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Education Commission Created to Support Rockville Students

The Mayor and Council in April unanimously approved the creation of an 11-member Education Commission to support City of Rockville 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, 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.

"[T]he Mayor and Council wishes to strengthen efforts to help proactively engage school communities and identify issues that impact the Rockville Community's education and leadership opportunities," the ordinance creating the commission states

Members of the group, who will be appointed by the Mayor and Council, will be representative of Rockville's demographic and educational diversity, as well as its neighborhoods.

Of the 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.

See a full list of the commission's duties with the staff report at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter by selecting the Monday, April 18 Mayor and Council meeting listing.



GETYOUR SUMMER SWIM ON ... The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center's outdoor recreation pool, complete with large slide, sprayground and tot pool, will open for the season on Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 28.

The outdoor fitness pool will open for preseason swimming in May. Spring's unpredictable weather means the exact date of the official first day for the fitness pool is still developing.

Plan ahead for your visit. Make sure to check the swim and fitness center's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter for hours and fees.

Sign up for the facility's email newsletter at www.rockville md.gov/swimcenter to have updates, including the fitness pool's opening date, delivered right to your inbox!

May and June in Rockville

Rockville City Hall and some city facilities will be closed Monday, May 30 for Memorial Day and Monday, June 20 as the city observes Juneteenth.

Recycling, trash and yard waste collection will be made one day later throughout the week of May 30. Collections will occur on regularly scheduled days during the week of June 20. Learn more at www. rockvillemd.gov/recyclingtrash. The following Rockville facilities will be closed May 30 and June 20: Rockville Senior Center; Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers; 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's indoor pool and fitness center will be open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. May 30 and open for regular hours June 20. Due to the city's Memorial Day parade, access to the center's parking lot will be restricted until after noon. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/swim center for individual pool schedules or call 240-314-8750.

Parking will be free at cityowned meters on May 30 and June 20. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-5000.

Rockville Requests Federal Funding Support for Three Projects

The Mayor and Council have requested federal earmark funding for three projects in Fiscal Year 2023.

U.S. Sen. Ben Cardin's office invited the city to submit the funding requests for federal support.

The projects, for which the Mayor and Council will request federal funding, are, in order of priority:

- 1. Implementing an advanced water meter program to improve the collection of and access to consumption data for the city's almost 13,000 water customers, and improve accuracy and operational efficiency (\$2.96 million).
- 2. Implementing a bulk so-

dium hypochlorite system at Rockville's water treatment plant to improve safety for the public and city staff, and transition to a more environmentally friendly disinfectant (\$1.8 million).

3. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center outdoor recreation pool renovations to improve and add modern features at an outdoor swimming complex (\$4.12 million).

The Mayor and Council discussed which requests to forward at a meeting on Thursday, April 7. See that discussion at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter by selecting the TV icon next to the meeting listing.







- · Use Vinson Street entrance.
- Masks not required but encouraged.
- Masks for visitors available at reception.
- Mayor and Council meetings are in person and virtual. See www.rockvillemd.gov/ AgendaCenter for more information.

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May is
Bike Month

Spring Festival Turns 20

MAYOR & COUNCIL 111 Maryland Ave. Rockville, Maryland 20850-2364 PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SUBURBAN, MD.

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Summer Camps Now Hiring Leaders and Directors

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

Rockville's camp staff are chosen for their enthusiasm, passion and experience in working with children.

Expand communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creative skills that are essential for success in today's world. Morning, afternoon, evening and all-day shifts are available, and all levels of experience are welcome.

Directors are required to be 21 or older and have had prior experience working with children. Visit www.governmentjobs.com/careers/rockville?keywords=camp to apply.

Rewarding Neighborliness with a Good Neighbor Award Nomination

Rockville prides itself on being a community of good neighbors — we need your help to find them.

The city is seeking nominations, through 5 p.m. Monday, May 16, for its Good Neighbor Awards. The program recognizes community members who are unselfishly giving back and improving quality of life in their neighborhoods through good deeds or community service.

The program is designed to honor those who make a difference in our community without seeking or receiving recognition for their service.

Nominees are sought in five categories:

- Individual adults: An individual who meets a need in the community by promoting service, social justice, equity, diversity, inclusion and positive change.
- Individual youth: An individual up to 18
 years of age who meets a need in the community, especially through promoting service,
 social justice, equity, diversity, inclusion and
 positive change.
- Nonprofit: A group or individual dedicated to improving, encouraging and promoting services that help to improve the lives of individuals in under-represented communities, ensuring access to resources and opportunities.
- Businesses: A group or individual dedicated to improving, encouraging and promoting sustainable economic development, especially serving under-represented communities, ensuring access to resources and opportunities.
- Rockville partner: A person or organization from outside Rockville that has contributed to the good of the city's community.

Award nominees must be Rockville residents, except in the "Rockville partner" category, and must have made a significant contribution to an individual or the community during 2021. Nominators may not nominate themselves.

For more information and nomination forms, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/goodneighbor.

Peerless Presents Rockville's Role in Brown, and a Chance to Explore in May, Heritage and Juneteenth in June

Peerless Rockville's upcoming events examine Rockville's role in a landmark Supreme Court case, celebrate Juneteenth and explore the city's heritage and history with an exhibit and tours of historic sites and public art.

Rockville and the Road to Brown v. Board of Education

7 p.m.Thursday, May 12 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. Free. Join historian Ralph Buglass for the latest installment of the Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series and learn how Rockville played an important role as one continued on pg. 10...

Final Fire Hydrant Replacement a Symbol of Rockville's Commitment to Safety and Infrastructure

The city is set to reach a milestone nearly a decadeand-a-half in the making with the replacement of its last low-flow fire hydrant, an event that underscores the Mayor and Council's commitment to maintaining Rockville's infrastructure.

The replacement is part of the ongoing rehabilitation of the water main on Beall Avenue, which began this spring. The project is part of a 100-year-long city program, launched in 2008, to replace every mile of pipe in the city's water system. Since the Mayor and Council approved the program, city staff has managed over 22 miles of water main replacement totaling nearly \$30 million in construction.

It's a big job: Rockville provides water and sewer service to 70% of the city, or nearly 13,000 accounts. (The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission provides service to the rest of Rockville.) To do this, 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.

"This last hydrant being removed out of the city's system should be highlighted as an achievement and a testament to the Mayor and Council funding the water main rehab program," said John W. Hollida, the city's engineering supervisor for capital projects.



The water main rehabilitation program aims to replace aging pipes, valves and fittings to increase the system's reliability. The new pipes will lead to fewer breaks and leaks, improve water quality and provide better water pressure throughout the water system.

While that alone is enough reason for the repairs and replacements, safety is the program's priority. When the program started, 67 fire hydrants were identified as having water flow rates of less than 500 gallons per minute – below the optimal flow to provide the capacity and water pressure needed to fight fires.

The final hydrant replacement won't be the end of the water main rehab program. The city will continue to prioritize water main replacements with a focus on pipe age, water quality, water main breaks and pipes with internal corrosion, which reduces water flow.

Learn more at www. rockvillemd.gov/water. +

With Weather Warmup, Construction to Ramp Up on Baltimore Road

As late-spring weather brings more favorable conditions, community members and commuters can expect increased construction activity on the project to improve safety and access on Baltimore Road.

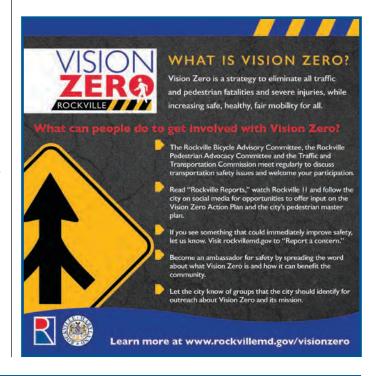
Throughout the winter, the city's contractor concentrated on sanitary sewer installation and water line relocations on the block between Woodburn Road and Edmonston Drive. Work will continue in this general vicinity in late spring with the installation of storm drain structures and pipe, followed shortly by concrete curb and gutter, and pervious concrete for the shared-use path.

Concrete work is planned

first for the roadway's north, followed by the south side. Property owners will be notified individually in advance of driveway closures that are expected to enable storm drain and concrete installations.

