



Rockville Reports

JULY/AUGUST 2022 • VOL. 67 #7



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A Blast of Summer: Fireworks Return to King Farm for Independence Day

A Rockville tradition, the city's annual Independence Day celebration, returns to King Farm on Monday, July 4 with music, fireworks, food and fun.

Hosted by the Mayor and Council, the celebration will once again be held at the 26-acre Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park, 1800 Piccard Drive, in King Farm, which offers easy access and ample free parking, with convenient exits within a short walk of the fireworks viewing areas.

The celebration, now in its sixth year at Stepanek Park following a pandemic pause, includes live music by Vertigo Red at 7 p.m., food vendors and a fabulous 20-minute-long fireworks display at 9:15 p.m.

There is no rain date. The entertainment and fireworks can be viewed from the park grounds. Guests are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs, food and nonalcoholic beverages.

Parking will be available in lots on Shady Grove and Gaither roads and Piccard Drive, near the park. Rockville police will guide traffic to and from the designated lots before and after the event.

To prepare for the celebration, there will be limited access to other parts of the park from Saturday, July 2 through Tuesday, July 5. The Rockville Dog Park at Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park will be closed from 7 a.m. Saturday, July 2 until 11 a.m. Tuesday, July 5. The fireworks safety zone, which includes the football fields, tennis courts, playground and parking lots, will be closed from 7 a.m. Sunday, July 3 through 11 a.m. Tuesday, July 5.

For parking and general information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/independenceday, email specialevents@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620. 🍀

Fox 5 Zip Trip Comes to Rockville on July 8

The Fox 5 morning show will bring its Zip Trip live broadcast to Rockville Town Square, Friday, July 8 to highlight Montgomery County and the City of Rockville.

The roving report highlights a different location with a live broadcast each week.

"The season will bring out our morning show talent to areas across the DMV," reporter Sierra Fox said. "We've got some familiar favorite segments, plus new ones up our sleeves."

Residents should be aware the



setup will begin at 4 a.m. The live broadcast will be from 6 a.m.-11 a.m. The square will be cleared by noon. No roads will be closed for the event.

Go to www.fox5dc.com/news/fox-5s-zip-trips-2022-everything-you-need-to-know for more info. 🍀

Rockville Welcomes Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisor to City Leadership

Tyree Davis IV joined the City of Rockville in May to help further the Mayor and Council's priorities of establishing equity and inclusion as shared values throughout the community and the City of Rockville organization.

Davis' formal title is "Advisor to the City Manager for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion." This new position is the first of its kind in Rockville government and will be part of the City Manager's Office, reporting to City Manager Rob DiSpirito.

Davis joined the City of Rockville on May 31, working virtually as he transitioned from Missouri to Maryland. His first day in person at Rockville City Hall was Wednesday, June 8.

"Rockville Reports" asked him about the new role. (*This article has been edited for length. See RockvilleReports.com for the full text.*)

What did you do before joining the city?

I served as the community diversity and equity director at Community Partnership of the Ozarks, a leading nonprofit in Springfield, Missouri, that focuses on facilitating and promoting the

building of resilient children, healthy families, strong neighborhoods and communities through collaboration, programing and resource development.

What is your mission, or what are your goals in this position?

To engage community stakeholders and establish equity and inclusion as shared values across the community and the

City of Rockville as an organization. Some of the ways this work is done is by developing, managing and monitoring Rockville's diversity, equity and inclusion policies and actions, and serving as a liaison for the city with community partners, while also being a change agent who provides leadership and vision to equity and inclusion efforts within the greater community and Rockville.

What else do we need to know?

I love learning about people, so don't hesitate to reach out to me at tdavis4@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8112. I look forward to learning more about the community and how we can make it more equitable together. 🍀



Tyree Davis IV

Rockville City Hall Election Ballot Box

A drop box is installed at Rockville City Hall to accept ballots until 8 p.m. Tuesday, July 19 for Maryland's upcoming gubernatorial primary election.

To vote by mail, you must request a mail-in ballot from the state Board of Elections at voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/OnlineMailinRequest or from the Montgomery County Board of Elections at www.777vote.org.

Requests for mail-in ballots for the gubernatorial primary must be received by Tuesday, July 12.

Mail-in ballots must be postmarked or placed in a designated ballot drop box by 8 p.m. July 19 for the primary



Maryland makes it easy to drop off your ballot in Rockville.

election.

To vote in person on election days, vote at your assigned polling place. Note that Rockville City Hall is not an in-person polling location.

Find more information about the 2022 gubernatorial election at www.elections.maryland.gov. 🍀

July Fourth in Rockville

City government will be closed Monday, July 4 for Independence Day.

The following city facilities will be closed: City Hall; Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers; the Rockville Senior Center; Croydon Creek Nature Center and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and box office, which are closed Mondays; Glenview Mansion and the Rockville Civic Center business office.

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will close at 6 p.m. Find summer hours for individual swim center facilities at www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter. The Rockville Skate Park will be open.

Recycling and trash collections 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 July 4.

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

Rockville's Independence Day Celebration, featuring fireworks, will be held 7-10 p.m. at Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park, in King Farm. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/independenceday. 🍀

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
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Rockville, Maryland
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Mayor and Council Act to Protect Renters from Excessive Rent Hikes

In a move to protect renters, the Mayor and Council adopted 0.4% as the Voluntary Rent Guideline for 2022.

The voluntary rent guidelines became effective in February. It encourages landlords to hold rent increases to the lowest level possible.

"The ongoing pandemic has placed extraordinary economic pressures on landlords, but renters are also faced with extreme challenges," City Manager Rob DiSpirito said. "We must all work together during this crisis."

The voluntary rent guidelines system provides a baseline amount for rent increases that is based on the Bureau of Labor Consumer Price Index for rent of primary residences in the metropolitan region around Washington, D.C.

Questions about the rent guidelines can be directed to the Department of Housing and Community Development's Housing and Neighborhood Services Division at 240-314-8300.

For more on Rockville's services for landlords and tenants, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/259/Landlord-Tenant-Complaints.

Rental License Applications Move to Online-Only Form

Applicants for rental licenses must now use an online form to make their applications. Print applications are no longer accepted. This is to improve convenience for customers and to be consistent with other electronic processes.

The application is for the establishment or renewal of a single-family rental property, including detached dwellings, townhomes or condominiums.

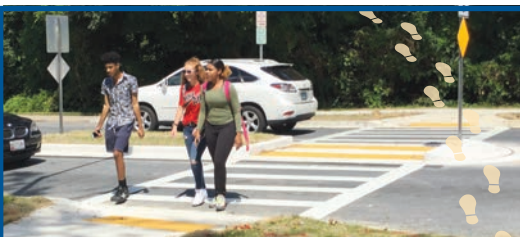
To find the application form, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/257/licenses and scroll to the bottom of the list on that page. For questions, please call 240-314-8200.

Need Help Paying Utility Bills?

