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Rockville 2023 Election: Need-to-Know Info

The City of Rockville will hold a vote-by-mail election in November this year — with a few important changes, including more members of the city council to elect, two Election Day Vote Centers and several additional ballot drop-off locations.

Voters will have the opportunity to elect seven members of the city's elected body — mayor and six council members — following a unanimous vote Feb. 6 by the Mayor and Council on a resolution to add two seats to the council.

Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters who live within Rockville city limits.

All ballots must be received by 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7. Voters will be able to vote by mail in person at the two Election Day Vote Centers on Nov. 7, or at an election drop box.

Voters can cast their ballots in person at vote centers on Election Day, Nov. 7, at either City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive. Vote centers will be open from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. on Election Day only.

If voting by mail, voters can return their ballots in the provided envelope by prepaid mail or by delivering them to a secure ballot drop box.

Voters will be able to drop their ballots at boxes inside the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive; Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.; Twinbrook Community and Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway; and Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive. The boxes will be available during center hours.

In addition to a drop box outside City Hall, voters will be able to drop their ballot at a drop box outside Montrose Community Center, 451 Congressional Lane. Both will be available 24/7, beginning in late September or early October.

Key 2023 Mayor and Council election dates:

- **On or before Friday, Oct. 13:** Ballots mailed to registered



voters.

- **Tuesday, Oct. 17:** Deadline to register to vote or update voter registration.
- **Tuesday, Nov. 7:** Election Day. Completed ballots must be received by 8 p.m. in person at City Hall or by mail.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/election or email elections@rockvillemd.gov. ✚

CITY ELECTIONS

There will be mail-in ballot voting with vote centers at City Hall and Thomas Farm Community Center open on election day for in-person voting.

There will be two drop boxes located outside, one located at City Hall and the second one located at Montrose Community Center. There will be four additional drop boxes located inside each community center. These drop boxes will be available only during the centers' hours of operation:

- Lincoln Park Community Ctr.
- Rockville Senior Ctr.
- Thomas Farm Community Ctr.
- Twinbrook Community Recreation Ctr.

Rockville's Independence Day Festivities Feature Fireworks on the Fourth

A Rockville tradition, the city's annual Independence Day celebration, returns to King Farm on Tuesday, July 4, with music, fireworks 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 includes live music by Under the Covers at 7 p.m. and a fabulous 20-minute-long fireworks display at 9:15 p.m. Food and beverages will be available for purchase. Guests are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs, food and beverages. Outside alcohol and barbecuing is prohibited.

There is no rain date. The entertainment and fireworks can be viewed from park grounds.

Parking will be available in

lots on Shady Grove and Gaither roads and Piccard Drive, near the park. Accessible parking is available in the lot at the corner of Shady Grove and Gaither roads. Display an accessible parking pass when entering the event site. 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 parts of Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park from Friday, June 30 through Wednesday, July 5. The dog park will be closed from 7 a.m. Friday, June 30 until 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 5. The fireworks safety zone, which includes the football fields, tennis courts, playground and parking lots, will be closed from 7 a.m. Monday, July 3 until 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 5.

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



Baltimore Road at Woodburn Road.

Long and Winding Baltimore Road Construction Concludes

Improvements Create Safer East-West Corridor for Walkers, Rollers, Riders and Drivers

A long-planned major road project crossed the finish line in late spring as the city completed construction of improvements to Baltimore Road.

The project makes the connection between Rockville Town Center and the city's east side more convenient, safe and accessible for pedestrians, bicyclists

and motorists. The improvements, which span more than a mile-and-a-half, create a more consistent roadway design, add pedestrian safety measures at several intersections and offer easier access to the Rockville Metro station.

Decades in the making

continued on pg. 2...

July Fourth in Rockville

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

The following city facilities will be closed: 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; 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 as scheduled on Monday, July 3. Tuesday through Thursday 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 and in the article on this page. ✚

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Bring the City's Vision Zero Coordinator to Your Group Meeting

Want to know more about the city's Pedestrian Master Plan, Vision Zero Action Plan and efforts to make transportation in the City of Rockville safer and more accessible for all?

Bryan Barnett-Woods, the city's Vision Zero coordinator, is available to meet with neighborhood associations, community organizations and other stakeholder groups to discuss Vision Zero, the city's plan to eliminate traffic- and pedestrian-related deaths and serious injuries; the Pedestrian Master Plan (read more about the draft plan on this page); and transportation safety concerns.

Barnett-Woods, a principal transportation planner and pedestrian and bicycle coordinator in the city's Traffic and Transportation Division, was recently named the Maryland City/County Management Association's 2023 Ronald B. Sweitzer Municipal Employee of the Year. He also was profiled in a 2021 "Meet a Rockville Employee" feature at [RockvilleReports.com/meet-a-rockville-employee-bryan-barnett-woods](https://www.rockvillemd.gov/Meet-a-Rockville-Employee-Bryan-Barnett-Woods).

To schedule a visit to your group, email Bryan at bbwoods@rockvillemd.gov.

Building Permit and License Fees to Increase

The Mayor and Council have voted to restructure and increase building permit and license fees to address growing expenses from development-related city services and the cost of new efficiency-oriented technology.

The increases apply to all permits and licenses applied for after July 1. The full fee schedule is available at www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/48877/FY24-Fee-Schedule-Final-PDF.

Building permit and license fees consist mainly of building and trade-related permits, nonbusiness licenses, fire safety permits and life-safety reviews on new commercial buildings, additions and alterations, as well as occupancy permits.

Certain fees, such as those for residential solar panel installations and EV charging installations, remain unchanged to support and facilitate the city's Climate Action Plan. Additionally, to limit increases to residential one- and two-family permits, there will be small increases in fees for single-family residential projects.

Most fixed-rate fees will increase by about 2.5% to account for inflation.

Rental license fees will increase from \$200 biennially to \$220 biennially. A new fee of \$450 has been established for a short-term rental license (anticipated to be effective later this year or in early 2024).

A 10% automation fee will be assessed on all permits to offset costs associated with use of technology in connection with permitting and inspection services.

Fees for commercial and multifamily projects will be assessed at the higher of 1.4% of the construction valuation or \$0.30 per square foot. Additionally, the filing fee for these projects will be set at a flat \$158 for all commercial and multifamily projects, assessed in addition to all permit fees.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/165/Permits-Inspections, see the staff report with the May 8 Mayor and Council meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter, or contact Chris Dempwolf at cdempwolf@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8247.