Roadway resurfacing will be one of the final steps of the project. Completion of the project is now planned for fall, a schedule delay driven primarily by supply chain issues limiting the timely delivery of construction materials.

To learn more about this project to improve the corridor between Rockville Town Center and the city's east side, visit www.rockvillemd. gov/baltimoreroadproject.



Rockville Urges Self-Care for Mental Health Month

May is Mental Health Month and, as a time of renewal and growth, the Mayor and Council are reminding residents — especially young people — to practice self-care.

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to proclaim May as Mental Health Month at their Monday, May 2 meeting. Watch live on channel 11 on county cable, the livestream at www. rockvillemd.gov/rockville11, or a day after the meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

In their proclamation, the Mayor and Council "encourage the Rockville community

to take care of [their] mental and physical health and to seek help, if needed, to adapt to significant changes, to heal from trauma, to learn coping skills for depression and anxiety, among other stressors, so that each and every person may fully participate and function in their family, school and community."

More than 2.5 million young people in the U.S. have severe depression — multiracial youth are at greatest risk — with one in seven young people experiencing severe depression. Sixty percent of youth with major depression do not receive any mental health treatment.

Many services that can help are available from the Department of Housing and Community Development. The department partners with Montgomery County Public Schools and local non-profits to provide summer programming for children and youth, such as therapeutic recreation, mentoring, Latino youth development, mental-health counseling and assistance transitioning to middle or high school.

Find out about services from the Department of Housing and Community Development that can help at www.rockvillemd.gov/376/Youth-Family-Programs.

Farmers Market Returns in May

Rockville Farmers Market opens for the season on Saturday, May 14 and will provide a dollarfor-dollar match for customers using their federal nutrition benefits.

Entering its 11th year, the Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money program removes economic barriers for food-insecure shoppers, by increasing access to fresh produce and increasing purchasing power. Customers can receive a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$10 weekly when they shop with SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition continued on pg. 12...



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Mayor Bridget **Donnell Newton** 240-314-8291 bnewton@ rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Monique Ashton 240-314-8295 mashton@ ockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg 240-314-8293 bfeinberg@ ockvillemd.gov



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



Councilmember Mark Pierzchala 240-314-8292 mpierzchala@ rockvillemd.gov

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

Meetings Schedule: Mondays, May 2, 9, 16 and 23, and June 6 and 27, at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockville md.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

The May 9 and June 6 meetings will be preceded by drop-in sessions by telephone with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, and councilmembers Mark Pierzchala in May and Monique Ashton in June, 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, email mayorcouncil@rockville md.gov by 10 a.m. on the day of the meeting. To participate virtually, follow instructions on the first page of the meeting agenda at www.rockvillemd. gov/AgendaCenter. All comments will be acknowledged by the Mayor and Council at the meeting and added to the agenda for public viewing on the website. Community members attending in person who wish to speak during community forum or a public hearing should sign up using the form at the entrance to the Mayor and Council chambers. In-person speakers will be called on after those who have signed up to speak virtually.

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

State Legislative Wins: Climate Measures and Money for Schools, Roads and Fitzgerald Theater

State aid for renovations to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and for road and bridge maintenance, and measures to combat climate change were among the wins for Rockville during the Maryland General Assembly session that concluded April 11.

The General Assembly also passed a \$61 billion state budget for Fiscal Year 2023, which begins July 1, bolstered by federal COVIDrelief funding and federal Build Back Better infrastructure legislation. The state budget includes investments in health care, public schools and cybersecurity, assistance for vulnerable residents, and tax cuts for Maryland retirees, small businesses and low-income

Several bills winning passage address goals of Rockville's new Climate Action Plan. The largest, the Climate Solutions Now Act, requires the state to achieve net-zero statewide greenhouse gas emissions by 2045, and establishes or extends energy efficiency and conservation program requirements, including requirements for purchasing zero-emission vehicles for

the state fleet. The legislature also established an Office of Resilience in the Department of Emergency Management.

The legislature voted to ban the sale of "ghost guns." Backed by the Mayor and Council, the legislation requires state police to maintain a system to register firearms imprinted with serial numbers and prohibits a person from purchasing, receiving, selling, offering to sell, or transferring an "unfinished frame or receiver" or a firearm unless imprinted with a serial

In another victory on a city priority, the legislature approved an increase in the share of state gas and vehicle taxes that local governments receive to fund road and bridge maintenance.

Lawmakers also approved a requirement that the State Highway Administration conduct an infrastructure review following a pedestrian or bicyclist fatality on a state highway, or at the intersection of a state highway and another highway or municipal street. The measure, which will aid the city in its Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic- and pedestrian-related deaths and serious injuries, requires SHA to post results of the review on its website within six months of a fatality.

Lawmakers approved a \$250,000 bond bill to renovate the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and Social Hall to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and, for the second consecutive year, waived a requirement that would require the city to match the funds.

Two other city priorities were unsuccessful. One would have increased the fine for illegally modified exhaust systems that generate excessive noise. The other would have allowed municipalities to advertise proposed changes to their charters in a printed newsletter or other regular municipal publication.

Plans are in the works for the state District 17 delegation to present a report on the session to the Mayor and Council. Visit www. rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details as they become available. For more information, contact Linda Moran at lmoran@rockville md.gov or 240-314-8115. +

on How the City is **Transforming Business**

FAST Stakeholders Forum virtually from 9-11 a.m. Wednesday, May 11 to provide updates on changes to the development and permitting process that are making it "Faster, Accountable, Smarter and Transparent."

tive forum will feature: opening remarks from City Manager Rob DiSpirito; an overview by Department of Community Planning and Development Director Ricky Barker; and updates on key initiatives and policy and ordinance changes from the departments of Housing and Community Development, Public Works, and Community Planning and Development Services.

Plus, attendees will be able to deliver feedback via live polling, and take part in a Q&A and breakout sessions.

RSVP to fast.stakeholders@ rockvillemd.gov.

Rabbiah Sabbakhan at rsabbakhan@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8242, or John Foreman at jforeman@rockvillemd.gov or

FAST Forum: Updates

Rockville will hold its annual

This informative and interac-

For more information, contact 240-314-8262.

rockvillemd.gov or by mail to the Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, III Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD

Get Involved

with the City

• Send an email to mayor

council@rockvillemd.gov. Testify at a hearing or in writing to mayorcouncil@

20850. Volunteer to be on a board or commission. Find ways to give of your time and talents at www.rockvillemd.gov/

Boards and Commissions

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

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

 May II and 25 and June 8 and 22 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 (I)
- Board of Supervisors of Elections (I)
- Cultural Arts Commission (2)
- Human Rights Commission (I)
- Human Services Advisory Commission (3)
- Planning Commission (3)
- Recreation and Park Advisory Board (I)
- Senior Citizens Commission (I) For more, visit www.rockville md.gov/boardscommissions or call 240-314-8280.

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► SPEAK UP **◆**

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

Call 1-866-921-6714

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

Mayor and Council to Vote on FY 2023 Budget in May

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to vote in May on the adoption of a city budget that focuses on several Mayor and Council priorities and addresses recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Mayor and Council discussed changes to the proposed budget during work sessions on March 21, April 18 and April 25, including newly projected increases in revenues from the admissions and amusement tax, and the highway user tax.

They also discussed options for funding positions, programs and initiatives, as well as the use of special funding from the American Rescue Plan Act, supplemental tax duplication funds, and excess general fund reserves. ARPA provides relief funds to aid state and local governments to help offset budgetary, economic and financial impacts of the pandemic. Supplemental tax duplication funds are used to reimburse incorporated towns and cities for property tax duplication collected by Montgomery County. By policy, the city seeks to maintain reserves of at least 20% of the annual adopted general fund revenues. The

Mayor and Council may use excess reserves to provide pay-as-you-go financing for capital projects, to fund other one-time items, or to make additional contributions for pension or other retirement benefit liabilities for city employees. The Mayor and Council considered capital projects and initiatives addressing infrastructure maintenance, public safety, emergency planning and Vision Zero.

