



RockvilleReports

MAY/JUNE 2023 • VOL. 68 #5



HOMETOWN
HOLIDAYS
MUSIC FEST GUIDE
— PAGES 6-7!

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Voters Will Have Their Say Through Ballot Questions

As well as choosing seven members to elect to the city's Mayor and Council, voters will decide on advisory referenda questions for the City of Rockville's 2023 election.

The questions, if approved by voters, would amend the city charter to:

- Lower the voting age to 16.
- Permit noncitizens to vote.
- Create representative districts.
- Set term limits.
- Implement ranked-choice voting.

The amendments are recommendations from the Charter Review Commission.

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 cen-

ters on Nov. 7, or at an election drop box.

Voters will be able to drop off their ballots at boxes inside the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Lincoln Park Community Center, 357

Frederick Ave., and Twinbrook Community and Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway. The boxes will be available during center hours.

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

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



SUN AND WATER FUN ... 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 27.

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.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter to have updates, including the fitness pool's opening date, delivered right to your inbox!



'ROUND THE WORLD IN ROCKVILLE ... International Night returned to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre on March 17, providing a living, breathing example of Rockville's success as a truly cosmopolitan city that respects and encourages people of all cultures, creeds and colors. Rockville II takes you there — or takes you back — with full coverage of the multicultural performances that made up this community celebration at www.rockvillemd.gov/InternationalNight.

Memorial Day and Juneteenth in Rockville

Rockville City Hall and some city facilities will be closed on Mondays, May 29 for Memorial Day and June 19 for Juneteenth.

Recycling, trash and yard waste collection will be made one day later than usual during the weeks of May 29 and June 19. Find more information at www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash.

The following will be closed:

- Rockville Senior Center; Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers; Croydon Creek Nature Center and the Rockville Skate Park, which are always closed Mondays.
- Glenview Mansion and the Rockville Civic Center business office; F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and box office, which is always closed Mondays. Find tickets at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre.

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center indoor pool and fitness center are open 11 a.m.-9 p.m. May 29 and regular hours June 19. Outdoor pools open at noon May 29. 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/swimcenter for individual pool schedules or call 240-314-8750.

Parking will be free at city-owned meters on May 29 and June 19. For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-5000. +

State Legislative Wins: Schools, Vision Zero and Solar Energy

State aid for schools, legislation addressing transportation needs and a grant to renovate restrooms at a city community center were among wins for Rockville during the Maryland General Assembly session that concluded April 10.

The General Assembly passed a \$63 billion state budget for Fiscal

Year 2024, which begins July 1. The budget's education funding — a city priority — includes \$8.7 billion for prekindergarten through 12th grade public schools and \$900 million for the Blueprint for Maryland's Future, a long-term plan for state public education

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Compensation Commission Seeks Public Input

The city's Compensation Commission is seeking public comments about annual compensation for the Mayor and Council.

The commission is soliciting public input through an online survey and will hold a public forum to hear from city residents from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, May 11 in the Mayor and Council chambers at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

The survey and May 11

public forum will ask residents to answer the question: "Do you believe that the current compensation for Mayor and Council is reasonable? If not, please explain. Currently, the annual stipend is \$37,560 for the mayor and \$30,483 for councilmembers."

City residents can also answer the question using the survey at www.rockvillemd.gov/103/Compensation-Commission, where they can

learn more about Mayor and Council compensation and about the commission.

The commission's five members must be City of Rockville residents or have a place of business in the city. By ordinance, the commission is required to convene every four years and provide a recommendation to the Mayor and Council by June 30. Any change in compensation would not take effect until after the following election. +

**SIGN UP FOR THE CITY'S
VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER!**
www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters

Volunteers

You're
AWESOME
Thank
You!

Muchas Gracias • 非常感谢

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, Maryland
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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 the 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 and share ideas for how to reimagine Town Center.

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.

May is Preservation Month

Across the country, communities are celebrating Preservation Month in May.

Join in the celebrations by learning about some of Rockville's historic sites and buildings. Enjoy the warm spring weather and take a city walking tour to learn more about the community — the Historic Rockville Walking Tour, African American History Walking Tour or Rockville Historic Cemetery Walking Tour.