Wanted: Public Input on the City's Pedestrian Master Plan

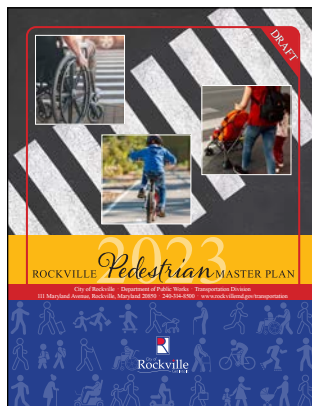
The city is developing its first Pedestrian Master Plan and wants community members to help make Rockville a safer place for walking and rolling.

The plan will guide the development, construction and maintenance of safe, convenient and equitable walking and rolling facilities across the city. "Walking and rolling" describes forms of mobility that do not include motor vehicles or bicycles. This includes walking; running; walking with the use of a white cane, audio-assistance device or walker; or using a wheelchair, knee-walker, mobility scooter or stroller.

Learn more about development of Rockville's Pedestrian Master Plan and find a draft for review at engagerockville.com/pedestrian-master-plan.

The city wants to hear from the community about the plan. What in the plan works well to advance walking and rolling in Rockville? What changes are still needed? What is missing?

Submit comments directly to city staff via email or by the Pedestrian Master Plan Draft Survey. Find email addresses and the survey on the Engage Rockville website. All comments will be responded to and shared with the Planning Commission and Mayor and Council for the



public hearings.

The plan was scheduled to be introduced to the Planning Commission at their meeting on Wednesday, June 28. Find video of the presentation and a staff report about the plan with the meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. The commission is expected to forward recommendations to the Mayor and Council this fall.

A virtual forum on June 22 discussed the Pedestrian Master Plan as well as Vision Zero, the city's plan to eliminate traffic- and pedestrian-related deaths and serious injuries. The Pedestrian Master Plan is a Vision Zero action item and a recommendation of the city's Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Find video of the forum at youtu.be/cityofrockville.

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



Make the Solar Switch Earn Energy From the Sun!

Join Solar Switch, formerly the Capital Area Solar Co-op, to learn about options for installing a solar energy system on the rooftop or your home or small business. Financing for all incomes is available. Electric vehicle chargers are also offered in this group-driven, cooperative purchase discount program.

The Solar Switch co-op is open for applications now through Wednesday, Aug.

30. Learn how to register and find more information, including about online information sessions as they are announced, at SolarSwitch.com/CapitalArea.

Don't own a roof — or have one that's shaded? Consider joining a community solar project. Learn how and find more about Rockville's efforts to go solar at www.rockvillemd.gov/solar. ❖

Your Thoughts Wanted on the Rockville Town Center Master Plan

Everyone — residents, neighbors, visitors, employees, and business and property owners — is welcome to provide feedback as Rockville plans a successful future for Town Center over coming decades.

To take part, register at engagerockville.com/towncenter, which has multiple ways to provide input. Take a short survey, add to the reaction map, ask a question, share ideas for how to reimagine Town Center and see what feedback was received from more than 100 people who attended four listening sessions to kick off the community outreach and engagement process.

A master plan is a long-range document that establishes a vision for future growth and development. Public input will guide the direction of zoning, streetscapes, public infrastructure and other aspects of land use in Town Center's new master plan.

The goal of the master plan is to create a cohesive vision for the Town Center area that meets the city's goals regarding climate action, bicycle and pedestrian safety, racial equity and social justice, and more.

See a map of the Rockville Town Center area at engagerockville.com/towncenter. ❖

Baltimore Road Completion

continued from pg. 1...

— surveying began in December 2009 — the project required a lengthy property acquisition process in accordance with federal and state regulations. A \$4 million Federal Highway Administration grant went toward costs, including a \$5.8 million contract awarded in October 2020 to Locust Lane Farms, Inc., of Upper Marlboro. Construction began in March 2021, during a pandemic that created supply chain issues and other challenges.

The project's first phase brought roadside pedestrian safety improvements from near the Rockville Metro station to MD 28 at First Street, including curb bump outs and enhanced crossing features at Grandin Avenue and South Horners Lane. The second phase, from First Street to the city limits near Rockville High School, included roadway resurfacing, an 8-foot-wide shared-use path that connects Rock Creek Trail and the Carl Henn Millennium Trail, completion of sidewalk gaps, pedestrian safety spot improvements, landscaping, stormwater management, and improved drainage through culvert replacement and new storm drains.

A portion of the road, between Gladstone and



Baltimore Road, near the Rockville Cemetery.

Broadwood drives, was closed for more than five months in 2021 so crews could replace the roadway culvert at the stream crossing near Rockville Cemetery, relocate water lines, install storm drain connections and restore the stream.

Throughout the project, staff from the city's Traffic and Transportation Division communicated neighborhood impacts to community associations and school officials, including information about road and sidewalk detours, parking restrictions and temporary driveway closures.

Learn more about the improvements at www.rockvillemd.gov/baltimoreproject.

Find details of more projects the city is undertaking as part of the Vision Zero Action Plan to eliminate traffic- and pedestrian-related deaths and serious injuries at www.rockvillemd.gov/visionzero. ❖

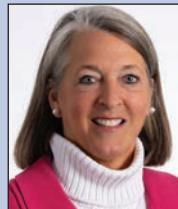
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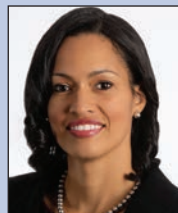
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MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/cityofrockville): celebrate the city's first responders at the Rockville Public Safety Awards 2023; learn about Rockville's charged-up vehicle fleet; we thank Del. Kumar Barve and longtime assistant to Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin, Ken Reichard, for their years of service; and see how much fun was had at the Hometown Holidays Music Fest.



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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 17 and 31, and Aug. 7, at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

The July 17 and Aug. 7 meetings will be preceded by drop-in sessions by telephone with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, and councilmembers David Myles in July and Mark Pierzchala 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/CityClerk-11/Sign-up-for-Dropin-Meetings-227.

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.

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 Aimed at Fiscal Responsibility and Capital Projects

FY24 Budget Maintains Tax Rate and Services

The Mayor and Council in May adopted a \$157.2 million city budget that maintains services and focuses on fiscal sustainability, capital investments and ongoing city plans, such as the Comprehensive Plan, Climate Action Plan, and the Vision Zero Action Plan to eliminate traffic- and pedestrian-related deaths and serious injuries.

The adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which begins July 1, is an increase of 5.6% over the Fiscal Year 2023 adopted budget. It 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. The Mayor and

Council sought to avert a potential property tax rate increase in Fiscal Year 2025 through budget capacity plans that help promote a flat property tax rate that would be sustainable through Fiscal Year 2027.