The City of Rockville has partnered with the state of Maryland to offer eligible customers financial relief on their water bills through the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program.

To apply for LIHWAP assistance, call 1-800-332-6347 or visit dhs.maryland.gov/office-of-home-energy-programs/low-income-household-water-assistance-program. Funding is limited and applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/utilitybilling.



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



Apply Now for Project Funding That Benefits Low- and Moderate-Income Households

The City of Rockville is now accepting online applications for an anticipated \$263,000 in federal Community Development Block Grant funding for the fall of Fiscal Year 2024.

The Department of Housing and Community Development will host two technical assistance sessions, 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, July 13 and 11 a.m.-noon, Tuesday, Aug. 30, to walk potential applicants through the process and answer questions.

The CDBG program is a federal grant for housing and community development projects that benefit low- and moderate-income individuals, and provides

grants to housing providers for housing and community development projects that benefit low- and moderate-income households or neighborhoods.

Fiscal Year 2024 grants will fund projects from July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024. Online application must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 30.

Application instructions and the online application can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/942/Community-Development-Block-Grant.

Contact Allison Hoy at 240-314-8304 or ahoy@rockvillemd.gov for more information. ✚

Mayor and Council to Consider Radon Testing, Energy Disclosure for Home Sales

The Mayor and Council in July are expected to introduce an ordinance to apply a county law, requiring home sellers to conduct radon testing and disclose details of the home's energy use, to home sales in the city.

The law requires the seller to provide the buyer with the results of radon tests conducted less than a year before the sale date of a single-family home or townhome. Units that are part of a condominium or a cooperative housing corporation are exempt

from the county law. The requirement would provide prospective City of Rockville residents access to the same important home health and energy information they would receive when purchasing a home in other parts of Montgomery County.

Introduction of the ordinance is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 18. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for more information when the agenda is posted several days before

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A LEGACY OF PAVING THE WAY ... The city's Department of Public Works held a dedication ceremony on June 16 for their fleet's newest machine: a paver dedicated to the life and legacy of Wayne Butler Jr., a public works streets crew supervisor who died in February. Wayne's father, Wayne Butler Sr., is a long-time team member of Rockville's Recreation and Parks Department. The paver, which has been inscribed with Wayne Jr.'s name, is a symbol of his commitment to Rockville, and the people living in it. City Manager Rob DiSpirito joined Wayne Jr.'s co-workers (pictured) in remembering him as a hard-working, committed member of the City of Rockville team. For more photos of the ceremony, follow the City of Rockville on social media.

Help Put a Halt to Hydrant Water Heists

Stealing Water Can Damage Hydrants, Hamper Firefighting

Stealing water from fire hydrants is a crime that can put homes and lives in danger and can lead to big costs for the city.

Rockville has 1,407 fire hydrants and spends a good deal of time and money ensuring they are in working order, so that they're ready in case of an emergency. The hydrants provide water flow that the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service relies on to operate hoses when fighting a fire. Illegal hookups can damage hydrants, reducing water flow and jeopardizing lives.

While ensuring hydrants are operational is important and costly, stealing water can also be costly for thieves, who may face fines if they are caught.

It is common for work trucks to stop by a hydrant,



connect a hose and fill a water tank. The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, which provides water service to about 30% of the city, leases meters that allow users to hook up to their water

system without incurring a sewer charge. The city does not lease meters and does not allow outside use of its hydrants. Unauthorized use of a public or private fire hydrant is a crime.

If you suspect water theft, report it to the City of Rockville's public works 24-hour emergency line at 240-314-8567. Be sure to provide the hydrant's location and a vehicle description. Reports can be made anonymously.

WSSC offers additional information about water theft at wsscwater.com/waterteft. ✚



Peace Day Gathering

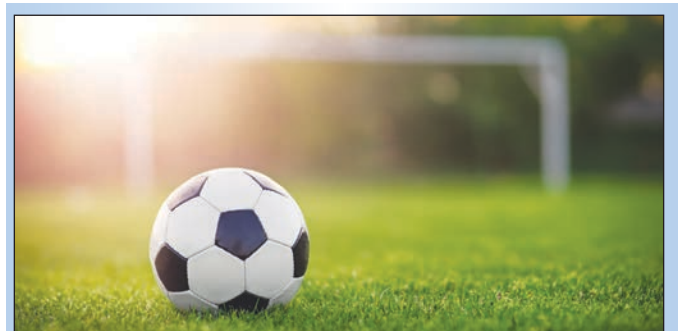
July 17, 2022
11 am - 12:30 pm
Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park
Rockville, MD

Celebrating Mattie's birthday & peace legacy!

City, County & State Peace Day Proclamations	Community mosaic activity - purpose & fun for all ages
Symbolic sharing of upcoming Eternal Flame of Hope	Cupcakes & conversation all in celebration... of peace!

#MakePeaceTheNews Rockville KINGFARM #PeaceMatters





PLAY 'THE BEAUTIFUL GAME' ON BEAUTIFUL NEW COURTS ... The Mayor and Council cut the ribbon to open two new soccer courts at Welsh Park on Wednesday, June 29.

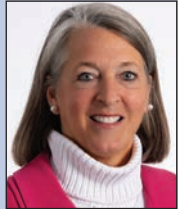
The courts are the first dedicated soccer courts of their kind in Rockville. They are adjacent to the park's tennis courts, and Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, at 355 Martins Lane.

In addition, on the same day, the Mayor and Council dedicated soccer goals — which were funded by the Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation — within Maryvale Park, which is the practice location for the Latino Youth Development program's soccer program.

Find out more about Rockville's recreation centers and parks at www.rockvillemd.gov/1219/Recreation-Centers-Parks, the foundation at www.rrpfi.org, and the Latino Youth Development program at www.rockvillemd.gov/2073/Latino-Youth-Development-Services.



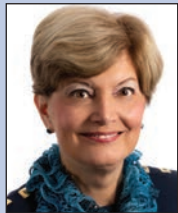
WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING? Not only does July recognize American independence, it marks National Parks and Recreation Month (so enjoy one of Rockville's 67 parks and numerous summer programs and see the article on page 6). If eating out is your thing — say while you're in a Rockville park — July also celebrates baked beans, hot dogs, grilling, ice cream and ... picnics! August celebrates American Artist Appreciation Month, Family Meal Month and — sorry, kids! — National Back-to-School Month.



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Councilmember Mark Pierzchala
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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, July 11 and 18, and Aug. 1, at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

The July 18 and Aug. 1 meetings will be preceded by drop-in sessions by telephone with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, and councilmembers Beryl L. Feinberg in July and David Myles in August, 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-Dropin-Meetings-227.

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

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.

Mayor and Council meetings are broadcast 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.

Mayor and Council Approve Budget Addressing Priorities and Pandemic Recovery FY23 Budget Maintains Tax Rate and Services

The Mayor and Council in May adopted a \$148.8 million city budget that maintains city services, addresses COVID-19 pandemic recovery, and focuses on priorities such as implementing the Comprehensive Plan, environmental sustainability and the Climate Action Plan, Vision Zero, economic development, and financial sustainability.

The adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2023, which begins July 1, is an increase of 5.4% over the Fiscal Year 2022 adopted budget.

It includes funding for 13.7 new full-time equivalent positions, including a boards and commissions coordinator; Americans With Disabilities Act coordinator; senior projects manager; principal buyer; culture, arts and history coordinator; grants manager; cybersecurity specialist; sustainability program manager; and police major.

The adopted budget 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 the property tax rate since 1995.

New water and sewer rates take effect with the start of the fiscal year this month and will be phased in, appearing on monthly utility bills beginning in August and on quarterly bills beginning in October. The water usage charge per 1,000 gallons, assuming an average usage of 14,000 gallons per quarter, will be \$7.30, up from \$6.38 in FY 2022. The sewer usage charge per 1,000 gallons will be \$10.74, up from \$10.54. The budget also includes an increase of \$20 per year for recycling and trash collection and an increase in the annual storm-water management fee, to \$138 for a single-family residence or customer of equivalent size, following four years at \$132.

The budget benefits from a \$3.8 million increase in property tax duplication revenue. The Mayor and Council helped secure a legislative victory earlier this year making municipalities eligible for millions of dollars in reimbursements that were significantly underfunded by the county for more than two decades.

The Mayor and Council appropriated \$7.6 million in Fiscal Year 2022 from the American Rescue Plan Act, which provides federal aid to state and local governments to help offset budgetary, economic and financial impacts of the pandemic. There is \$2 million in ARPA funds yet to be programmed for future use.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget, where the adopted budget will be posted this month. 🌸



City Seeks Applicants for Board of Supervisors of Elections

The City of Rockville is seeking applicants for immediate appointment to its Board of Supervisors of Elections.

The board conducts city elections, registers voters and keeps records in connection with these functions.

There are currently three vacancies. Each of the five members of the board is appointed by the Mayor and Council. Members' terms run for four years and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The board elects its own chairperson.

In addition to conducting elections that are fair, open and accurate, the board conducts meetings – which are held more frequently during election years – to review and confirm nominating petitions submitted by candidates for city

office, publicize the election, and review campaign finance reports filed by candidates and slates. The board also oversees the collection and tabulation of ballots.

According to its mission statement, the board “is to conduct fair and open elections that are safe and secure, provide access to the election process, protect the integrity of the vote, and maintain a transparent, accurate, and efficient process.”

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Supervisors of Elections, complete an Expression of Interest form at www.rockvillemd.gov/592/Join-a-Board-or-Commission.

For more information about the board, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/101/Board-of-Supervisors-of-Elections. 🌸

A Banner Year: Rockville Earns MML 'Banner City' Recognition Once Again

Rockville has been named a “Banner City” by the Maryland Municipal League, which recognizes the municipalities' elected and appointed officials as the league's most engaged members.

According to MML, the Banner City/Town program fosters an environment where

officials feel that their activities make a difference. Municipalities designated as banner cities or towns:

- Are recognized among their peers as an active participant in showcasing municipal government and how it works.

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Youth and Education Commissions Are Recruiting

Rockville's two newest commissions — one for education, the other for youth — are recruiting members.

The 11-member Youth Commission, comprised of 16–21-year-olds who live or attend high school or Montgomery College in the city, develops recommendations for the Mayor and Council about programs, policies and legislation to promote the health and well-being of young adults by identifying, monitoring and evaluating youth services, programs, and activities offered in Rockville and surrounding areas.

Five members of the Youth Commission will be appointed for two-year terms and six members for one-year terms.

The 11-member Education Commission was created by the Mayor and Council to support the city's students.

The commission is intended to maintain and grow collaborative relationships among the county's board of education, Montgomery County Public Schools, private and nonprofit schools,

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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.

While some meetings are canceled, other boards and commissions meetings will take place virtually. See times and dates, and ways to participate on city's online calendar: www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx.

- **July 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.)

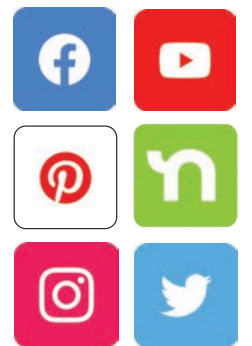
Vacancies

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

- Board of Appeals (1)
- Board of Supervisors of Elections (3)
- Cultural Arts Commission (3)
- Education Commission (11)
- Human Rights Commission (2)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (3)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs (1)
- Planning Commission (2)
- Recreation and Park Advisory Board (1)
- Senior Citizens Commission (1)
- Traffic and Transportation Commission (3)
- Youth Commission (11)

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

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.

Save Some Green and Support Pollinators and Other Wildlife

The city's RainScapes Rebates program will reopen to applications on Friday, July 1. The program offers single-family homeowners and nonprofits, including religious institutions, private schools and homeowners associations, up to \$2,500 in rebates for landscaping that is designed to reduce flooding, decrease pollution in local streams, and support wildlife.

The program offers rebates for installing rain barrels, planting conservation landscapes and native trees, removing pavement, and replacing impermeable driveways, patios, and sidewalks with permeable pavers. To learn more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes or contact rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov.

A Place for Pollinators

RainScapes Rebates for conservation landscaping can help fill your garden with native plants. Native plants are adapted to local conditions and, if planted in the right place, need less water and support butterflies, birds, bees and other pollinators.

Gardeners, working with nature, can provide a place for pollinators that includes food, shelter, water and a place to raise a family. Pollinator gardens with a variety of trees and plants of different colors, shapes and heights, and that flower throughout the growing season, can provide the nectar and pollen that pollinators need, especially during hot summer months. Consider adding a water source such as a dish, birdbath, or small pond with a fountain or bubbler. The moving water will attract birds while deterring mosquitoes.

Find more tips for creating gardens to support pollinators at extension.umd.edu/resource/pollinator-gardens.

Go Wild and Get Certified

Is your yard providing good cover and a home for wildlife? Homeowners, businesses, schools, universities, places of worship, parks, civic and community organizations, and others that create wildlife-friendly landscapes can earn National Wildlife Federation certification.

Certified wildlife habitats must provide food, water, cover and places for wildlife to raise young. These certified habitats help to create corridors for wildlife to thrive throughout the community. Like RainScapes Rebates, the program encourages gardening in an environmentally friendly way, planting native species of plants and replacing lawns with trees, shrubs and other plants. To find resources and learn more about becoming certified, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/wildlifehabitat.

Rooftop Solar Co-op Promises Savings From the Sun

Thinking of purchasing rooftop solar but not sure where to start?

Join the Capital Area Solar Co-op to lower your energy costs, become energy independent, and participate in the renewable revolution. The co-op runs until Tuesday, Aug. 30 and helps community members navigate the process and join together to increase buying power, with virtual info sessions and in-person events to help answer all your solar questions.