City Manager Rob DiSpirito on Feb. 28 presented a proposed operating budget of \$148.6 million, an increase of 5.2% over the Fiscal Year 2022 adopted budget. The budget for Fiscal Year 2023, which begins July 1, is expected to benefit from a sizeable increase in tax duplication revenue. Planned spending addresses Mayor and Council priorities such as implementing the Comprehensive Plan, environmental sustainability and the Climate Action Plan, Vision Zero, economic development, financial sustainability and pandemic recovery.

Find the adopted FY23 budget book, beginning in July at www. rockvillemd.gov/budget. For Mayor and Council agendas, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ AgendaCenter. 💠

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.

Bike Rack Grants Available for Businesses

Bicycle parking means business. Studies show that businesses with bicycle parking near their storefronts get a measurable sales boost.

Business owners without bicycle parking near their shop or office could qualify for a rack — provided and installed for free by the City of Rockville — under the city's Bike Rack Grant Program. Learn more about the program and find an application by visiting www. rockvillemd. gov/bicycling and selecting "Bicycle Parking."

Residents interested in seeing bicycle parking at specific locations can direct business owners to the website. For more information, contact Rockville's Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator at 240-314-8527 or bikeways@rockvillemd.gov.

Register Your Bicycle

Registering your bike with the Rockville City Police Department makes it more likely that it could be recovered should it be lost or stolen. Once registered, bike owners are given a small sticker to attach to the bike frame. To register your bike and receive a registration sticker, visit the Rockville City Police Station at 2 W. Montgomery Ave. or fill out a form at www. rockvillemd.gov/bicycling. For more, call 240-314-8900 or email publicsafety@rockville md.gov.

We Want You to Help Rockville Walk and Roll

The city offers community members opportunities to help shape how Rockville walks and rolls.

The Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy
Committee and the Rockville Bicycle Advisory
Committee help shape bicycle and pedestrian
policies in the city.

The committees welcome community members to attend and participate in their monthly meetings. Meetings are currently held virtually. Check the city's online calendar at www. rockvillemd.gov/calendar.aspx for details about how to join.

Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee

Meets 7-8:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month.

The committee's mission is to improve pedestrian safety, ensure pedestrian access, enhance the pedestrian experience, and make recommendations to the Mayor and Council and other relevant agencies to enhance the pedestrian experience throughout the City of Rockville

Learn more about RPAC and its goals at www.rockvillemd.gov/rpac.

Rockville Bicycle Advisory CommitteeMeets 7-9 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month.

The committee assists in the development of the city's bicycle and pedestrian policies, and policies that affect the conditions for bicycling in the city. It oversees implementation of the city's Bikeway Master Plan and reports progress toward completion to the Mayor and Council. The committee also reviews current and proposed capital improvement projects to ensure bicycle needs are incorporated into design and construction when appropriate, and delivers updates about the needs and desires of bicyclists in the community, with recommendations for action to the Mayor and Council.

RBAC regularly hosts bicycle rides in and around Rockville. See the article on this page for details about rides during Bike Month and throughout summer. Learn more at www. rockvillemd.gov/rbac.

For more information about RPAC and RBAC, email Bryan Barnett-Woods, the city's pedestrian and bicycle coordinator, at bbwoods@rockvillemd.gov.



Go! Scoot!

Think Scooters, Courtesy and Safety When Rolling This Summer

As the weather warms, using a scooter for short trips is enjoyable and convenient.

Montgomery County's dockless e-scooter program uses companies that park scooters in strategic locations throughout the county, including in the City of Rockville, for riders to use. Riders can use the scooters and then park and leave them for someone else. When parking scooters, the city asks riders to keep these tips in mind:

Park scooters in a spot where they won't be an obstacle to someone else. Remember: Everyone uses the sidewalks, including pedestrians, bicyclists and wheelchair users. Don't park a scooter where it blocks a sidewalk or crosswalk, or access to pedestrian crossing signal buttons, fire hydrants, curb ramps, bus stops or entrances.

Park scooters upright. This makes it easier for the next person to use it or, if necessary, for someone to move it out of the way.

See a scooter that isn't working or has been left in the same spot for several days? Dial 311 in Montgomery County or call the scooter companies. Scooters are required to be labeled with contact information for the associated company, which will pick up malfunctioning or abandoned scooters from your neighborhood.

If necessary, feel free to move the scooter, remembering not to block the sidewalk or curb ramps.

Find a video with tips for scooter use at youtu.be/Q-Oo1fT2LTw. Learn more at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/commute.

Bike Lanes Bring Safety Gains to Maryland Avenue

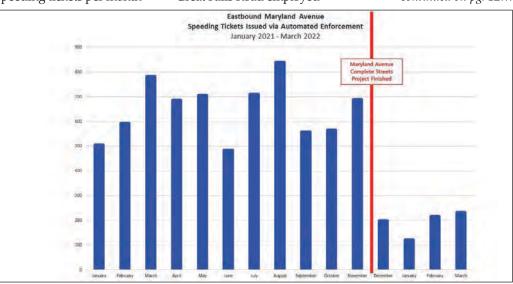
Speeding Tickets Decrease 70% Since Project's Completion

The number of tickets issued for speeding violations on a segment of Maryland Avenue dropped dramatically late last year following the completion of a city project that created bike lanes in both directions along the roadway.

A speed camera system monitoring the eastbound section of Maryland Avenue between South Washington Street and Great Falls Road issued an average of 647 speeding tickets per month during the first 11 months of 2021. In the first four months since the Maryland Avenue project's completion in early December, there were an average of 192 tickets issued per month, a 70% decrease. Learn more about the city's speed camera program at www.rockvillemd.gov/speedcameras.

The transformation of Maryland Avenue between South Washington Street and Great Falls Road employed the Complete Streets approach, removing one of the road's eastbound lanes and redesigning the road to enable safe use and support mobility for all users.

Complete Streets projects like the one on Maryland Avenue increase bicycling facilities and multimodal travel, which can help reduce traffic congestion and emissions. Though it may seem counterintuitive, adding bicycle lanes continued on pg. 12...



ROCKVILLE RIDES AGAIN WITH BIKE MONTH IN MAY AND BIKE RIDES BEYOND

MAY

is National Bike Month. Rockville celebrates with rides to work and school and in memoriam, and neighborhood rides all summer long to promote the benefits of bicycling.

National Bike Month Kickoff Ride

Sunday, May 1 • 10 a.m.

Starts at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

Join Rockville officials and neighbors to celebrate National Bike Month. Pedal a casual 6-mile loop along multiuse trails and quiet residential streets to explore some of the city's extensive and diverse bicycling infrastructure. The route includes a few paths, bridges and tunnels.

National Bike & Roll to School Day Wednesday, May 4

Start a celebration or event at your school! Visit www. walkbiketoschool.org or check with your school.

Remember: Montgomery County requires anyone under age 18 to wear a bicycle helmet when riding or being carried on a bicycle, including a bicycle with training wheels, on a public street, in right of way, or on a sidewalk or bicycle path.

15th Annual Rockville Ride of Silence

Wednesday, May 18 • 6:45 p.m.

Meet at Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave.

Bring a helmet and bike for a 10-mile police-escorted ride through neighborhoods to honor those who have been killed or injured on a bicycle. Riders must be comfortable on streets with traffic and riding approximately 10 miles in one hour.

Check www.rideofsilence.com for more information about this international event.

National Bike to Work Day

Friday, May 20 • 6:30 a.m.

Meet at various sites. See website for locations.

Celebrate bicycling as a clean, fun and healthy way to get to work. Stop at the pitstops in Rockville Town Center and/or Fallsgrove to receive a free T-shirt, refreshments, door prizes and inspiration as you ride. Register at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org.

Tuesday Evening Rides

June 7, 14, 21, 28 • 6:30 p.m. – Meet at Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park in King Farm, 1800 Piccard Dr.

July 5, 12, 19, 26 • 6:30 p.m. – Meet at Westat parking lot, 1450 Research Blvd.

Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 • 6:30 p.m. – Meet at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr.

Join a casual neighborhood ride that lasts about one hour. Routes are on paved, shared-use paths, sidewalks and short sections of quiet streets. Rides go at the pace of the slowest rider, so no one gets left behind. Rain or an impending storm at the start cancels the ride; wet pavement does not.