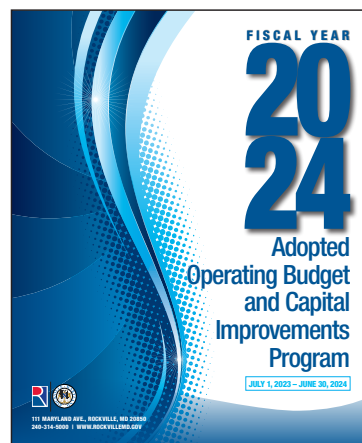
The water usage charge per 1,000 gallons, assuming average use of 14,000 gallons per quarter, will be \$7.44, up from \$7.30 in FY 2023. The sewer usage charge per 1,000 gallons will be \$10.90, up from \$10.74. The budget also includes an increase of \$24 per year for recycling and trash collection and an \$8 increase in the annual stormwater management fee, to \$146 for a single-family residence or customer of equivalent size. A study planned for FY 2024 will inform water and sewer rates for FY 2025-2027.



KEY ADVOCATES FOR ROCKVILLE ... The Mayor and Council on June 12 honored former Del. Kumar P. Barve and Kenneth Reichard, former assistant to Sen. Benjamin L. Cardin, and presented both with keys to the city and proclamations recognizing their service to Rockville. Barve, who Gov. Wes Moore appointed in April to the state's Public Service Commission, had represented District 17, including the City of Rockville, in the House of Delegates since 1991. Reichard, a Rockville native and Richard Montgomery High School graduate, retired in April after leading Cardin's Montgomery County office since 2006. For video of the presentation, visit youtube.com/cityofrockville and search "Barve."



TALES OF A FOURTH GRADE MAYOR ... Rockville welcomed Joyce Tian, pictured in the Mayor and Council chambers, winner of the "If I Were Mayor..." essay contest, to City Hall on May 25. Tian, a fourth-grader at Beall Elementary School, earned the right to serve as Rockville's Mayor for a Day, doing an on-camera interview with Rockville 11, visiting the Rockville City Police Department, the Department of Public Works Equipment Show and Croydon Creek Nature Center, and having lunch with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton. She was also recognized at the May 22 Mayor and Council meeting, where she read her winning essay. Find video of Tian traveling the city on her day as mayor and reading her winning essay at youtube.com/cityofrockville.



Additions to priority areas in the FY24 operating budget include funding to reinstate the city's community survey and to add two councilmembers after the 2023 election, support for police recruitment, expanded recreation programming and camps, a new stormwater incentive program, facility energy assessments, and compliance monitoring for short-term rentals. The capital budget funds projects addressing environmental sustainability, community safety, data security, emergency management and city facilities.

The Mayor and Council appropriated the final \$2 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to advance the RedGate Park Master Plan. Taxpayer-supported bonds will support outdoor recreation pool renovations at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, Americans with Disabilities Act-related improvements to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, and Lincoln Park Community Center improvements planned to begin in FY24.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget, where the adopted budget will be posted in July. ✚

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

- **July 12 and 26** Planning Commission 7 p.m. (To participate, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details closer to the date.)

Vacancies

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

- Community Policing Advisory Board (1)
- Cultural Arts Commission (2)
- Environment Commission (2)
- Human Rights Commission (1)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (1)
- Planning Commission (1)
- Senior Citizens Commission (2)

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

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.

LEARN MORE ON ROCKVILLE 11



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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.



Rishi Iyer (left) and Mark Wright (right) were honored with Environmental Excellence Awards during the June 5 Mayor and Council meeting.

Rockville Honors Community Members for Environmental Excellence

The Mayor and Council and the Environment Commission honored two community members in June with Environmental Excellence Awards recognizing contributions to Rockville's environmental health and sustainability.

Rishi Iyer, a student at Thomas Wootton High School, received the Environmental Excellence Award for Outstanding Education and Academic Achievement for developing an online carbon footprint tool for Montgomery County Public Schools in Rockville and beyond. ("Rockville Reports" readers might remember Iyer as Rockville's "Mayor for a Day" in 2016.)

Mark Wright received the Carl Henn Environmental Excellence Award for Outstanding Individual Environmental Stewardship for Green Team Leadership at Christ Episcopal Church, which completed several environmental projects, including two pollinator gardens.

Find more information and video of the awards presentation, with the June 5 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.

Radon Rental Testing Requirement to Begin in Late September

An ordinance that will require specific rental properties in the city to be tested for the presence of radon will go into effect Sept. 27.

Radon is an invisible, odorless, tasteless, radioactive gas found in soil and rock, formed by the natural decay of uranium. While no immediate symptoms signal its presence, exposure at high levels can cause cancer. Testing is the only way to know a home's radon levels.

The testing requirement will apply to all units in a rental facility in contact with the ground, including basement apartments and any dwelling unit with a basement, crawl spaces or units built on a slab in contact with the ground. Landlords will be required to conduct a radon test before leasing a qualifying dwelling unit.

The legislation also addresses instances when tenants can have their rental unit tested for radon. If the test results are above the 4.0 picocuries per liter standard, the tenant must report the test results to the landlord in writing.

Landlords must initiate a follow-up radon test within 14 days to confirm radon levels. If confirmed, the landlord must take steps to reduce the radon level within safe parameters and provide tenants a copy of test results indicating levels have been reduced.

A tenant has the right to terminate the lease without the loss of a security deposit if the landlord fails to mitigate the issue.

Find information about radon mitigation measures and how to order discounted radon test kits at www.rockvillemd.gov/radon. Learn more about radon at www.epa.gov/radon. For more information, email Jim Wasilak at jwasilak@rockvillemd.gov.

Rockville Continues to Provide Safe, Reliable Drinking Water as Plant Upgrades Take Shape

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.

Plant operators actively monitor water quality to ensure safe levels of chlorine and corrosion control, which prevents lead and copper in distribution pipes from leaching into drinking water.

A project to upgrade the water treatment plant began in late 2021. The upgrades, which are expected to be completed later this year, are replacing aged electrical equipment, components that provide primary power to the plant and workspaces dating to the plant's opening in 1958, as well as the main building's roof and HVAC system.

"This project will provide the plant with modern electrical components and associated controls to ensure system reliability, safety, and capacity," Craig L. Simoneau, the city's director of public works, said in a letter introducing the report. "Modern laboratory facilities and occupied areas will provide code-compliant, safer spaces for employees."

Projects scheduled to begin in 2023 include a chemical feed project that will replace chlorine gas with sodium hypochlorite (liquid chlorine) to provide a safer working environment for staff and neighbors near the plant.