Upcoming virtual events are Thursday, July 14; Monday, July 18 (in Spanish); and Thursday, Aug. 18. A Maryland Wine and Shine Happy Hour is scheduled from 6-8 p.m. Friday Aug. 12 at Black Ankle Vineyards in Mount Airy. Learn more at bit.ly/CapSolarCo-op22MD.

Interested in purchasing an electric vehicle? See the article on page 5.

City Continues to Provide Safe, Reliable Drinking Water – Even During Construction

In another year of challenges to provide the city with safe and reliable drinking water, Rockville's water once again met or exceeded all federal water quality regulations limits, the city's Department of Public Works said in the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report released July 1.

The city's water treatment plant, on the banks of the Potomac River, serves 70% of Rockville, or approximately 13,000 accounts and 52,000 community members. The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission serves the remainder of the city.

The city conducted lead and copper testing during summer 2021 and found that Rockville's drinking water remains in compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules for acceptable levels of lead and copper.

Plant operators actively monitor water quality to ensure protective levels of chlorine and corrosion control, which prevents lead and copper in distribution pipes from leaching into drinking water. For their efforts, 2021 was the eighth consecutive year that plant operators received the Directors Award for voluntary participation in the Partnership for Safe Water.

"The award recognizes

the competence of the city's water plant operators and their desire to go beyond regulatory standards to achieve the highest water quality for Rockville's water customers," Craig L. Simoneau, the city's director of public works, said in a letter introducing the report. "This requires considerable effort by the operational staff of the water plant. It is the staff's expertise, dedication and passion that make this award possible."

In recent months, plant operators have maintained round-the-clock operations to produce an uninterrupted flow of quality water despite challenging working conditions. A project to upgrade the water treatment plant began in late 2021, requiring plant operators to move their daily workspace to corridors and other more confined areas of the plant as construction noise and activities swirled around them. The upgrades, which are expected to continue into early 2023, are replacing aged electrical equipment and workspaces dating to the plant's opening in 1958, as well as the main building's roof and HVAC system.

To learn more about the source and quality of Rockville's drinking water, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/annualwaterquality2022. 🍀



MAKING ETCH HAPPEN ... The Rockville City Police Department, in partnership with the National Insurance Crime Bureau and the International Collision Center, held a catalytic converter etching event on June 18 at the auto body repair center at 649 N. Horners Lane. The service, offered free to City of Rockville residents, etched vehicle identification numbers, also known as VINs, on the catalytic converters of 32 vehicles in an effort to deter theft.

Catalytic converters, which change harmful engine emissions into safer gases, such as steam, have become a popular target of criminals, who steal them for their precious metals. Other ways to deter theft include welding rebar onto, or installing a cage around, the converter, or spray painting the converter to reduce its resale value. And, whenever possible, motorists should park in a well-lit area or inside a locked garage.

Check the city's online calendar and follow the Rockville City Police Department on Facebook or Twitter for information about future etching events as they are scheduled.

Rockville Honors Environmental Excellence Award Winners

The Mayor and Council honored community members, the city's nature center and a former city employee on May 23 with Environmental Excellence Awards recognizing contributions to Rockville's environmental health and sustainability.

Monica Berger received the *Carl Henn Environmental Excellence Award for Outstanding Individual Environmental Stewardship* in recognition of her community leadership to remove invasive plants and restore native plant habitat at Dawson Park.

The **City of Rockville's Croydon Creek Nature Center** received the *Environmental Excellence Award for Outstanding Education and Academic Achievement* for fostering nature appreciation through innovative programs, habitat exploration, social media and volunteer events.

William "Bill" Nickel received the *Carl Henn Environmental Excellence Award for Outstanding Individual Environmental Stewardship* in

recognition of his service beautifying Cambridge Walk II through environmental landscaping projects.

Dianne Fasolina received the *Carl Henn Environmental Excellence Award for Outstanding Individual Environmental Stewardship* for her service to Rockville's parks as a champion of volunteer environmental stewardship efforts. Fasolina retired from the city in December after 21 years of service, most recently as a parks maintenance manager.

Find more information and video of the awards presentation, with the May 23 Mayor and Council meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

Do you know someone deserving of recognition for their environmental efforts? Nominations are accepted on a rolling basis. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/environment/awards for award categories and guidelines, nomination forms and eligibility. 🍀

Checklist to Reduce Mosquito Breeding on Your Property

Mosquito species that have the potential to spread the Zika virus prefer to breed in small amounts of standing water near where people live and work. They typically do not breed in natural areas like streams and ponds.



Empty out water from children's toys and plastic containers.

If possible, bring indoors. Cover large toys and sand boxes with tightly fitting tarps, or drain weekly.

Remove trash from yard.

As little as a bottle-cap full of water is enough for mosquitoes to breed.

Clean out roof gutters and downspout screens.

If possible, replace corrugated down-spouts with smooth PVC.

Store recycling bins out of the rain. Dump out any water at least weekly.

Even though bins have drain holes, small amounts of water may still collect.

Add an aerator or fountain to birdbaths or ornamental ponds.

Mosquitoes do not breed in moving water.

Tighten tarps and pool covers to minimize folds.

If water still collects, shake out the tarp at least weekly.

Fix outdoor leaks and dripping faucets.

Get rid of puddles from window air conditioners.

Dump and scrub saucers under potted plants, and flush birdbaths at least once a week.

Where to Check:

- Front yard.
- Backyard.
- Along edge of the property.
- Balconies (apartments too!).
- Deck.
- Roof and gutters (follow safety precautions).

Note: Mosquito species of concern typically do not fly more than 150 yards from where they breed.



LEARN MORE ON ROCKVILLE 11
www.youtube.com/cityofrockville



ROCKVILLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT SUMMER CRIME PREVENTION TIPS ... Don't advertise vacation plans. Have a trusted neighbor, friend or relative check on your home while you are away. Stop mail and paper deliveries. Set timers on lights in rooms that are normally used. Always lock bicycles to a stationary object. The best device is a hardened steel u-shaped lock. When working in the yard, make sure front, rear and garage doors are locked.

Annual Crime Report Shows RCPD's Commitment to Community Policing

As challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic persist, the Rockville City Police Department continues its commitment to community policing, as detailed in a 2021 crime report that analyzes the year's crime statistics and details RCPD initiatives.

"Despite all the challenges, we continue to focus on the importance of community policing and strengthening community relationships by demonstrating accountability and transparency," Chief Victor V. Brito wrote in a message introducing the report. "All the Department's accomplishments are a direct result of many people working together to do things right. Exceptional personnel and community support are vital to the Department's continued growth and success."

Each year, the department prepares a crime report under the FBI's National Incident-Based Reporting System.

RCPD's 66 officers responded to 15,877 calls for service in 2021, or 68% of all calls within Rockville's city limits to city or county police or the county sheriff's office.