Juneteenth Ride

Sunday, June 19 • 10 a.m.

Starts at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr.

Celebrate local Black history with routes of 6 or 15 miles. Make stops at several African American history and heritage sites in Rockville and beyond.

Rockville Bicycle Ad<mark>visory Committee strives</mark> to make cycling in Rockville safe,comfortable and accessible for all residents. Visit www.youtube.com/cityofrockville and search for "bike safety." Learn more about bicycling in Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling and www.rockvillemd.gov/rbac.

RBAC meets virtually to discuss cycling issues and identify ways to make the city more bicycle friendly.

Share your ideas on how to improve the cycling experience in your neighborhood!

All are welcome to join the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

Follow RBAC on Meetup and Facebook for more group ride details and impromptu updates.

www.rockvillemd.gov/rbac • rockvillebikerides@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/bikerockville • www.meetup.com/bikerockville



MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel (www.youtube. com/cityofrockville): See the Mayor and Council's proclamations for Sikh awareness; Parkinson's disease awareness; Harriet Tubman's bicentennial year; Arbor Day; Rockville Science Day; and National Volunteer Week; as well as a safety presentation from the Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority.







Patient First Stag	e			
11:00 - 11:45 a.m.	Kidsinger Jim	Children's Music		
Noon - 12:45 p.m.	Kidsinger Jim	Children's Music		
1:15 - 2:00 p.m.	Victorian Lyric Opera Company	Opera		
2:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Hayley Fahey	Рор		
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Jah Works	Roots-Rock Reggae		
SUNDAY, MAY 29				
Montgomory College Stone				

	SUNDAY, MAY 29		
Montgomery College Stage			
	PERFORMER	GENRE	
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.	Thrive Yoga	Yoga	
11:00 a.m 12:30 p.m.	La Unica	Irish-Latin	
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Moose Jaw Bluegrass	Bluegrass	
3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	Daryl Davis	Blues	
5:30 - 7:00 p.m.	The Nighthawks	Blues	

Patient First Stage			
11:00 - 11:45 a.m.	Ferrets and Friends	Animal Show	
Noon - 12:45 p.m.	Ferrets and Friends	Animal Show	
1:15 - 2:00 p.m.	Dancing Clouds	Dance	
2:30 - 4:00 p.m.	Justin Trawick and the Common Good	Folk Rock	
4:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Blaggards	Irish Rock	

OUR SPONSORS

MAJOR

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE



CELEBRATING 75 YEARS 1946 = 2021

BENEFACTOR



Kitchen Saver · Lafayette Federal Credit Union · Red Carpet Remodeling · Rock East District · Vacation Village Resorts



Reunite with neighbors at Hometown Holidays: A Community Gathering. This free festival features local flavor including two stages of entertainment by local acts, the Taste of Rockville and activities for kids from 11 a.m-7 p.m. Saturday, May 28 and Sunday, May 29 at RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/ HTH.

The Hometown Holidays website will help festival goers get ready for the weekend and get around while they are at RedGate Park. On the site you'll find:

- The complete festival lineup and performance schedule.
- Participating Taste of Rockville restaurants and menus.
- Memorial Day ceremony and parade schedule and details.
- Transportation and parking options.

Hometown Holidays Highlights

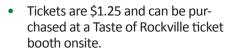
KIDS ACTIVITIES

- Kid-friendly entertainment by Kidsinger Jim, and Ferrets and Friends.
- Two sand dunes.
- A kids craft tent.
- Amusements provided by Ultimate Amusements. (Fee required.)

TASTE OF ROCKVILLE

Featuring bites from local restaurants including: Bibibop, Big Greek Café, Crepe Shoppe Café (Saturday only), Corned Beef King (Sunday only), Eko House, El Mercat, Grandma Kona Ice, Kusshi Sushi and Mosaic Cuisine.





Sponsored by and benefiting the Rockville Chamber of Commerce and Community Reach of Montgomery County.

AND MORE FUN!

- Beverages, including soda, water and assorted Bud Light products.
- Sponsor and community booths highlighting organizations serving our community.
- Cornhole and giant Connect Four.
- Two selfie stations for clicking and capturing the fun.
- Sunday morning yoga with Thrive Yoga, from 8:30-9:30 a.m. Sunday, May 29 at the Montgomery College Stage. Bring a mat and water to welcome day two of the festival.

UBER IT

Save on an Uber ride home from Hometown Holidays. Scan the QR code UBER found at the festival's beverage booth or in the festival guide to receive 20% off your ride home between 4-8 p.m. each day. Discounts are good for rides within a 10-mile radius of the event. The Uber pickup and drop-off will be at the Blair Ewing Center, 14501 Avery Road. Use the address when requesting your ride. Presented by the Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation.







The Weekend: Know Before You Go

New Location

 For Saturday and Sunday, May 28 and 29, Hometown Holidays will be held at RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road.

General Information

- Bring beach chairs or blankets to ensure comfortable seating. Be considerate so that those around you can see the show too.
- No chairs or blankets allowed within 100 feet of the stage.
- Outside, prepared food is permitted.
- Onsite recycling supports Rockville's sustainability efforts.
- There will not be mug sales or refills this year.
- Most events will take place rain or shine. In case of inclement weather, cancellations will be posted at www. rockvillemd.gov/HTH and www. rockvillemd.gov/Rockville HometownHolidays.

Safety: For the safety of all, please follow these guidelines:

- RedGate Park is smoke- and vape-free.
- No pets, tents, barbecuing or open flames.
- No outside alcohol.
- No wheeled recreational devices.
- No noisemakers, glass containers, drones or laser pointers.
- No weapons, illegal substances or explosives.
- No throwing footballs, Frisbees, baseballs or other projectiles.

Assistance Needed: Rockville strives to provide access to all programs and

services, regardless of ability. Contact 240-314-8620 with questions regarding access to Hometown Holidays. Rock-ville will offer sign language interpreters for Monday's Memorial Day ceremony and parade.

Getting There: Hometown Holidays – A Community Gathering is located at RedGate Park.

By Car

• Free and ample parking is available at the festival.

By Rideshare

 Rideshare pickup/drop-off is located at the Blair Ewing Center, 14501 Avery Road. See page 6 for how to save on a ride with Uber.

By Bike

 Rockville is a bike-friendly community. Learn more at www.rockville md.gov/bicycling.

Shuttle Service

- This free service will run from Rockville Town Center to RedGate Park from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, May 28 and
- Rockville Town Center Pickup/Dropoff: Monroe Street between East
 Montgomery Avenue and Middle
 Lane. For directions, use 51 Monroe
 St. or search "The Promenade" on
 your phone's map app.
- RedGate Park Pickup/Drop-off:
 Outside the main festival entrance.
- Hours: Shuttles will run approximately every 30 minutes from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. The last Rockville Town Center pickup is 6 p.m.



9 a.m. • ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND AND CHORUS

The City of Rockville-supported volunteer band and the Rockville Community Chorus will perform a musical tribute to America.

9:30 a.m. • MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY

The ceremony, in the plaza at Rockville Town Square, includes music by the Rockville Concert Band and the Rockville Chorus; a traditional wreath laying, led by American Legion Post 86; and the presentation of colors by the American Legion Post 86 Color Guard and Rockville City Police Department Honor Guard.

10:30 a.m. ● 78th MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

After the ceremony, the parade proceeds from Martins Lane and North Washington Street through Rockville Town Center (see map below). The parade has something for everyone, with drill teams, marching bands, multicultural community groups, military units and more.

LT. COL. JAIME I. ESPINOSA, U.S. AIR FORCE, GUEST SPEAKER

Lt. Col. Jaime I. Espinosa is an Air Force reservist who serves as the staff judge advocate at the 514th Air Mobility Wing, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakenhurst, New Jersey. Espinosa leads an office of three attorneys and four paralegals in supporting 17 com-

manders and the legal needs of over 2,200 reserve citizen airmen.

Espinosa is admitted to practice law before the D.C. Court of



Appeals and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. Throughout his career, he received twice each the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal and Air Force Commendation Medal.