To learn more about the source and quality of Rockville's drinking water, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/annualwaterquality2023. 🍀

Meet Rockville Employees: Water Distribution System Maintenance Team



The city's water distribution maintenance team (L to R): William Hudgins, Steven Hernandez, Arthur Adams, Daryl Harper, Ovidio Cruz, Albert Budd, William Pritchard III, Ken Kiser and Anthony Stevenson. (Not pictured: Alfonso Alfaro, Jovan DeGroat, Kenny Hernandez, Mark Sanoir and Gerald Scott.)

Rockville's water distribution system maintenance team is a diverse, motivated, hardworking team responsible for the upkeep of an extensive city water system that delivers safe, reliable, high-quality drinking water to residents. To get to know the team, we asked a few questions of Steve Sokol, operations and maintenance superintendent in the city's Department of Public Works.

Who's on the team?

The team is: Arthur Adams, Alfonso Alfaro, Albert Budd, Ovidio Cruz, Jovan DeGroat, Daryl Harper, Kenny Hernandez, Steven Hernandez, William Hudgins, Ken Kiser and William Pritchard III, Mark Sanoir, Gerald Scott and Anthony Stevenson.

It's a group with a diversity of people and experience. Albert Budd started in 1967 and has worked the majority of the time since — close to 48 years — with the city. Others have less than a year's experience and are learning from the veterans.

"We've got some really bright young people we're bringing on, and have a lot of hope for the future," Sokol said. "There are a lot of good, dedicated people and a mixture of some really experienced staff and some new staff who are learning."

Tell us about the city's water distribution system.

The City of Rockville provides water and sewer service to 70% of the city, or about 12,000 accounts. All other Rockville residents and businesses are serviced through the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. The city maintains 180 miles of water pipes, 4,168 valves and 1,363 fire hydrants. It's paid for by city water utility customers.

What does the team do to maintain the system?

The team performs preventive maintenance to keep the city's water system able to provide safe, reliable, high-quality drinking water and fire suppression. That includes unidirectional flushing to remove accumulated sediment from the system and improve water quality, valve maintenance to keep valves in good working order in case shutoffs are needed for repairs, and maintenance to ensure city fire hydrants have the water capacity and pressure necessary to fight fires. The team also responds to inquiries regarding water quality, inspects and maintains the city's two water tanks, and repairs water mains, services and meters.

Rockville invests more than \$1.5 million each year to replace water pipes that are 50 years or older, so that the city's water system maintains adequate pressure for fire hydrants and continues delivering clean water to the

community.

The city's water main rehabilitation program was launched in 2008 to replace every mile of pipe in the city's water system over a 100-year period. Since the Mayor and Council approved the program, city staff has replaced more than 22 miles of water mains, totaling nearly \$30 million in construction.

With the help of the water distribution system maintenance team, the city marked a milestone last summer as it replaced Rockville's last low-flow hydrant. Read all about it at RockvilleReports.com/lastlowflowhydrant.

Anything else to know?

"The team works real long hours, tirelessly, especially in winter when we have more water main breaks," Sokol said. The team responds to an average of about 40 water main breaks a year and is especially busy from November to March, when the temperature changes and freezing can increase stress on pipes, making them more susceptible to breaks.

The team's latest water main flushing schedule runs through early October. Find the schedule and learn more about the city's water system at www.rockvillemd.gov/water. 🍀



HONORS FOR THOSE WHO PROTECT AND SERVE ... The 34th Annual Rockville Public Safety Awards, held June 14 at Lakewood Country Club, honored Rockville City Police Department officers with the following awards: Citation for Bravery: Cpl. Kyron Jenkins and Cpl. Karl Plitt. Distinguished Service Citation: Sgt. Jon Berry, Officer Yosselin Bonilla, Cpl. Kyron Jenkins, Cpl. Phil Lew, Cpl. Kevin McBride, Cpl. Jeff Park, Cpl. Nick Roy, Cpl. Brandon Thomas and Cpl. Nick Weiss. Meritorious Service Citation: Officer Joseph Fetter and Cpl. Derrick Tibbs. Lifesaving Award: Cpl. Heath Marshall, Cpl. Jeff Park, Cpl. Troy Plummer and Cpl. Chris Sadelson. Unsung Hero Award: Cpl. Ronnie Crowe. Rockville 11 takes you to the awards at youtube.com/cityofrockville. Search "Public Safety Awards."

Annual Crime Report Shows RCPD's Commitment to Community Policing

The Rockville City Police Department continues its commitment to community policing amid a time of change and challenges for law enforcement, as detailed in a 2022 crime report that analyzes the year's crime statistics and details RCPD initiatives.

"We have seen a rise in crime all over the nation, as well as regionally in the DC Metro area. We have not been immune to crime trends and issues here in Rockville, but we have worked quickly to address issues and concerns through investigative techniques, arrests, and high visibility details," Chief Victor V. Brito wrote in a message introducing the report.

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

RCPD's 66 officers responded to 16,265 calls for service in 2022, or 65% of all calls within Rockville's city limits to city or county police or the county sheriff's office.

Overall, between 2021 and 2022, crimes against people, which include homicides, assaults and sex offenses, increased 13%, from 530 offenses in 2021 to 599 offenses in 2022.

Crimes against property, including burglaries, robberies, thefts and vandalism, increased by 16.5% (from 1,585 to 1,847).

Crimes against society, including drug, prostitution and weapons offenses, decreased by 29.5%, from 158 to 126, including a 33.3% decline in drug/narcotic violations.

City police responded to 24 reports of heroin or opioid overdoses in 2022, a 31% decrease from 2021, and three reports of heroin or opioid possession, the

same number as in 2021. There were three reports 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 in the article on this page or at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillegoespurple.

The report also includes:

- A table showing arrests by race, gender and age, and detailing arrests and citations. In 2022, there were 266 arrests, including 36 for driving under the influence, 9,745 parking tickets issued, and 33 firearms seized.
- A table detailing a decrease in citations issued by the city's speed cameras (from 39,194 in 2021 to 27,223 in 2022) and red-light cameras (from 8,714 to 8,115) programs.
- A report on complaints of officer misconduct and use-of-force incidents.
- A chart showing calls concerning animals (up 19% to 1,861) and animal bites (down 22% to 56).
- A list of Distinguished and Meritorious Service Citations and Lifesaving Awards for RCPD employees.
- Photos of how the department is engaging with the community through youth outreach, an annual toy drive, National Night Out (see page 5 for details), an open house, Boo Bash and National Drug Take Back Day.

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. 🍀

ROCKVILLE TOWN SQUARE

PARKING

2 HOURS OF FREE PARKING

NO VALIDATION REQUIRED



ROCKVILLE JOINS COUNTY TO CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH ... Rockville joined Montgomery County for a Juneteenth celebration on June 17 at BlackRock Center for the Arts in Germantown. The celebration, with the theme of "Journey to Freedom," featured dance performances, films, art exhibits and a daylong concert. Rockville 11 takes you there at youtube.com/cityofrockville. Search "Juneteenth."