Walking tour information, as well as interactive maps and videos on Rockville's history, can be found at www.rockvillemd.gov/history.

Rockville Public Safety Awards to Honor 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 34th Annual Rockville Public Safety Awards on Wednesday, June 14 at Lakewood Country Club, 13901 Glen Mill Road. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. The luncheon begins at noon.

Tickets are \$40 per person. Tables of 10, sponsorship opportunities and program advertisements are available.

The Greater Rockville Chamber of Commerce is seeking 100 sponsor donations of \$100 to raise \$10,000 for the nonprofit First Responders Children's Foundation, which provides financial support to children who have lost a parent in the line of duty and families enduring significant financial hardship due to tragedy.

For more information, and to register, visit bit.ly/RkvPSAwards23 or use the QR code above.



Correction

An article in April's "Rockville Reports" about Rockville ranking as the eighth most ethnically diverse city in the United States incorrectly described Germantown and Silver Spring as municipalities. While Gaithersburg, which was also included in the rankings, is a municipality, Germantown and Silver Spring are not incorporated municipalities. They are categorized by the U.S. Census Bureau as census-designated places.

City Makes Bus Stop Improvements Across Rockville

A city contractor is completing 58 bus stop improvement projects this spring, bringing freestanding bus shelters, benches and other improvements to bus stops citywide.

The improvements, which began with concrete work in March, include constructing seven Americans with Disabilities Act-required concrete wheelchair landing pads, replacing 28 shelter benches that were not ADA compliant, and installing missing shelter benches, freestanding benches and leaning rails, and larger shelters at high-activity stops, as well as relocating trash cans and other equipment to remove sidewalk and shelter obstructions.

The contractor completed concrete work in March at bus stops on:

- Maryland Avenue at two stops at Monument Street and at Great Falls Road.

- Stonestreet Avenue at Spring Avenue.
- Veirs Mill Road at Edmonston Drive.
- Halpine Road at Rockville Pike.
- Seven Locks Road at two stops at Twin Oaks Drive and at Fortune Terrace.
- Wootton Parkway at Glen Mill Road.
- Stonestreet Avenue at Spring Avenue.

Scheduled work includes concrete work to install freestanding benches during the first week of May and shelter replacements at the end of May at bus stops along Frederick Road/Rockville Pike, Jefferson Street, Research Boulevard and Wootton Parkway. Work will continue into June. The contractor will post signs at bus stops notifying users when construction will begin.

Learn about public transportation options in Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov/transit. 🌸

Town Center Road Diets Project Continues with Sidewalk Widening, Pavement Milling

The city's Town Center Road Diets project is ongoing and on schedule, with pavement milling along North Washington Street and East Middle Lane scheduled for May.

In April, city contractors completed widening of the south side of East Middle Lane between Gibbs Street and Maryland Avenue.

Pavement milling is scheduled for the second or third week of May and will take two to three weeks. Temporary striping will be done after the milling, with permanent striping two to three weeks

after the final paving. Both projects are dependent on the weather.

During the permanent striping, new lane configurations will reduce the two travel lanes to one lane along North Washington Street and East Middle Lane. This will create a new traffic pattern with new bike lanes and on-street parking spaces. New precast curb barriers will be installed during or after the striping.

For more information, including construction plans, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/visionzeroprojects. 🌸



WORKING FOR EQUITY AND OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL ... Managers and leaders from the City of Rockville attended a first series of meetings as part of a one-year commitment to the Government Alliance on Race and Equity.

Tyree Davis IV, advisor to the city manager for justice, equity, diversity and inclusion, is leading city staff's year-long journey and commitment to learning. Staff is joining representatives from other local jurisdictions, in partnership with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, for monthly in-person meetings and actions to build and strengthen the city's operational capacities.

GARE is a national network of governments working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all. Learn more at racialequityalliance.org.

City to Hold Meetings on Transportation Mobility and Safety Projects

The city's Traffic and Transportation Division will hold two virtual meetings in May to discuss upcoming projects to improve mobility and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists as part of the city's Vision Zero Action Plan.

One project will take a Complete Streets approach on Fleet and Monroe streets, near Richard Montgomery High School, in Rockville Town Center. A meeting from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 4 will review alternatives and allow opportunity for public input. Alternatives being considered include a wide shared-use path next to sidewalk, or an on-street cycle track — sometimes called a protected bike lane — that uses a physical barrier to separate bike traffic from motorized traffic.