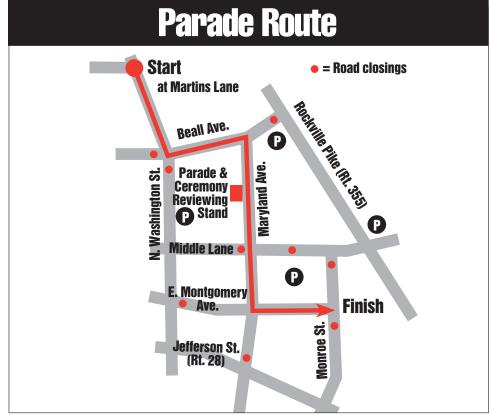
In his civilian capacity, Espinosa works for the Food and Drug Administration. He served for almost seven years on the city's Ethics Commission and is a member of the city's Community Policing Advisory Board. He is a 10-year resident of Rockville, where he lives with his wife, Kimberly and daughter, Adela.

PARADE PARKING

On Monday, May 30, free parking is available at the Metro lots, City Hall lots and jury lot at Route 28 and Monroe Street.

Paid parking is available for a \$5 flat fee in the Rockville Town Square garage located off Route 355 or North Washington Street from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. on Monday, May 30. Cash and credit accepted. Regular parking rates apply at all other times. Accessible parking is available in the Rockville Town Center garage.





FACILITIES LEGEND:

- Croydon Creek Nature Ctr., 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
- Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
- P Lincoln Park Community Ctr., 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780. T Twinbrook Comm. Rec. Ctr., 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.
- CH Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
- Rockville Senior Ctr., 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
- Rockville Swim and Fitness Ctr., 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
- Thomas Farm Community Ctr., 700 Fallsgrove Dr., 240-314-8840.
 - Trainbreak Comm. Box Oir 10000 Trainbreak Diver. 040 014 0000











MAY

- NATIONAL BIKE MONTH KICKOFF RIDE See page 4. 10 a.m. 🕕
- INVASIVE SPECIES PULL Help remove invasive plant species and improve the Hayes Forest Preserve. Preregistration required. See article on page 9. Ages 5 and older. 1:30-3:30 p.m.
- 1,2,6,7 ROCKVILLE LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS "SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER" See article on page 11.
- 2,9,16,23 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING See page 3. (1)
- 3 VOUR HEART, YOUR LIFE SERIES: SESSION 8 See article on page 11. 1-2 p.m.
- **3,10,7,24,30** ✓ SETTING RELATIONSHIP BOUNDARIES Tips on how to set limits for what you will and won't tolerate from others, based on the book, "Setting Boundaries Will Set You Free," by Nance Levin. Register with course #21946. 2:30-4 p.m. **9**
- 4 NATIONAL BIKE & ROLL TO SCHOOL DAY See page 4.
- 4 CAN I SELL MY HOUSE AND BUY ANOTHER ONE SIMULTANEOUSLY? Discover steps involved in selling and buying in today's market. Make a do's and don'ts list. Register with course #22085. 10-11 a.m.
- 4 V BACK PAIN AND SCIATICA See article on page 11. 1-2 p.m.
- **20TH ANNUAL SPRING FESTIVAL AND NATIVE PLANT SALE** See article on page 11. 10 a.m.-noon.
- 12 V ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA AND MEMORY PROBLEMS (VIRTUAL) See article on page 11. 1-2 p.m. (8)
- 12 ROCKVILLE AND THE ROAD TO BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION See article on page 2. 7 p.m.
- 12 V BUILDING AND LIVING IN MOCO'S FIRST CERTIFIED NET-ZERO EN-ERGY HOME See article on page 9. 7-8 p.m.
- **13,15** BETHESDA CONSERVATORY OF DANCE PRESENTS "DANCING IN NEW YORK!" See article on page 11. 7-10 p.m., Friday, May 13 and 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., 1:30-3:30 p.m. and 4:30-6:30 p.m., Sunday, May 15.
- NATURE NERDS TRIVIA CAMPFIRE Who holds the title of the strongest animal on earth? What do you call a group of owls? How long can a beaver hold its breath? Bring a partner and compete against other teams to test your nature knowledge while enjoying s'mores around the campfire. Preregistration required with course #22672. Ages 8 and older. 7-8 p.m. \$5 R/\$6 NR.
- **14,21,28** ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET See article on page 2. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets.
- 17 STROKE: HOPE THROUGH SCIENCE See article on page 11. 1-2 p.m. 🚯
- **18 15th ANNUAL ROCKVILLE RIDE OF SILENCE** See page 4. 6:45 p.m. Rockville Town Square.
- 20 NATIONAL BIKE TO WORK DAY See page 4. 6:30 a.m.
- **21 SPRING SHOTS** Capture the beauty of nature by learning to take photos of the natural world. Explore the basics of photography while snapping pictures with nature center iPads. Preregistration required. Ages 8-12. Register with course #22675. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 10-11 a.m.
- THE INFLUENCE OF FAMILY ON SOCIETY See article on page 11. 1-2:30 p.m.

- **28** LITTLE EXPLORERS Go on hiking adventures with naturalists, play games and discover the outdoors. Spaces limited. Dress for the weather. All children must be accompanied by an adult. 9:30-10:30 a.m. (course #22660) and 11 a.m.-noon (course #22661). Ages 2-5. \$8 R/\$10 NR.
- **28,29 HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS: A COMMUNITY GATHERING** *See enclosed insert.* 11 a.m.-7 p.m. RedGate Park.
- **28** FOUR SEASONS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA PRESENTS "CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONCERT" See article on page 11. 7:30-9 p.m. (8)
- **30** MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY AND PARADE See enclosed insert. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Rockville Town Center.
- 30 MEMORIAL DAY CLOSINGS See article on page 1.
- **31** WORKSHOP: CREATING A GRATITUDE PRACTICE Review how practicing gratitude can help and learn ways to do it. Register with course #21955. 2:30-4 p.m.

JUNE

- **↑ ARTHRITIS:** "WHY DO MY JOINTS HURT?" See article on page 11. 1-2 p.m.
- **3** PRIDE PICNIC Want to meet new friends in the LGBTQ community? Let's picnic together and look at upcoming events to celebrate Pride month! Register with course #22087. 10-1 a.m.
- **FAMILY BIRD HIKE** Join a Croydon Creek naturalist at RedGate Park for a hike to discover birds that make their home in the area. Bring binoculars if you have them. A limited supply will be available to borrow. Preregistration required. Ages 5 and older. RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road. 8-9:30 a.m.
- **4,11,18,25** ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET See article on page 2. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets.
- **5 W ROCKVILLE PRIDE VIRTUAL EVENT** See ad on page 12. 2-3:30 p.m.
- 6,27 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING See page 3.
- 7 VOUR HEART, YOUR LIFE SERIES, SESSION 9 See article on page 11. 1-2 p.m.
- **7,14,21** SETTING RELATIONSHIP BOUNDARIES Tips on how to set limits for what you will and won't tolerate from others, based on the book, "Setting Boundaries Will Set You Free," by Nance Levin. Register with course #21946. 2:30-4 p.m.
- **7,14,21,28 TUESDAY EVENING RIDES** *See page 4.* 6:30 p.m. Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park.
- **8** ROCKVILLE PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS See article on page 10. 11:30 a.m. Lakewood Country Club, 13901 Glen Mill Road.
- 10,11,12,19 VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY PRESENTS "EL CAPITAN." See article on page 11.
- **18** SUDS & SOLES 5K See article on page 12. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Rockville Town Square Park.
- 19 JUNETEENTH RIDE See page 4. 10 a.m. Civic Center Park.
- **20** JUNETEENTH OBSERVED See article on page 1.
- 21 HANDS-ON CPR See article on page 11. 1-2 p.m. 🚷
- **26** ROCKVILLE PRIDE See ad on page 12. 2-4 p.m. Rockville Town Square Park.

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

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

A Greener Way in May

Earth Month may be over, but earth-friendly activities continue year-round. Here's what's on deck for May:

Sunday, May 1: Invasive Species Pull, 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Help remove invasive plant species and improve the Hayes Forest Preserve. SSL hours available. Register for course #22666 at www. rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Saturday, May 7:

20th Annual Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale, 10 a.m.-noon at Croydon Creek Nature Center. See the article on page 11.