National Night Out to Unite City Police and Community for Crime Prevention Meet Neighbors, Connect with Police Officers on Aug. 1

Celebrate our city's neighborhoods on Tuesday, Aug. 1 as the Rockville City Police Department and Rockville communities take part in National Night Out.

Now in its 40th 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 and RCPD officers 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 information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/nno. To register your block party, contact Cpl. Ronnie Crowe at 240-314-8974 or rcrowe@rockvillemd.gov. 🍀



SUMMER OF 'SOLE'... Runners took to the streets of Rockville Town Center on June 17 at the Montgomery County Road Runners Club and the City of Rockville presented the Suds and Soles 5K. Find more photos and full race results at facebook.com/sudssoles.

ROCKVILLE

FARMERS

MARKET

SATURDAYS • May 13-Nov. 18 • 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Corner of Route 28 and Monroe Street. • WIC and EBT/SNAP accepted.

GETTING THERE:

Metro: Red Line
Ride On - Bus 47 and 56
Free parking available.

FARM FRESH:

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

www.rockvillemd.gov/farmersmarket

Rockville Goes Purple in September to Raise Opioid Addiction Awareness

Rockville's Mayor and Council will once again proclaim September as National Recovery Month, part of their continuing campaign to shine a spotlight on the nationwide impact of opioid addiction.

The focus of the Rockville Goes Purple campaign includes raising awareness, honoring those in recovery and lost to overdose, reducing stigma, and providing resources and education.

The Mayor and Council will issue the proclamation Aug. 7 at their final meeting before summer recess. Several events are being planned to mark National Recovery Month.

Purple lights will once again illuminate City Hall, Rockville City Police Department headquarters and other city facilities; the Mayor and Council will hold a ceremony to recognize National Recovery Month prior to their Sept. 11 meeting; and members of the Mayor and Council will attend Montgomery County's International Overdose Awareness Day on Aug. 31.

The Rockville City Police Department will hold a Rockville Goes Purple Drug Takeback event from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23.

Rockville will also invite the community to take part in an event to be held Sept. 30 at Montgomery College. Rockville will join with Montgomery College and other county partners to curate an event that will raise awareness, reduce stigma and provide resources for attendees.

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.

City Program to Prevent Stormwater Pollution Earns BUBBA Second Place

A city program that seeks to stop commercial facilities from polluting storm drains and streams recently took high honors in the Chesapeake Stormwater Network's Best Urban BMP in the Bay Awards.

Better known as the BUBBAs, the program bestows the prestigious regional awards every other year on stormwater projects using BMPs, or best management practices.

Rockville's Reimaging Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program earned second place in the Innovative Stormwater Permit Implementation category. The category recognizes innovations in administering stormwater permits, which limit the type and volume of pollutants that can be discharged into waterways.

Seeking to improve its detection of illicit discharges of pollutants by eliminating pollution at its source, the city, with approval by the Maryland Department of the Environment, shifted its focus from inspecting outfalls, such as where sewer pipes discharge into streams, to inspecting commercial facilities. The program ramped up, beginning with inspections of food service establishments, before expanding to auto businesses and stone cutters. Continued expansion will include large retail centers, followed by smaller, light-industrial businesses such as landscapers and carpet cleaners.

The program provides businesses with educational materials about good housekeeping and best management practices that they can follow to prevent water pollution, such as keeping grease dumpsters closed and away from storm drains or prohibiting outside washing to prevent runoff.

"The judges overall felt this could be a very transferrable approach for other small municipalities and a great way to target resources at some of the dirtiest sites in a local watershed," according to the project description on the Chesapeake Stormwater Network website.

For more about the project, visit chesapeakestormwater.net/awards/city-of-rockvilles-reimagining-idde.

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.

Peerless Presents the History of the Railroad and Explores Public Art in Rockville

Learn how the railroad changed Montgomery County and explore public art with Peerless Rockville in July and August.

Historian Susan C. Soderberg's illustrated presentation, "From Corn to Commuters: How the Coming of the Railroad Changed the Way of Life and the Future of Montgomery County," explores how a branch line became the mainstay of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and evolved into our present-day commuter and freight line.

The free presentation, the latest installment of the Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series, will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, July 13 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. It features the railroad stations designed by E. Francis Baldwin, extraordinary feats of engineering such as the curving trestle over Little Seneca Creek and the Bollman Truss viaduct over the Monocacy River, and new suburban and agricultural towns spawned by this catapult into the Industrial Age.

Register at peerlessrockville.com or with course #27890 at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration. Seating is limited. Light refreshments will be provided.

In "Speaking Through Tile: Deirdre Saunder's Art in and Near Rockville," hear from the artist about the process of creating public art, and where you can find more of her work locally. Saunder joins Peerless Rockville at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 17, at the site of one her installations, in front of the historic Red Brick Courthouse, 29 Courthouse Square. The presentation will meet outside before moving inside the courthouse.

Saunder's work can be found at Mary Trumbo Park, Lincoln Park Community Center and elsewhere in and around Rockville. A former Rhodes Scholar and a resident artist in the Carpenter Center at Harvard University, Saunder has lived in Rockville since 1998. She started making public art in 1994 with her first installation at Elwood Smith Park, and is supported in part by funding from the Montgomery County government and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.

Register at peerlessrockville.com.

Connect with us on Social Media.



Senior Housing Resource Expo

Rockville Senior Center
1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville, MD 20850

Wednesday, July 12
10 a.m.-1 p.m.



- Vendors
- Resources
- Raffles
- Round Table Discussion
- FREE Event

Register with Course # 26646

Musicals and Summer Evening Concerts: What's New in Rockville Entertainment

Rockville Musical Theatre presents "Into the Woods"

8 p.m. June 30, July 1, 7, 8, 14 and 15. 2 p.m. July 9 and 16.

A baker and his wife's wish for a child lead them into the woods on a magical journey to reverse a curse. Along the way they meet two princes, Red Riding Hood, Jack (and the Beanstalk), Rapunzel and Cinderella, each pursuing their own wish, in Stephen Sondheim's magical tale of love, adventure and consequences. Directed by Erin Bone Steele.

Tickets are \$26; \$23 for seniors and students. Group pricing is available. Call the box office at 240-314-8690 for more information.

Rockville Concert Band presents "Summer Evening of Pops"

7 p.m. Sunday, July 9 at Rockville Town Square.

Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the outdoor concert. Directed by Juan Gallastegui. In the case of inclement weather, call 240-314-8681 after 5 p.m. to find out about cancellation status.

For more information, visit rockvilleconcertband.org.