Overall, between 2020 and 2021, crimes against people, which include homicides, assaults and sex offenses, increased by 25.1%, from 422 offenses in 2020 to 528 offenses in 2021.

Crimes against property, including burglaries, robberies, thefts and vandalism, decreased by 1.2% (from 1,603 to 1,584).

Crimes against society, including drug, prostitution and weapons offenses, decreased by 26%, from 215 to 159, including a 35.3% decrease in drug/narcotic violations.

City police responded to 35 reports of heroin or opioid overdoses in 2021, a 52% increase from 2020, and

three reports of heroin or opioid possession, a 66% decrease. There was one report of opioid sales. Rockville's Mayor and Council have prioritized awareness of the impact of opioid addiction and education about the opioid epidemic, launching the Rockville Goes Purple campaign in 2018. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillegoespurple. The report also includes:

- A table showing arrests by race, gender and age and detailing arrests and citations. In 2021, there were 315 arrests, including 61 for driving under the influence; 8,773 parking tickets issued and 36 firearms seized.
- A table showing detailing citations issued and the operation of the city's speed camera program.
- A report on complaints of officer misconduct, use-of-force incidents, in-custody deaths and vehicle crashes involving department employees.
- A chart showing calls concerning animals and animal bites, which declined substantially in 2021, by 19% and 12%, respectively.
- A list of Distinguished and Meritorious Service Citations for department employees.
- Photos of how the department is engaging with the community through youth outreach, an annual toy drive and programs such as Drug Take Back Day, Coffee With a Cop, and community Fair and Impartial Policing training.

Find the report, which will be included in an annual report published by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments this summer, at www.rockvillemd.gov/police. ❖

Get Charged Up with the County's EV Purchasing Cooperative

If you're ready to "Lead the EV Charge," join the Montgomery County Electric Vehicle Purchasing Co-op today.

The cooperative is gaining momentum, with its pilot phase meeting its goal of securing 1,000 pledges from county residents to make their next vehicle an electric vehicle.

Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/zev to

make the pledge and learn about the co-op.

By signing the online pledge, you could inspire your neighbors to do the same. You'll also be supporting the city's goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the community and municipal government operations by 50% below 2005 levels by 2030, to reach net zero by 2050. ❖

VISION ZERO?

WHAT IS VISION ZERO?

VISION ZERO

Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic and pedestrian fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, fair mobility for all.

How is Rockville committed to Vision Zero?

- The Mayor and Council adopted a Vision Zero Action Plan in July 2020. The plan includes 30 action items focusing on four key areas: engineering, enforcement, education and policy.
- Rockville staff conducts an annual crash analysis to identify safety hot spots in the city.
- The city appointed a Vision Zero coordinator and established an interdepartmental task force to oversee Vision Zero efforts.
- The city coordinates with the Maryland State Highway Administration and Montgomery County to reinforce a consistent approach to Vision Zero efforts.

Get involved with Vision Zero:

- Participate in transportation committees. The Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee, the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee and the Traffic and Transportation Commission meet monthly to discuss transportation issues.
- Read "Rockville Reports," watch Rockville 11 and follow the city on social media for opportunities to learn about new safety programs and provide input on city projects.
- If you see something that could improve safety, let us know. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov to "Report a Concern."
- Become an ambassador for safety by spreading the word about what Vision Zero is and how it can benefit the community.
- Introduce the city to community groups that would like to host a Vision Zero presentation.

WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/VISIONZERO

Yard Waste Delays: What the City Is Doing and What You Can Do to Help

The City of Rockville is taking additional action to address persistent delays in yard waste collections due to severe staffing shortages, including collecting yard waste on Saturdays in all areas, citywide, that were missed throughout the week.

Rockville understands the importance of routine yard waste collections and is making every effort to provide this weekly service. Here's how you can help:

If your yard waste is not collected on your normal collection day, please leave it at the curb by 6 a.m. for collection on Saturday.

Consider grasscycling and composting. Leave grass clippings on the lawn as natural fertilizer and set up a backyard compost bin to recycle grass clipping, leaves and garden pruning into homemade, organic compost. Learn more at montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/composting.

Slow down to get around. Take extra care when operating a vehicle near workers. Slow down when driving near or passing recycling and trash trucks and other utility vehicles.

Stay in the know. For more information about city recycling, trash, yard waste and special collections, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash.

Please remember that the crews staffing collection trucks are doing their best. Their work is physically demanding and complicated by summer heat, storms and equipment failures. Please be patient.

The city is recruiting sanitation workers and making every effort to bring staffing levels back to where we can once again resume regularly scheduled collections. To learn how to join our team, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/careers.

We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience.

Synthetic pesticides cannot be used on lawns in Montgomery County – IT'S THE LAW.

Por ley, en el Condado de Montgomery está prohibido usar pesticidas sintéticos en el césped.

MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/Lawns

NO WEED & FEED ON LAWNS

No productos de "weed & feed" en el césped.

No Weed and Feed? No Problem!

When Montgomery County's pesticide law went into effect in the city last year, it barred the use of most nonorganic pesticides on private lawns, playgrounds, mulched recreation areas and childcare facilities. But it didn't mean the end of healthy green lawns in Rockville. Organic lawn care is healthier for children, pets and the environment. And it doesn't mean your lawn has to be any less vibrant. Learn more about the law and find tips for making a successful switch to an organic lawn at montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns.

SAVE THE DATE: City Police to Host Community Open House

An open house at the city's police station will offer an opportunity to get to know the men and women who protect and serve Rockville.

The Rockville City Police Department will welcome the community to an open house from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 10, featuring vehicle and equipment displays, K-9 demonstrations, a moon bounce, games, a DJ, food, treats, information booths, a visit by McGruff the Crime Dog, and the opportunity to meet city police officers.

Free parking will be available two blocks away at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

To find video of RCPD's 2019 open house, visit youtube.com/cityofrockville and search "RCPD Open House."

Learn more about the RCPD at www.rockvillemd.gov/police.



IT'S AN HONOR TO SERVE ... Rockville City Police Department officers honored at the 33rd annual Rockville Public Safety Awards on June 8 were (L to R): Officer Tyler Haines, Officer Jordan Santis, Cpl. Renae McEvoy, Cpl. Nick Roy, Officer Jeff Park and Cpl. Christopher Sadelson. Also honored was Rockville Senior Center employee Jerry Jones (not pictured). To read more about their awards, visit RockvilleReports.com and search "Public Safety Awards."



BE SAFE DURING GRILLING SEASON ... Summer means it's time to grill. When you do, be safe! Only grill outdoors, well away from your home, deck and overhanging branches. Keep children and pets at least 3 feet away from the grill. Keep the grill clean and free from grease or fat buildup. And never leave a grill unattended. Find these tips and more at www.nfpa.org.

Mayor and Council Proclaim July as National Parks and Recreation Month

The Mayor and Council proclaimed July as Parks and Recreation Month in Rockville in June, presenting the proclamation to Chip Boylan, a member of the Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation and the Rockville Recreation and Park Advisory Board.