Thursday, May 12: Building and Living in Montgomery County's First Certified Net-Zero Energy Home. 7-8 p.m. Virtual. Part of the Climate Solutions Speaker Series. See the preview article on this page.

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

Saturday, May 21: Spring Community Outdoor Yard Sale, 8 a.m.-noon in the parking lot of Richard Montgomery High School, 250 Richard Montgomery Drive. This yard sale encourages reusing and includes a bulb exchange. Swap old incandescent or compact fluorescent light bulbs for up to three light-emitting diode bulbs. Register for course #22668, #22669 or #22670 at www.rockvillemd.gov/ registration.

Find ongoing opportunities and more at www. rockvillemd.gov/earth month.

Tracking Trash and **Remembering Recycling**

With the arrival of summer and a growing customer base, Rockville will adjust recycling and trash collection routes in May. Collection days won't change, but the time the trucks collect on your street may fluctuate. Be sure not to miss the truck by placing carts curbside by 6 a.m. on your collection day.

If you find your household with more trash and recyclables than fit in your carts, there's no need for an extra cart. Place extra trash next to your cart and city crews will collect it. If you have extra recyclables, don't put them in plastic bags, which could get tangled in recycling equipment. Instead, place them in any 32-gallon can with handles and crews will pick them up.

Due to recent staffing shortages, customers may experience delays in yard waste collections. Leave yard waste at the curb and it will be collected as soon as possible. Do not remove yard waste if it has not been collected. Having yard waste at the curb will help crews assess collection needs and make

Thinking of purchasing

rooftop solar or an electric

vehicle but not sure where

to start?

plans to catch up as soon as possible, including collecting on Friday and Saturday.

Visit www.rockvillemd. gov/recycling-trash to learn about Rockville's recycling and trash collection, including what can and can't be recycled, and whether the City of Rockville provides recycling, trash and yard waste to your neighborhood.

Enter your address under "Find Your Collection Day." The online tool will tell you whether the City of Rockville serves your address. If it does, you'll be able to add reminders and notifications about collection days and holiday changes to the calendar on your smartphone or personal computer.

Prefer a low-tech or notech way to keep track of collection days? Visit www. rockvillemd.gov/301/Holiday-Schedules for a list of holidays when the city's collection schedule changes, and printable calendars showing schedules for each collection day.

For more information, call 240-314-8568, or email recyclingrefuse@rockvillemd.

Convert your leaf blower to battery-power and get leaf blower rebates.

Rebates for Electric Leaf Blowers

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection is providing limited rebates, while they last, of up to \$200 per business or address, for Ego brand electric leaf blowers

when you turn in a gas-powered leaf blower. There are many benefits to going electric. Electric blowers require no gas mixing, air filters, spark plugs or pull cords, and are lighter, quieter, and just as powerful.

Apply at https://bit.ly/3f64X7n.

Eligible rebate applicants receive \$50-100 per electric leaf blower they buy (up to two) when they agree to exchange a gas leaf blower for each rebate. Rebates are \$100 each per Ego Power+ LB6003 Battery Backpack Leaf Blower Kit or \$50 per Ego LB6504 handheld model. Recipients must be located in Montgomery County, Maryland, and gas-powered blowers must be dropped off when purchasing the new blowers.

Climate Solutions Speaker Series: Step Inside a Net-Zero Energy Home

Rockville's Climate Solutions Speaker Series continues this month with a virtual presentation exploring a net-zero energy home.



"Building and Living in Montgomery County's First Certified Net Zero Energy Home," 7-8 p.m. Thursday, May 12, discusses how a middle-income family living in a 1951 Twinbrook Cape Cod remodeled their home to be 100% powered by the sun. Learn from Clark Reed, chair of the Rockville Environment Commission, how his home became Montgomery County's first certified net-zero energy home, using colonial architectural features to improve climate resiliency. Register at bit.ly/NetZero

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

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 I-800-332-6347 or visit dhs.maryland.gov/ office-of-home-energy-programs/lowincome-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.

Checklist to Reduce Mosquito Breeding on Your Property

Mosquito species that have the potential to spread viruses 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

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 downspouts with smooth

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

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 :

Where to Check:

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

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



Lead the Charge: Join the Rooftop Solar and Electric Vehicle Co-ops

in-person events to help answer all your solar questions. Learn more at bit.ly/ CapSolarCo-op22. If you're ready to "Lead the EV Charge," join the Montgomery County EV **Purchasing Cooperative**

Aug. 30 and includes vir-

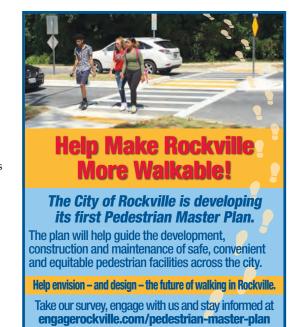
tual info sessions and

today. Visit www.montgomery countymd.gov/green/zev to learn about the co-op and pledge to make your



next vehicle an electric vehicle.

By signing the online pledge, you'll commit to making your next car an electric vehicle — and 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. *



TAKE THE SURVEY

参加调查

REALIZA LA ENCUESTA



BE CART SMART: Throwing out plastic bags, clothes or a garden hose? Please don't use the brown recycling cart – put them in the gray trash cart. Or, to find a nearby grocery store that accepts plastic bags for recycling, visit bit.ly/howtorecyclebags. Got a city cart that's falling apart? Call 240-314-8568. We'll replace it for you.

Rockville

Adventure Abounds with Rockville's 2022 Summer Camps

Rockville's 2022 summer camp season is upon us and adventure is calling. Now is the chance to make memories and stories that will last a lifetime.

Registration is open at www.rockvillemd. gov/registration.

Park Adventure Camps, for kids aged 5-12, run from Tuesday, June 21 until mid-August at 10 locations throughout Rockville.

Park Adventure Camps offer half-day, full-day and extended-day options and feature a variety of activities including games, crafts, water activities and outdoor play time. Swimming and field trips will return this year at full-day and extend-

Specialized camps include cooking; dance; drama; science, technology, engineering, the arts and math; gymnastics; art and fashion design.

Teens can earn Student Service Learning hours in in-service learning camps or take daily trips with our Teens on the Go camps.

Rockville's camp staff are chosen for their enthusiasm, passion and experience in working with children, and directors and leaders are being hired now. See the article on page 2 for more information.

All camps are licensed by the state of Maryland and follow federal, state and local COVID-19 health and safety guidelines.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/camps for more information and view the "Summer Camps 2022" guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/life.

Peerless Presents

continued from pg. 2...

of the first steps toward overturning school segregation. The first case involving Black and white teachers' vastly unequal pay — brought by a courageous teacher, William B. Gibbs Jr., and a young Thurgood Marshall — was heard in Rockville's Grey Courthouse and proved foundational to Marshall's larger strategy against unequal, separate schools.

Explore Rockville by Decade

Thursday, May 12-Sunday, May 15. \$20 per household. Join a self-guided outdoor tour and scavenger hunt through sites and stories of Rockville through the decades, from its beginnings to the 20th century. The tour features more than 10 stops, including highlights from three previous Explore Rockville events and a few new stops featuring unique sites, stories and art across the city. Tour stops are a surprise. After registering, each household will receive a link to a printable program with a write-up of each site and scavenger hunt instructions. Register at www.peerlessrockville. org.

9 a.m.-noon Saturday, June 18 at the Red Brick Courthouse, 29 Courthouse Square. Free. Mark this national celebration of emancipation with a visit to view the Peerless Rockville exhibit "Forging Freedom: Endurance, Escape and Rockville's Underground Railroad" about self-emancipation efforts in Rockville. At 10 a.m., join a conversation with local historians about freedmen's dedication to education and the important role of Rockville's oldest Black church, now Jerusalem-Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church.

Heritage Days

Noon-4 p.m. Saturday, June 25 in Rockville Town Center. Free. Visit the historic Red Brick Courthouse to view "Forging Freedom: Endurance, Escape and Rockville's Underground Railroad." Then, embark on a short self-guided tour of several nearby historic sites and public art.