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery

The Rockville Art League exhibit, Essence of Summer Show, will be on view at the gallery from July 2 to Sept. 1.

Meet the artists, 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, July 2. Visit rockvilleartleague.org.

The Americans with Disabilities-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.

Rockville Civic Ballet presents "Coppelia"

7:30 p.m. Saturday, July 22; 2 p.m. Sunday, July 23.

A delightful ballet of pranks and puppetry. Directed by Eleanor Simpson and Erin Kwong. Tickets are \$17; \$13 for children 12 and younger and seniors 60 and older. Group rates are \$16.50 for seven or more adult tickets and \$12.50 for 10 or more children/senior tickets.

Victorian Lyric Opera Company presents "The Sorcerer"

8 p.m. Aug. 31 and Sept. 2.

Rich but witless Alexis is betrothed to the beautiful Aline. After a vision, he plots to bring the joy of marriage to the entire town at his wedding ceremony.

Tickets cost \$28, \$26 for seniors 65 and older, and \$24 for students. Presented in conjunction with the 7th Great Gilbert and Sullivan Sing Out. 🍷

In the Park and On the Big Screen: Return of Rockville's Movies in the Parks

Four Movies. Four Weeks. Four Neighborhood Parks.

Mark your summer entertainment calendar for Rockville's free outdoor Movies in the Parks, on the big screen at neighborhood parks throughout the city on Wednesdays in August.

Bring chairs, blankets, food and nonalcoholic beverages and enjoy four family-friendly movies at four different neighborhood parks. Movies begin at dusk (approximately 8 p.m.) and are free.

The 2023 schedule is:

- "The Boss Baby" (Rated PG) on Aug. 2, at Potomac Woods Park, 1380 Stratton Drive.
- "The Secret Life of Pets" (PG) on Aug. 9, at Woodley Gardens Park, 900 Nelson St.
- "Cool Runnings" (PG) on Aug. 16, at Montrose Park, 451 Congressional Lane.
- "Raya and the Last Dragon" (PG) on Aug. 23, at Maryvale Park, 812 First St.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/moviesintheparks. 🍷



Painful Joints, Personal Safety and Combating Social Isolation: At the 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, in person and held from 1-2 p.m., except where noted.

Arthritis: Why Do My Joints Hurt?

Learn about forms of arthritis, who it affects, if there's a cure and how to keep moving. Presented by Dr. Carlos Martinez, CAM Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation.

Register with course #27722. Wednesday, July 12. Hybrid.

Understanding Social Isolation Series

Learn how to combat social isolation together. In collaboration with the Senior Citizen's Commission, join this seasonal series to learn and build tools to help improve the quality of life for the senior community.

This season, licensed clinical social worker Rika Granger, Rockville's community services manager, will discuss mental health for seniors.

Register with course #27765. Thursday, July 13, 10:30-11:30 a.m. Free and in person at the senior center.

Your Personal Safety

The Rockville City Police Department discusses personal and vehicle safety, and preventing credit card fraud.

Register with course #28345. Thursday, July 13. Hybrid.

Mindfulness and Meditation as Medicine

Meditating each day and focusing on your mind can reduce stress, pain and feelings of sadness. Avani Prabhakar will discuss, then lead, a guided mindfulness-of-body meditation.

Register with course #27718. Thursday, July 27. Online.

Stroke: Symptoms and Rehab

Stroke is the leading cause of serious adult disability in the United States. Join Dr. Carlos Martinez of CAM Physical Therapy to learn about signs and symptoms, when to call 911, and rehabilitation.

Register with course #27723. Wednesday, Aug. 9. Hybrid.

Residential Security

The Rockville City Police Department discusses safety in your home, including preventing theft and burglary, computer safety and identity-theft prevention.

Register with course #27721. Thursday, Aug. 10. Hybrid.

What is Targeted Therapy for Cancer?

The future of oncology treatments is designing one drug to target one receptor or genetic alteration, resulting in a highly specific anti-cancer effect. Presented by Dr. Mark Goldstein.

Register with course #27713. Wednesday, Aug. 16, 12:15-1 p.m. Hybrid.

Contain the Pain of Arthritis

One in six adults experience arthritis. Dr. Hamid Hassanzadeh, division chief of Johns Hopkins orthopedic surgery in the National Capital Region, explores treatment options and pain management techniques for arthritis and degenerative disk disease.

Register with course #27716. Thursday, Aug. 31. Online.

Medical Equipment Available through the Maryland Department of Aging

Need durable medical equipment or would like to donate items? Durable medical equipment includes wheelchairs, power chairs, rollators, canes, crutches and more. A container is available in the back parking lot of the senior center. For more information, call 240-314-8800. 🍷



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). 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 is devoted to dogs, black business, wellness, immunization and crayons.

July/August CALENDAR

FACILITIES LEGEND:

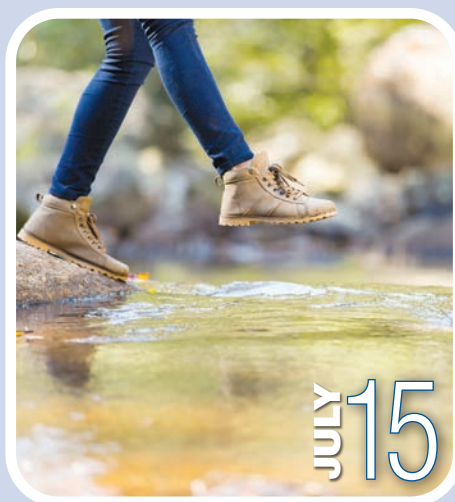
- CC** Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
GM Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
FSF F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
LP Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.

- CH** Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
SR Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
SFC Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
TF Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Dr., 240-314-8840.
TC Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.

- V** Virtual Program/Offering
f Facebook Live Event



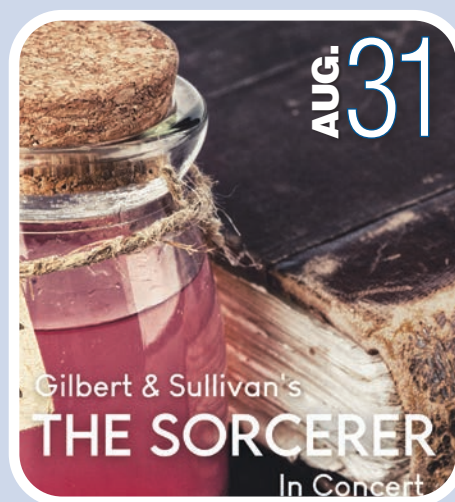
JULY 14



JULY 15



AUG. 2, 9, 16, 23



AUG. 31

JULY

1,7-9,14-16 ROCKVILLE MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS "INTO THE WOODS" See the article on page 6. **FSF**

1,15,22,29 ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET See ad on page 5. Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

8 ISREAL PARK REDEDICATION CEREMONY AND COMMUNITY DAY CELEBRATION See article on page 8. Noon-4 p.m. Isreal Park, 357 Frederick Ave.