Most residents live within a 10-minute walk of at least one of Rockville's 67 parks. Visit rockville.md.gov/parks for more information about the city's open spaces.

"Parks are at the center of so many experiences and memories — moments that park and recreation professionals help make happen," according to the National Recreation and Parks Association. "Our local parks are often our first experiences in nature, our introduction to a favorite hobby or physical activity. They are places to gather with friends and family, spaces to celebrate life's special moments, spots of respite and healing, sites that connect us with essential community services and so much more."

View the Mayor and Council's proclamation declaration at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter by selecting the TV icon next to the June 27 meeting listing.

Make New Checkmates with the Rockville Science Center's Chess Club

Join the Rockville Science Center's community chess club to meet new friends while learning, practicing and sharpening your skills.

The club meets from 6:30-9 p.m. each Monday at the Rockville Science Center, 36-C Maryland Ave. in Rockville Town Square.

All ages and skill levels are welcome. Attendees under age 16 must be accompanied by a parent. The club also hosts tournaments and invites skilled chess masters to teach all levels.

For more information, visit www.rockville.sciencecenter.org/chess-club, email info@rockvillesciencecenter.org or call Howard at 301-580-7190.

Glenview-Peerless Speaker Series Explores Lynchings in Montgomery County

The Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series hosts "The Three Reported Lynchings in Montgomery County," with Sarah Hedlund and Tony Cohen, at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 14, at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Montgomery History archivist Sarah Hedlund will discuss the three documented cases of lynching in Montgomery County: George Peck and John Diggs-Dorsey in 1880, and Sidney Randolph in 1896. The victims, all Black men in their 20s, were accused of rape or murder, removed from custody in the middle of the night and suffered a brutal death by groups of white men. Each was denied protection and never received a fair trial.

Hedlund will present comprehensive narratives of the events based on hundreds of digitized newspaper accounts. The stories are supported by quotes, in-person reporting, period maps, photographs and genealogical research. The Montgomery County Lynching Memorial Project will also present on its remembrance events and efforts.

The presentation is free. Register at peerless.rockville.org/events-and-programs.

Safety, Shoulders, Stress Reduction, Skin and Summer Fun at Senior Center

Stay healthy and informed with free seminars from the Rockville Senior Center in July and August.

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.

Safety Stuff in the Home: What Is It and Do I Really Need It? Experts from the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service will provide an informative look at fire safety and other safety equipment in the home.

Register with course #23012. 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 6.

Stress Reduction! Meditation Get tools to help you focus, relax and come to a more peaceful sense of being, with time for meditation and discussion.

Register with course #23020. Mondays, July 11-Aug. 29. \$24 for members, \$32 for nonmembers.

Summer Sun, Food and Fun! Summer is here and it brings an abundance of nutritious fruits and veggies. Take advantage of all the goodness by learning and sharing mouthwatering recipes that are healthy, easy and quick to make, whether cooking for one or a potluck. An e-cookbook will be compiled and sent to all participants.

Register with course #23018, Tuesday, July 12.

SOS! (Saving Our Skin)

Discuss skin conditions seen in aging skin and review best practices for skin protection. Presented by Joan Pohutsky, a nurse practitioner from Anne Arundel Dermatology.

Register with course #23611. Thursday, July 28.

Effective Communication with Your Health Care Provider Discuss strategies and tips that will help you navigate communication barriers, avoid miscommunications that could lead to medical errors, and leave you more confident and feeling in control. Presented by Adventist HealthCare.

Register with course #23177. Tuesday, Aug. 2.

Shoulder Injuries and Treatments Dr. Carlos Martinez, from CAM Physical Therapy and Wellness Services, will discuss the anatomy of the shoulder, how a physical therapist can help and strategies to manage pain.

Register with course #23015. Wednesday, Aug. 3.

What is Immunotherapy for Cancer Treatment?

Learn the terminology to differentiate between chemotherapy, targeted therapy and immunotherapy cancer treatment. Presented by Dr. Mark Goldstein, oncologist and hematologist.

Register with course #23152. Wednesday, Aug. 17.

Building Resilience (Virtual) Build resilience and deal with change. Suburban Hospital outpatient program therapist Jim French will discuss techniques to build resilience, allowing you to work through negative feelings and overcome adversity.

Register with course #23610. Thursday, Aug. 25. 🍀

Peas, Pops, Thistles and Sunflowers: This Summer in Rockville Art and Performances

Performances will be held outside and in, throughout July and August in Rockville.

Rockville Musical Theatre presents "*Once Upon a Mattress*." 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, July 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16; 2 p.m. Sundays, July 10 and 17.

Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, this rollicking spin on the classic tale "The Princess and the Pea" provides some side-splitting shenanigans. Prince Dauntless must wed by decree of his mother, but no princess can pass the queen's impossible tests.

Tickets cost \$26; \$23, students and seniors.

Rockville Concert Band presents "*Summer Evening of Pops*." 7 p.m. Sunday, July 10.

Bring your lawn chair and enjoy a free outdoor concert in Rockville Town Square, directed by Juan Gallastegui. Call 240-314-8681 after 5 p.m. in the case of inclement weather to check if the event is canceled.

Rockville Civic Ballet presents "*Ballets of the Thistle*." 7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 23 and 2 p.m. Sunday, July 24.

Old stories of trickery and wit, told anew, featuring "Macbeth" and "The Fairy Folk." Directed by Eleanor Simpson and Erin Kwong.

Tickets are \$17; \$13 for children 12 and younger; and \$13 for seniors 60 and

continued on pg. 7...

Senior Center to Celebrate 40th Anniversary in July

Over four decades, Rockville has served its older community at the Rockville Senior Center, a converted elementary school at 1150 Carnation Drive. The city will be celebrating this 40-year milestone with events throughout July.

Since opening, the city's 60-plus population has been on more than 1,000 day trips and 50 overnight trips, taken 5,000 fitness classes, 6,000 arts and enrichment programs and 4,000 tech classes, and attended more than 7,000 wellness or support resource seminars. More than 1,000 members use the center.

Older adults in Rockville had gathered formally since 1973. In 1982, a need for more space became evident. With the help of Senior Citizen Commission fundraisers, what had been the Woodley Gardens Elementary School was converted into the City of Rockville's senior center.

Now, the senior center offers free transportation to residents, a meal program, drop-in programs, a state-of-the-art fitness room, woodshop, and new classes, seminars, and activities every season.

For more of the senior center's seasonal events, see the "Adults 60+" activities and recreation guide, printed quarterly, and available at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide.

Use the course numbers to register for anniversary events at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Donuts and Coffee with Staff

10-11 a.m. Wednesday, July 6. Enjoy donuts and coffee with center staff and peruse artifacts and pictures from past years.

Registration is required with course #23686. Free to attend.