Procurement Division's eSourcing Tools Are Ready to Serve City Vendors

Rockville's Procurement Division debuted a new collaboration portal in April offering tools that make it easier for vendors to do business with the city.

The eSourcing and Vendor Collaboration Portal, at www.rockvillemd.gov/ bids.aspx, allows vendors to submit electronic bids and proposals and conduct procurement. The portal is the only means of submitting bids and proposals with the city. Hard copy and emailed bids or proposals are no longer accepted.

Vendors can find instructions for setting up their Vendor Collaboration Portal account and registering to access bidding opportunities with the city on the webpage, along with quick reference guides. A documents library within the Vendor Collaboration Portal also offers a user manual with detailed instructions for navigating the system.

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

The portal makes the city's bidding process more efficient. Bidders no longer need to visit the city's procurement office to submit bids in person, saving time and money. **†**

May is Building Safety Month

Rockville Urges Radon Awareness for Homeowners

Safety for All: Building Codes in Action is the theme for May's Building Safety Month.

"[T]he City of Rockville is committed to recognizing that our growth and strength depends on the safety and economic value of the homes, buildings and infrastructure that serve our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of disaster," a proclamation from the Mayor and Council, declaring the month, states.

This month, Rockville is focused on radon awareness. Radon is an invisible, odorless, tasteless, radioactive gas.

Rockville has mandated passive radon gas controls in city code for many years, said Rabbiah Sabbakhan, the city's chief of inspection services, and most, if not all, newer homes in Rockville should be equipped with radon mitigation systems.

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.

Several associations and government agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency and the surgeon general, recommend radon testing in homes. Many home improvement stores sell radon test kits. Homeowners may want to hire a radon measurement professional to test their home.

Learn more about radon at www.epa.gov/radon.

Find out more about Building Safety Month via the International Code Council at www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/ building-safety-month.

To find out how Rockville maintains building safety, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ 165/Permits-Inspections. **



Have You Spotted the Spotted Lanternfly?

While the spotted lanternfly hasn't hit Rockville vet, residents should be on the lookout for this invasive crop- and tree-damaging insect.

Identified by the Maryland Department of Agriculture as a destructive insect, while this planthopper damages crops, and feeds on trees, such as grapes, peaches, apples,

has negatively impacted agriculture operations throughout the Mid-Atlantic region," MDA Secretary Joe Bartenfelder said in January, announcing the expansion of a spotted-lanternfly quarantine to control the spread in 10 Maryland counties, Montgomery County among them, and Baltimore City.

If the



es, put them in a sealed bag with hand sanitizer or alcohol, and dispose of them.

Squash all other stages of the insect when found throughout the year.

Report spotted lanternfly infestations to the state's agriculture department at mda.maryland. gov/plants-pests/pages/ spotted-lantern-fly.aspx, or see extension.umd.edu/ resource/spotted-lanternfly-management-residents for more information on the pest. 💠

Rockville Public Safety Awards to Honor the City's First Responders

Members of the Rockville City Police Department, Rockville Volunteer Fire Department, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office and Montgomery County Department of Correction and Rehabilitation will be honored for their service to the community at the Rockville Public Safety Awards on Wednesday, June 8 at Lakewood



Country Club, 13901 Glen Mill Road. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon begins at noon.

rarely kills them. The lantern-

fly is mainly a nuisance and

congregates on trees, where

it produces honeydew, a

sticky substance that col-

lects on plants and objects

"While they are not

known to pose any seri-

health concern, the spot-

tive invasive species that

ted lanternfly is a destruc-

ous human or animal

Tickets are \$35 per person through Monday, May 2. After May 2, tickets are \$40 per person. Tables of 10 and sponsorship opportunities are available. For more information, and to register, visit bit.ly/ PSAwards2022. **



BE SAFE AS GRILLING SEASON APPROACHES ... Nicer weather 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.

Front Pain, Back Pain, Heart Health and Self Care, This Month at the Senior Center

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

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

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

Your Heart, Your Life Series: Lessons providing information for healthy lifestyle changes. Presented by Adventist HealthCare.

- Session 8 Make Heart Healthy Eating a Family Affair. Register with course #22033. Tuesday, May 3.
- Session 9 Eat in a Heart Healthy Way Even When Time or Money is Tight. Register with course #22034. Tuesday, June 7.

Back Pain and Sciatica:

Dr. Carlos Martinez from CAM Physical Therapy and Wellness Services will share how back pain and sciatica affect us, the causes of back pain, the anatomy of the back, how a physical therapist can help, and pain-management strategies.

Register with course #21875. Wednesday, May 4.

Activities for People with Dementia and Memory Problems: Learn skills to provide daily activities for loved ones, including artistic, social, work and exercise. Presented by Maria Khadar, director of JK House of Grace.

Register with course #21893. Thursday, May 12.

Stroke: Hope Through Science: Identify risk factors, prevention and the latest treatment options for strokes. Presented by Terri Cook, a registered nurse with Adventist HealthCare.

Register with course #22035. Tuesday, May 17.

The Influence of Family on Society: The impact of family plays a major role in the experiences we have. Take part and share thoughts to help build a better, happier future by supporting family life, education and training. Presented by Bill Neely of Getting Along Better, LLC.

Register with course #22720. Tuesday, May 24.

Arthritis: "Why Do My Joints Hurt?" Learn about the various forms of arthritis, who is affected, if there is a cure and what to do to keep moving. Presented by Dr. Carlos Martinez of CAM Physical Therapy and Wellness Services.

Register with course #21876. Wednesday, June 1.

Hands-On CPR: Learn the history of CPR, and the signs and symptoms of stroke and heart attack. Hands-on practice; limited to 10 participants. Presented by Adventist HealthCare. (Not a certification course.)

Register with course #22036. Tuesday, June 21. Held in-person at Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

Mistaken Identities, Chorus and Operettas, This Month at the F. Scott

Rockville Little Theatre presents "She Stoops to Conquer."

8 p.m. May 6 and 7; 2 p.m. May 1 and 8 at F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive.

This Oliver Goldsmith romp of mistaken identities has delighted audiences for over two centuries. Directed by Jennifer Georgia.

Tickets are \$22; \$20 for seniors 62 and older and students. Purchase tickets at fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/sheconquers.

Bethesda Conservatory of Dance presents "Dancing in New York!"

7 p.m. gala performance, Friday, May 13; 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Sunday, May 15.

The conservatory dances their way through New York City classics and some audience-favorite productions.

Tickets cost \$36.50, premium; \$25, regular; and \$16.50, budget.

Meet the artists of the Rockville Art League
Members' Juried Spring Show from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday,
May 15 at the Glenview
Mansion Art Gallery.

The show will be on exhibit Sunday, May 15-Friday, June 24. Free.

The Rockville Chorus presents "Singing All Together: A Celebration" at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 22.

Linda Garrettson will direct with Sasha Beresovsky as accompanist. No tickets required, but donations are appreciated.

Four Seasons Chamber Orchestra presents "Chamber Orchestra Concert."

7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 28. Music director/concertmaster Mei Mei Wei is joined by outstanding musicians, including players from the National Philharmonic, Washington Opera and Washington Ballet.

Tickets cost \$25; \$20 for seniors; and \$15 for student.

Victorian Lyric Opera Company presents "El Capitan."

8 p.m. June 10, 11 and 17; 2 p.m. June 12 and 19.

John Philip Sousa's most famous operetta, "El Capitan," in which Don Errico Medigua, the Spanish colonial viceroy of 16th-century Peru, fears assassination by rebels and disguises himself as a fearsome warrior in this tale of mistaken identities.

Tickets are \$28; \$26 for seniors; and \$24 for students.

For tickets and more information visit www.rockville md.gov/theatre; call 240-314-8690; or visit the box office, 2-6 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. For more info, email theatre@rockvillemd.gov.



Two Decades On, Spring Festival Still Going Strong at Croydon Creek

Croydon Creek Nature Center will celebrate two decades celebrating seasonal change at its 20th Annual Spring Festival and Native Plant Sale, 10 a.m.-noon Saturday, May 7.