10 TODDLER STORYTIME Delight Rockville toddlers aged 2-5 by reading some favorite children's books provided by the senior center. Includes a simple craft. Children should be accompanied by parent or caregiver. Register with course #27703. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

11 GROWING UP WILD TEACHER WORKSHOP A fun-filled, practical workshop for early childhood educators, packed with hands-on, experiential nature activities for the classroom. Includes indoor and outdoor activities. Dress for the weather. Child care providers may be eligible to receive elective curriculum credit. Advanced registration required. 9 a.m.-noon.

12 SENIOR HOUSING RESOURCE EXPO See the ad on page 6. 10-1 p.m. **SR**

12 ARTHRITIS: WHY DO MY JOINTS HURT? See article on page 6. Register with course #27722. 1-2 p.m. Hybrid. **SR**

13 LITTLE EXPLORERS Take time with your little one and explore with a naturalist. Ages 2-5. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

13 UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL ISOLATION See article on page 6. 10:30-11:30 a.m. **SR**

13 YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY See article on page 6. Hybrid. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

13 GLENVIEW MANSION-PEERLESS ROCKVILLE SPEAKER SERIES: "FROM CORN TO COMMUTERS" See article on page 6. 7-8 p.m. **GM**

14 SPLENDID SUCCULENTS Learn how to create the best environment for succulents, as well as care tips, fun succulent facts and other information Class includes supplies. Register with course #27708. 2-3 p.m. **SR**

15 FAMILIES OUTSIDE: CREEK CRAWL Wear closed-toe shoes and bring a towel. Nets will be provided to seek out macroinvertebrates and other creatures in the creek. Registration required. Ages 5 and older. 10-11:30 a.m. **CC**

15 PEACE DAY CELEBRATION See ad on page 8. 10 a.m.-noon. Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park.

19 HOMESCHOOL EXPLORERS Join a naturalist for a hands-on adventure in nature! Students will enjoy an interactive indoor classroom experience followed by a hike exploring the habitats surrounding the nature center. Lively discussions and interactive activities help to make learning about nature fun and approachable. Ages 5-12. 9:30-11:30 a.m. **CC**

20 BOCCE BALL TOURNAMENT Tournament is open to all senior center members. Participants must register with course #27768. 10 a.m.-noon. **SR**

20 YOUR AMAZING BRAIN: HOW IT ADAPTS, CHANGES AND TRANSFORMS ITSELF How medicine, meditation and music can affect the brain. Register with course #27701. 11 a.m.-noon. **SR**

20 MEMORABLE MELODIES Sharing a favorite melody and the story that goes with it. Register with course #27667. 1-2:30 p.m. **SR**

22 THE BUZZ ABOUT HONEYBEES Discover fascinating facts about honeybees with a volunteer beekeeper in this interactive program. Honey samples will be available after the program. All participants must register. Ages 5 and older. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

26 ACCESS HEARS Provides resources and access to affordable hearing devices for individuals with age-related hearing loss. Register with course #27764. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

26 RAT PACK FAVORITES: MUSIC FROM FRANK, SAMMY AND ALL THEIR PALS How did this random group become the Rat Pack? Join our teaching artist trio as they discover and explore these iconic superstars and their memorable hits. Register with course #27681. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

27 MINDFULNESS AND MEDITATION AS MEDICINE See article on page 6. Register with course #27718. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

AUGUST

1 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT Celebrate your neighborhood. See article on page 5.

2 **V** MEMORABLE MEALS Food and stories from the kitchens of our past define our very being. Bring a recipe and share the joy of its delicious memory with your peers in this online class. Register with course #27673. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

2 STATE ANATOMY BOARD The State Anatomy Board is a whole-body donation program in which you become a body donor. In addition, you can also become an organ and tissue donor. Register with course #28346. Hybrid.10-11 a.m.

2 MOVIES IN THE PARK: "THE BOSS BABY" Get outside this summer and enjoy Rockville's free outdoor movies on the big screen in your local park. See article on page 6. 8-10 p.m. Free. Potomac Woods Park.

5,12,19,26 ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

9 TRAVEL TRAINING In this free workshop, learn how to travel to destinations of your choice, read the metro rail map, quickly find station emergency and accessibility features, and save money with a senior SmarTrip fare card. Register with course #27759. 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **SR**

9 STROKE: SYMPTOMS AND REHAB See article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

9 MOVIES IN THE PARK: "THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS" Get outside this summer and enjoy Rockville's free outdoor movies on the big screen in your local park. See article on page 6. 8-10 p.m. Free. Woodley Gardens Park.

10 LITTLE EXPLORERS Take time with your little one to go exploring with a naturalist. Hiking, games and hands-on learning are all part of the fun! Ages 2-5. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

10 RESIDENTIAL SECURITY See article on page 6. Register with course #27721. Hybrid. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

13 FAMILIES OUTSIDE: CREEK CRAWL Wear closed-toe shoes and bring a towel while we provide the nets to seek out macroinvertebrates and other creatures in our creek. Registration is required. Ages 5 and older. 1-2:30 p.m. **CC**

16 OCEAN LIFE AND CONSERVATION Sharks, stingrays, sea turtles and more ocean animals come to life live from the Scott Aquarium at Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo. Explore the different layers of the ocean ecosystem, as well as the connection between the biggest and smallest ocean creatures. Learn about threats facing oceans and what can be done locally to help. Register with course #27687. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

16 WHAT IS TARGETED THERAPY FOR CANCER? See article on page 6. Register with course #27713. 12:15-1 p.m. **SR**

16 MOVIES IN THE PARK: "COOL RUNNINGS" Enjoy Rockville's free outdoor movies on the big screen in your local park. See article on page 6. 8-10 p.m. Free. Montrose Park.

17 BACKYARD HABITATS Join a naturalist from Croydon Creek Nature Center to learn about the wild wonders of your backyard. Registration is required with course #27674. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

17 "SPEAKING THROUGH TILE: DEIRDRE SAUNDER'S ART IN AND NEAR ROCKVILLE" See article on page 6. 7 p.m. Red Brick Courthouse, 29 Courthouse Square.

23 MOVIES IN THE PARK: "RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON" Get outside this summer and enjoy Rockville's free outdoor movies on the big screen in your local park. See article on page 6. 8-10 p.m. Free. Maryvale Park.