'80s Dance Party

6-8 p.m. Thursday, July 14. The whole community is invited to celebrate the Rockville Senior Center's 40th anniversary! Dress in '80s best, dance to '80s tunes and enjoy a cash bar of wine and beer. All ages welcome. Transportation is available to Rockville residents 60 or older.

Register with course #23678. Cost is \$5. Registration *continued on pg. 7...*

FREE Movies in the Parks

ALL MOVIES BEGIN AT DUSK.

THE PARENT TRAP (PG) 1998 Wednesday, Aug. 3 Rockville Town Center Park, 30 Maryland Avenue	THE BOSS BABY (PG) 2017 Wednesday, Aug. 10 Montrose Park, 451 Congressional Lane	THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS (PG) 2016 Wednesday, Aug. 17 Potomac Woods Park, 2276 Dunster Lane	SHREK (PG) 2001 Wednesday, Aug. 24 Calvin Park, 1248 Gladstone Drive
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www.rockvillemd.gov/moviesintheparks • 240-314-8620

MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel (youtube.com/cityofrockville): "60+ Spotlight" discusses the Rockville City Police Department's engagement with seniors; revisit Hometown Holidays: A Community Gathering, a two-day food and music festival held this year at RedGate Park; and hold a moment of silence along with anti-gun-violence advocates at a vigil for lives lost in recent mass shootings.

ROCKVILLE TOWN SQUARE PARKING UPDATE

2 HOURS OF FREE PARKING

NO VALIDATION REQUIRED

July/August 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



AUGUST: 2 **EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER** Discuss strategies and tips to help navigate communication barriers and avoid miscommunication that could lead to medical errors with health-care providers. Register with course #23177. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

3 **SHOULDER INJURIES AND TREATMENTS** See the article on page 6. 1 p.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

3 **MOVIES IN THE PARKS: "THE PARENT TRAP"** See the ad on page 6. 8-10 p.m. Rockville Town Center Park, 30 Maryland Ave.

5 **FIRST FRIDAY: MONTHLY CONCERTS AT TOWN SQUARE** 5:30-9 p.m. Rockville Town Square.

10 **MOVIES IN THE PARKS: "THE BOSS BABY"** See the ad on page 6. 8-10 p.m. Montrose Park, 451 Congressional Lane.

11 **LIFE CYCLE OF A PLASTIC BOTTLE** You'll never look at a plastic bottle the same way again. Instructor: Marvin Adams. Register with course #23048. 11 a.m.-noon. **SR**

6,13,20,27 **ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET** Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

14 **FAMILIES OUTSIDE: CREEK CRAWL** Join a naturalist and explore the creek to find macroinvertebrates and other animals that live there. Adults and children must register. Registration is limited. Register with course #22880. Ages 5 and older. \$6 R/\$7 NR. 1-2:30 p.m. **CC**

14 **ROCKVILLE SISTER CITIES CORPORATION DIM SUM FUNDRAISER** 2-4 p.m. New Fortune Restaurant, 16515 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg.

15 **MOROCCAN SUMMER FAVORITES** Savor the unique and fresh taste of Moroccan summer delights. Register with course #23000. Noon-1:30 p.m. **SR**

17 **WHAT IS IMMUNOTHERAPY FOR CANCER TREATMENT?** See the article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

17 **MOVIES IN THE PARKS: "THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS"** See the ad on page 6. 8-10 p.m. Potomac Woods Park, 2276 Dunster Lane.

18 **SOLAR CO-OP INFO SESSION: GET ENERGY FROM THE SUN** Join Maryland Solar United Neighbors in an information session all about the Solar and Electric Vehicle Charger Co-op. Learn more at www.solarunitedneighbors.org/capital-area-solar-co-op. See article on page 4. Noon-1:15 p.m.

20 **FAMILIES OUTSIDE: MEADOW MAYHEM** Spend the morning in the nature center's meadow getting buggy! Adults and children must register. Registration with course #22881 is required and limited. Ages 4 and older. \$6R/\$7 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

21 **BOCCE BALL TOURNAMENT** Enjoy an entertaining, fun and social morning. Tournament is open to Rockville Senior Center members. Tournament participants must register with course #23561. Free program. 10 a.m.-noon. **SR**

23 **LITTLE EXPLORERS** Take your little one exploring with a naturalist. Hiking, games and hands-on learning are part of the fun! Registration required. Ages 2-5. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

23,24 **ROCKVILLE CIVIC BALLET PRESENTS "BALLET OF THE THISTLE"** See article on page 6. **FSF**

24 **MOVIES IN THE PARKS: "SHREK"** See the ad on page 6. 8-10 p.m. Calvin Park, 1248 Gladstone Dr.

26 **ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS: ICE CREAM SOCIAL & CARNATION PLAYERS PERFORMANCE** The Carnation Players, a theatrical senior performing group of skit, poem and song. Registration required with course #23685. Free. 2-3 p.m. **SR**

28 **STATE HEALTH INSURANCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SHIP)** A free one-hour seminar. Learn about cost-saving strategies with Medicare. Register with course #23049. 10 a.m.-noon. **SR**

28 **SOS! (SAVING OUR SKIN)** See article on page 6. Register with course #23611. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

30 **BEEKEEPER Q&A** Discover fascinating facts about honeybees with the nature center's volunteer beekeeper. Taste honey samples after the program. Adults and children must register with course #22882. Ages 5 and older. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

30 **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORUM** See article on page 2. 11 a.m.-noon.

JULY: 1 **FIRST FRIDAY: MONTHLY CONCERTS AT TOWN SQUARE** 5:30-9 p.m. Rockville Town Square.

1,2,8-10,15-17 **ROCKVILLE MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS "ONCE UPON A MATTRESS"** See article on page 6. **FSF**

2,9,16,23,30 **ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET** Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

4 **INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION** See the article on page 1. 7-10 p.m. Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park

6 **ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS: DONUTS AND COFFEE WITH THE STAFF** See the article on page 6. Registration required with course #23686. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

6 **AMERICAN VOICES: SONG AND CITIZENSHIP IN THE USA** Explore American song throughout the 20th century. Learn how songwriters have used their music to foster social change or promote American cultural and national identity. Register with course #23022. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

6 **SAFETY STUFF IN THE HOME: WHAT IS IT AND DO I REALLY NEED IT?** See the article on page 6. 1-2:30 p.m. **SR**

9 **FAMILIES OUTSIDE: CREEK CRAWL** Join a naturalist and explore the creek to find macroinvertebrates and other animals that live there. Wear closed-toe shoes and bring a towel. Nets and tools will be provided. Adults and children must register. Registration is limited. Register with course #22879. Ages 5 and older. \$6 R/\$7 NR. 10-11:30 a.m. **CC**

11 **MARYLANDERS OF NOTE: DAVID HASSELHOFF** David Hasselhoff was born in Baltimore and starred in "Baywatch" and "Knight Rider." "The Hoff" is also a producer and businessman. Find out how this Marylander made his mark in entertainment. Register with course #22906. 10:30-11:30 a.m. **SR**

13 **ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS: BIRTHDAY PARTY** Celebrate June, July and August birthdays. All seniors are invited whether they have a summer birthday or not. Entertainment by Island Breeze. Registration required with course #23001. Free for members; \$7 nonmembers. 1:30-3 p.m. **SR**

13 **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORUM** See article on page 2. 2-3 p.m.