Bring the entire family and enjoy the wonders of nature in an urban setting. Activities include woodland hikes, spring native plant sale, nature games/crafts and children's entertainment.

Follow the nature center on Facebook at www.facebook.com/croydoncreek.

Rockville Villages Build Connections and Community

What are villages? Villages are grassroots, volunteer, neighbor-support networks created to help enrich the lives of residents of all ages. Villages are started by residents. If you would like to start a village in your neighborhood, see below for how to contact the villages facilitator. Several groups in the city are developing villages.

What do village networks do? Members of villages offer services such as: transportation to medical appointments, light yardwork and home maintenance, tutoring, friendly visits, book clubs, potluck parties, and other social outings. Almost all villages offer the opportunity for connectedness.

For more information, contact the City of Rockville's village facilitator, Trish Evans, at 240-314-8807 or pevans@rockvillemd.gov, or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillevillages.

STAY IN THE KNOW – SIGN UP

FOR THE CITY'S MANY NEWSLETTERS from environment to volunteer news!

www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters

'Age My Way' in Rockville During Older Americans Month

May is Older Americans Month and the Rockville Senior Center is planning activities and programs to celebrate.

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to proclaim May as Older Americans Month at their Monday, May 2 meeting. Find video of the proclamation at www.you tube.com/cityofrockville.

The 2022 theme is "Age My Way," an opportunity to explore the ways older adults can remain in and be involved with their communities.

All events are free, unless noted. Register with the course number at www. rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Royal Tea Party (in person) 11 a.m.-noon, Friday, May 6. \$5 members/\$7 nonmembers. Register with course #22062.

Celebrate mothers with tea and an assortment of tasty treats. Show off your best hats and attire.

Supper Club (in person) 5-7 p.m. Tuesday, May 10, \$20 members/\$25 nonmembers. Register with course #21956.

Catered by Stone Soup with entertainment by Gina DeSimone & The Moaners.

Villages: Strengthening the Community (in person and virtual) 11 a.m.-noon, Wednesday, May 11. Register with course #23643.

Village Coordinator Trish Evans will provide resources and updates on Rockville villages.

Zumba Party (in person and virtual) 1:30-2:30 p.m. Friday, May 13. Register with #23644.

Move into a fun workout and meet new people before and after. Light refreshments will be served.

Wine and Cheese (in

person) 4:30-6 p.m. Tuesday, May 17. Register with course #22037.

An evening of new friends, wine and refreshments, hosted by Brightview Fallsgrove.

Art Reception (virtual) 6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, May 19. Register with course #22020.

Featuring the work of Val Fry's watercolor classes.

Meet Our Home Maintenance Coordinator (in person and virtual) 10:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 18. Register with course #23645.

Meet Jerry Jones, Rockville Senior Center's home maintenance coordinator, who can help guide you to a safer

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Make Your Summer's To-Do List with Rockville's Recreation Guides!



"Life in Rock-ville": packed full of classes, programs and special events for all ages and interests. General registration opens

Thursday, May 5.



"Adults 60+":
courses and
events for the
60-plus community. Senior center
member registration begins
Tuesday, May 3.

Find the guides at www.rockvillemd.gov/guide or in print at City Hall, community centers and libraries.



BACK IN THE DAY... Rockville and Baltimore may not have had much in common back in June 1989, but that didn't stop officials from the two cities coming together to form the Rockville-Baltimore City-to-City program, conceived during a visit the year before between Mayor Douglas Duncan and Mayor Kurt Schmoke. "We just thought cities and towns in Maryland could benefit from similar types of linkage within the state and that Rockville and Baltimore would be the ideal matchup to demonstrate the idea," Duncan said.

Glenview Mansion is Ready for You

Glenview Mansion, the city's 1926 neoclassical revival venue, will return to hosting gorgeous weddings and one-of-a-kind special events.

Visit Glenview Mansion 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday. To hold your special event at Glenview Mansion, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ glenview.

Did You Know That the City of Rockville Has Park Shelters Available to Rent?

Celebrate the return of spring by hosting your next event outside.

More information is available at www.rockville md.gov/rentals.

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

The Montgomery County Road Runners Club and the City of Rockville are teaming up again to present the Suds & Soles 5K at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 18. The course winds through neighborhood roads and begins and ends in Rockville Town Center. The post-race party will feature live music by Heads Up and refreshments, including beverages from local breweries.

The race is open to adults, youth and children, and features a tiered pricing structure offering limited slots at reduced prices. Register early and save. Race-day registration will be only if slots remain. For more information and to register, visit www.mcrrcsudsandsoles.org.

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

Bike Lanes

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can also improve driving safety. The reduction of speeding vehicles makes Maryland Avenue a better place for people to walk, ride a bicycle and drive.

The Maryland Avenue project demonstrates how the Complete Streets approach can help the city towards achieving the goals of Vision Zero, an action plan adopted by the Mayor and Council to eliminate traffic- and pedestrian-related deaths and serious injuries. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/visionzero.





Questions, Concerns or Ideas?

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





60 OR OLDER? ...
Find "60+ Spotlight,"
and other programming for seniors, on
the City of Rockville's
YouTube channel. Visit
www.youtube.com/
cityofrockville and
search "Senior Center."

Celebrate Juneteenth with Rockville and Montgomery County

The City of Rockville will join Montgomery County to celebrate Juneteenth at a special event featuring live music, food, art, films and awards from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday, June 19 at the BlackRock Center for the Arts, at 12901 Town Commons Drive in Germantown.

The Montgomery County
Office of Human Rights and
the county executive's AfricanAmerican Advisory Group coordinate the program, which
also features the African
American Living Legend
Awards honoring county residents who have helped shape
the cultural heritage of the
African American community.
Look for a City of Rockville
table and city representatives
at the celebration.

Find details, as they become available, at www. rockvillemd.gov/Juneteenth.

The holiday commemorates June 19, 1865, when the Union army arrived in Texas bearing federal orders proclaiming the end of slavery.

In July 2020, the Mayor and Council approved a resolution making Rockville the first municipality in Maryland to recognize Juneteenth as a paid city holiday.

Older Americans Month *continued from pg. 11...* home.

Podcasts (virtual) 1-2 p.m. Friday, May 20. Register with course #22088. Learn with Senior Planet: Discover audio programs available on the internet, why people listen to them and which ones are most popular.

The Rockville Chorus Concert (in person) 7:30-8:30 p.m. Monday, May 23. Register with course #21908.

The Rockville Chorus is a vibrant, dedicated musical organization focused on developing a wide range of musical genres and styles of choral music for the Rockville community. The chorus will perform songs from their upcoming appearances and patriotic songs in honor of Memorial Day.

Pride Picnic (in person) 10-11 a.m. Friday, May 27. Register with course #22087.

Picnic together and learn about upcoming events to celebrate June's Pride month. Light refreshments will be served.

Dates and times for activities may change, so check the calendar at www.rockville md.gov/calendar.aspx, and visit www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter to sign up for the senior center's monthly newsletter.

Farmers Market is Back

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Assistance Program/ Electronic Benefits Transfer), P-EBT (Pandemic EBT) and WIC-FVC (Women, Infants and Children-Fruit and Vegetable Checks) at the market. Matching funds can be used to purchase locally grown and produced items including fruits, vegetables, meat, cheese, dairy, baked goods, eggs and honey.

The program aims to fight hunger while investing directly in farmers, strengthening the local food system. Customers can stop by the market tent, located at the market entrance, for more information.

The market will be open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, from May 14 through Nov. 19, in the jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets in Rockville Town Center.

The market gives shoppers their pick of farm-fresh produce and more from regional growers/producers, transforming itself weekly as fruits and vegetables become available throughout the season.

Find a list of vendors and learn more about the Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money program and the market at www.rockvillemd.gov/farmers.





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WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING IN MAY? Sit up and pay attention — May is Correct Your Posture Month! That's not all. May also recognizes Asian Pacific American heritage, older Americans (see page 11), building safety (see page 10), eggs, hamburgers and salad, as well as awareness for Lyme disease, cystic fibrosis, strokes and mental health (see page 2). June is for African American music appreciation, roses, turkeys, DJs, accordions and — importantly — Pride Month (see on the page above).