30 ALL-DAY EXERCISE Try a new exercise class to spice up your fitness routine. Preview classes that will be offered this fall with several free, 25-minute class demonstrations throughout the day. Register with course #27769. 10-2 p.m. **SR**

31 CONTAIN THE PAIN OF ARTHRITIS One in six adults experience arthritis. Dr. Hamid Hasanzadeh, division chief of Johns Hopkins orthopedic surgery in the National Capital Region explores treatment options and pain management techniques for arthritis and degenerative disc disease. Register with course #27716. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

31 VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY PRESENTS "THE SORCERER" 8-10:15 p.m. See article on page 6. **FSF**

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

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

Pedal Away the Summer Days

Explore the city by bike, with friends in July. The Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee leads casual neighborhood rides of about one hour on Tuesdays throughout the summer. Routes are on paved, shared-use paths, some sidewalks and some short sections of quiet streets. The group rides at the pace of the slowest rider, so no one gets left behind. Rain at the start cancels the ride; wet pavement does not.

Rides meet in the parking lot of Westat, 1600 Research Boulevard, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, July 11, 18 and 25.

Looking to ride the Rockville Bike Beltway? RBAC will lead a ride on the Carl Henn Millennium Trail, beginning at 10 a.m. Sunday, July 16, at Thomas S. Wootton High School, 2100 Wootton Parkway. Ride the trail with family and friends — or come and make new friends — on this 10.6-mile shared-use path that forms a loop around the center of Rockville. Rain at the start cancels the ride; wet pavement does not.

Find more upcoming rides at www.meetup.com/bike-rockville and facebook.com/bike-rockville. Learn more about bicycling in the city at www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling and www.rockvillemd.gov/rbac.

Register Now for Community Training on Fair and Impartial Policing

The Rockville City Police Department is offering free Fair and Impartial Policing training for community members in September.

Community members are encouraged to participate in this important training, which promotes bias-free behavior in community policing. The training gives officers and community members tools to better communicate and work together to make the community safer and more resilient.

The training will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9 in the social hall of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

An FIP national instructor will lead a roundtable discussion covering the following topics:

- What is implicit bias? Participants will learn about the modern science of bias and prejudice, including implicit bias.
- How might implicit bias manifest in police and in community members?
- What can individuals and agencies do to promote bias-free behavior? Participants will learn skills for reducing and managing bias.
- What is RCPD doing to promote fair and impartial policing?

This training is open to Rockville residents only. Light refreshments will be served.

To register visit bit.ly/FIPSept2023.



Questions, Concerns or Ideas?

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

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 Montgomery County and carries a fine up to \$1,000 and/or six months in jail. Public fireworks displays require proper permits and insurance.

Find details about the City of Rockville's Independence Day celebration, featuring fireworks, on page 1.

The Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service asks adults to teach children that fireworks are not toys and to explain their dangers.

Fireworks were involved with an estimated 11,500

injuries treated in emergency rooms in the United States in 2021, according to a study by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Of those, 8,500 — nearly two-thirds of the 2021 total, occurred from June 18-July 18. Find the CPSC study and tips for firework safety at www.cpsc.gov/Safety-Education/Safety-Education-Centers/Fireworks.

Learn more about what you should know about fireworks in Montgomery County at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcfrs-info/tips/citizens/fireworks.html.

To report illegal fireworks, call the Rockville City Police Department's non-emergency line at 240-314-8900. ✚

Propose a Project to Improve Your Neighborhood

The city is seeking input from community members about Rockville's Capital Improvements Program for Fiscal Year 2025-2029.

The CIP lays out how Rockville plans to invest funding over a five-year period for capital projects such as parks, roads, buildings and other infrastructure. As Rockville begins preparations for the Fiscal Year 2025 budget process, which begins July 1, 2024, residents are encouraged to tell the city about the condition of streets and parks, and help plan new facilities or infrastructure upgrades to meet community needs.

To tell the city what capital projects are needed in your neighborhood, complete and submit the form at www.rockvillemd.gov/Propose-a-Project by Friday, Sept. 15.

Proposals cannot serve a private purpose or be located on private property and should have an equal, accessible benefit to all community members. If submitted

on behalf of a neighborhood group, the proposal should be discussed and agreed on by the neighborhood group before submission. Neighborhood groups can provide the Mayor and Council with formal input about a project submission at any time during the budget process via a letter, email or online budget survey, or by addressing the Mayor and Council at a budget public hearing.

A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the city manager and applicable city department staff, and will be included as part of the public record, beginning with the first budget public hearing in the fall. Learn more about the city's budget process at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget.

For more information about CIP proposal submissions, contact Hjarman Cordero at hcordero@rockvillemd.gov. ✚



Community Invited to Celebrate Baseball Legend at Park Rededication

Join Lincoln Park Community Center, the Mayor and Council, and members of the Isreal family, from noon-4 p.m. Saturday, July 8, for a ribbon cutting to rededicate Clarence "Pint" Isreal Park, and an event to celebrate the community.

The community center and Isreal Park are located at 357 Frederick Ave.

The newly upgraded park includes a new pavilion, walking path, benches,

a walkway to the tennis courts and open space for play.

The community day celebration will feature a special performance of "Little Bit a Blues" with Lincoln Park's own Jay Summerour and Eric Shelby, as well as vendors and other entertainment.

In the event of rain, the ceremony and celebration will be moved inside Lincoln Park Community Center. ✚

Peace Day Celebration

Honoring Mattie's birthday & peace legacy!

July 15, 2023

10 am - 12 pm

Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park
1800 Piccard Drive
Rockville, MD



Party in the Park

with the Mattie Stepanek Peace Foundation

Jimmy Alexander - emcee extraordinaire
The Blarney Bench - folk music
Stephanie Goldklang - comedy
Ed Heck - Random Acts of Art
David Godoy - music / saxophone
Timothy Bellevia - WAATSI & Sage Dolls
Sylvia Logan Sharp - closing song
Mascots, moon bounce, face painting...

Proclamations & dedications

City, County, State Leaders
Community mosaic & activities
Purpose & fun for all ages
Cupcakes & conversation
Special closing ceremony...
all in celebration... of peace!

All are welcome!
Info@MattieOnline.com



Get Into It

City Manager: Rob DiSpirito
Director of Communication: Katherine Kirk-Dantzler
Assist. Director of Communication: Sean Sedam
Public Information Specialist: Cliff Cumber

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.



BACK IN THE DAY ... The July/August 2013 issue of "Rockville Reports" touted a new city website at www.rockvillemd.gov, featuring "big changes," including "more intuitive navigation," improvements to the search engine, interactive calendars and a more mobile-friendly design. That iteration of the website underwent an upgrade in 2018 and is scheduled for another overhaul in 2024.