14 **ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS: '80s DANCE PARTY** See the article on page 6. 6-8 p.m. **SR**

14 **SOLAR CO-OP INFO SESSION: ENERGY FROM THE SUN** Join Maryland Solar United Neighbors in an information session about the Solar and Electric Vehicle Charger Co-op. Learn more at www.solarunitedneighbors.org/capital-area-solar-co-op. See article on page 4. 6-7 p.m.

19 **ROCKVILLE HOUSING** **V** The City of Rockville's Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit program offers affordable rents. Learn the different properties and how to apply. Register with course #23058. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

20 **ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY EVENTS: ROCKVILLE SENIOR CENTER OPEN HOUSE** See the article on page 6. 1-2:30 p.m. **SR**

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

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

This Month in Rockville Arts

continued from pg. 6...

older.

Meet the artists behind the varied media works of "Sunflower," on display at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, July 31.

The exhibition will run from Tuesday, July 5 through Friday, Sept. 2.

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@rockvillemd.gov. **+**

Senior Center's 40th Anniversary

continued from pg. 6...

is required.

Rockville Senior Center Open House

1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 20. Explore everything Rockville Senior Center has to offer at the center during this open house. Take part in a behind the scenes tour, class demonstrations and entertainment, and refreshments. A detailed schedule will be available closer to this event. Members who bring guests will be entered into a raffle with fantastic prizes. The open house will be cosponsored with the Rockville Senior Citizens Commission. No registration is necessary.

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/guide for more information. **+**

Youth and Education Commissions

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Montgomery College, parent-teacher associations, private and nonprofit school boards, home-school communities, and providers of early child care and education programs in the Rockville community.

Of the Education Commission's 11 members, four will represent public education; three, private, parochial and home schooling; and three will be educational professionals. Those members will serve for two years. One will be a student member, who will serve for one year.

Learn about the city's 22 boards and commissions, and how to apply, at www.rockvillemd.gov/boards commissions. **+**

Rockville Goes Purple in September to Raise Opioid Addiction Awareness

Rockville's Mayor and Council will in August once again proclaim September as National Recovery Month, and the city will hold several events as part of Rockville Goes Purple, a continuing campaign to shine a spotlight on the nationwide impact of opioid addiction.

The Mayor and Council will issue the proclamation Monday, Aug. 1 at their final meeting before summer recess.

Several events are being planned to mark National Recovery Month.

Check September's edition of "Rockville Reports" and the city's online calendar at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx for information as details develop. To learn more about the Rockville Goes Purple campaign, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillegoespurple. **+**



Mini Mayor, Big Day

Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and city staff welcomed Mithran Karthic (pictured here with Mayor Newton), winner of the "If I Were Mayor..." essay contest, to Rockville City Hall on June 6. Mithran, a fourth-grader at College Gardens Elementary School, earned the right to serve as Rockville's Mayor for a Day, fielding his first on-camera interview and visiting the Rockville City Police Department, the city's maintenance facility, and Croydon Creek Nature Center, before attending the evening's Mayor and Council meeting. For video of Mithran reading his winning essay during his night on the dais with the Mayor and Council, search "If I Were Mayor" at youtube.com/cityofrockville.

Banner City

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- Work together as a municipality to help strengthen their membership league.
 - Foster goodwill by educating youth about municipal government.
 - Maximize their MML membership by taking part in league programs and activities.
 - Ensure the voice of their municipality is heard on issues relevant to the membership and in matters of legislative priorities.
- The towns and cities receiving the designation this year were honored at MML's annual summer conference, held June 12-15 in Ocean City. ✚

National Night Out to Unite City Police and Community for Crime Prevention

Meet Neighbors, Connect with Police Officers on Aug. 2

Celebrate our city's neighborhoods on Tuesday, Aug. 2 as the Rockville City Police Department and Rockville communities take part in National Night Out.

Now in its 39th year, National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch. It aims to raise awareness about crime and drug prevention, generate support for anti-crime programs, and strengthen community spirit and community policing partnerships. Neighborhoods will host block parties featuring cookouts, bounce houses, carnival games and giveaways. McGruff the Crime Dog

will stop by several block parties to spread his anti-crime and anti-drug message. The Mayor and Council, RCPD officers and members of the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office will also visit many of the gatherings.

Residents are invited to turn on outdoor lights as part of the traditional display of front porch vigils, sending the message to criminals that neighborhoods are fighting back against crime.

For more info, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/nno. To register your block party, contact Cpl. Ronnie Crowe at 240-314-8974 or rcrowe@rockvillemd.gov. ✚



A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ...

The Rockville City Police Department hosted a town hall meeting about public safety in Rockville on June 23 at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre. Chief Victor V. Brito and RCPD officers were joined by representatives from the Montgomery County Police Department 1st District, Metro Transit Police Department, and City of Rockville senior staff for a 90-minute-long conversation. They answered questions from community members about traffic, pedestrian safety, gun violence, police accountability and recruitment, and more. For video of the conversation, search "RCPD Town Hall" at youtube.com/cityofrockville.

Radon Testing

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Radon, which was Rockville's focus for Building Safety Month in May, is an invisible, odorless, tasteless, radioactive gas. While no immediate symptoms will signal its presence, exposure at high levels can cause cancer. Testing is the only way to know a home's radon levels. Find information about radon mitigation measures and how to order discounted radon test kits at www.rockvillemd.gov/radon.

The city's building code requires all new single-family construction to include passive radon mitigation, such as subfloor preparation, installation of a soil-gas retarder, the closure of potential radon entry routes and the installation of vent pipes.

If adopted, the city law would take effect Jan. 1, to allow time for residents and businesses to prepare for the change and to coincide with National Radon Action Month. ✚

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www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters

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Celebrate the Fourth Safely

The Fourth of July is a time to celebrate. But leave the fireworks to the professionals.

The city reminds residents that the private use and possession of fireworks, including sparklers, is illegal in Maryland and carries a \$500 fine. Fireworks include firecrackers, skyrockets and Roman candles. Selling fireworks carries a \$1,000 fine.

Fireworks were involved with an estimated 15,600 injuries in 2020, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

To report illegal fireworks, call the RCPD's non-emergency line at 240-314-8900. ✚

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Get Into It

Rockville Reports is the official publication of the City of Rockville, 111 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.



Questions, Concerns or Ideas?

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



BACK IN THE DAY ... After nearly 40 years of serving the Rockville community, Recreation and Parks Director Burt Hall retired, according to the 2012 July-August edition of "Rockville Reports." Hall began working for the city in 1973 and was promoted to director of Recreation and Parks in 1992.