

preregister for the free program by Friday, Feb. 16.

Register for course #29553 at www.rockville md.gov/registration.

Selected participants will be emailed information by Friday, March 1 detailing how to track and submit their good deeds.

For questions or more information, call 240-314-

Do you or someone you know have a bike to donate? Email info@rockvillebike hub.org or visit www. rockvillebikehub.org for more information.

Connect with us on Social Media.

















Vision Zero Efforts Roll On

continued from pg. 7...

Additionally, Rockville received a federal grant from the Safe Streets and Roads for All program to complete intersection safety audits for 30 intersections in the city.

In December, the city completed a feasibility study for a shared-use path along Scott and Veirs drives, between the city boundary and Wootton Parkway, with a connection to the Carl Henn Millennium Trail. Find the study and more information about other Vision Zero-related improvements at www.rockvillemd.gov/ visionzeroprojects.

Ongoing projects include a Complete Streets Feasibility Study to identify potential improvements for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users along Mannakee Street; a study to determine a preferred alignment for bicycle facilities along Martins Lane from Mannakee Street to North Washington Street; and new guidelines for the installation of marked crosswalks and other pedestrian crossing improvements.

Find the latest Vision Zero report and video of its presentation with the Jan. 22 Mayor and Council meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/ AgendaCenter.

Learn more about Vision Zero at www.rockvillemd. gov/visionzero.



Acting City Manager: Craig L. Simoneau Director of Communication: Katherine Kirk-Dantzler Asst. Director of Communication: Sean Sedam Public Information Specialist: Cliff Cumber

Web and Digital Manager: Nick Kanary Graphics and Printing: Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell, Lori Russler Rockville II: Hagop Balekjian, Adrian Zlotescu Social Media and Digital Engagement: Becca Brown

Rockville Reports is the official publication of the City of Rockville, III Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. It is delivered to all homes and businesses within Rockville's city limits. Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 240-314-8100; TTY 240-314-8137. Have an idea for "Rockville Reports"? Email pio@rockvillemd.gov.



BACK IN THE DAY ... The Mayor and Council on Dec. 9, 1991 discussed advisory questions about "whether the terms of office for the Mayor and Council should be increased from two to four years and whether a limitation should be placed on the number of terms an elected official may serve," reported the Feb. 7, 1992 edition of "Rockville Reports." The previous November, Rockville voters indicated that they did not favor four-year terms but supported term limits. The city eventually moved to four-year terms, beginning with the 2015 election. There are no term limits.

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