A year ago, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments awarded the city \$60,000 for a Complete Streets feasibility study of its streets. The Complete Streets approach can reduce speeding vehicles and help move the city towards achieving the goals of Vision Zero, a plan adopted by the Mayor and Council to eliminate traffic- and pedestrian-

related deaths and serious injuries.

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/visionzero.

A second project seeks to provide safer crossings of Beall Avenue for pedestrians and bicyclists by creating "protected intersections" that improve sightlines and slow vehicles' turning speeds.

Last year, COG awarded the city \$50,000 for a feasibility study of the most effective safety improvements for Beall Avenue intersections and to develop three alternative concept designs for each.

A meeting, from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 18, will review the concept designs and allow opportunity for public input. Alternatives include signalization changes, moving the bus stop at Beall Avenue/MD 355, a raised intersection or roundabout at Beall and Maryland avenues, and improvements along Beall Avenue that could include separated bicycle lanes, additional parking and wider buffers.

Find links to the join the meetings with their listings on the city's online calendar at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar. 🌸

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Mayor & Council

mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov



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



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



Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg
240-314-8293
bfeinberg@rockvillemd.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 1, 8, 15 and 22, and June 5 and 12, at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

The May 8 and June 5 meetings will be preceded by drop-in sessions by telephone with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, and councilmembers Monique Ashton in May and Beryl L. Feinberg 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/CityClerk11/Sign-up-for-Drop-in-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.

Rockville Housing Enterprises Acquires Scarborough Square

121 Affordable Units Added for City Residents

Rockville Housing Enterprises, the city's public housing agency, recently acquired Scarborough Square in the city's College Gardens neighborhood, which provides and preserves 121 affordable housing units in the City of Rockville.

Scarborough Square has a variety of units, including larger ones that are often in short supply but ideal for families. The property's 121 one-to-four-bedroom units are contained in townhomes and multifamily buildings. RHE plans to modernize the building over the next two to four years.

The acquisition of Scarborough Square is a step towards achieving the city's housing policy objectives outlined in the 2040 Comprehensive Plan. The Regional Metropolitan Council

of Government's goal is to increase the number of affordable units in the city of Rockville to 1,000 by 2030. To support this goal, RHE acquired Scarborough Square apartments through the Montgomery County Right of First Refusal program in November 2022. The acquisition was made possible through intergovernmental and public-private partnerships with the City of Rockville, Montgomery County and a private lender, ORLO.

The City of Rockville provided \$1.8 million towards the acquisition; the county provided \$44 million in interim financing and \$10 million permanent financing; ORLO provided \$33 million in funding towards the acquisition financing.

For more information about RHE, visit www.rockvillehe.org. ❄

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www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters

Mayor and Council to Vote on FY 2024 Budget in May

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to vote in May on the adoption of a city budget that demonstrates a commitment to capital investments, adopted city plans and fiscal sustainability.

The budget covers Fiscal Year 2024, which begins July 1. In February, City Manager Rob DiSpirito proposed an operating budget of \$156.4 million, a 5.1% increase over the FY 2023 adopted budget.

The Mayor and Council discussed changes to the proposal during work sessions on March 6, March 20, April 17 and April 24. They recommended advancing several large capital projects, including improvements to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, renovation of the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center's outdoor recreation pool, renovation of the new Maintenance and Emergency Operations Facility at 6 Taft Court, and designing new amenities for RedGate Park. The Mayor and Council also prioritized ongoing city plans, including the Comprehensive Plan, the Climate Action Plan and the Vision Zero Action Plan.

The April work sessions included a discussion of options for avoiding a property tax rate increase in future budgets. Under the city manager's proposal, the city's current real property tax rate of \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation would remain the same for FY24. All residential and commercial property owners pay this tax. Rockville has not increased its property tax rate since 1995.

A final budget work session is scheduled for the Mayor and Council meeting on Monday, May 1. The budget is scheduled for adoption on Monday, May 8. Find Mayor and Council agendas, and videos of the city manager's proposed budget presentation, budget work sessions and public hearings at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. Meetings are broadcast on channel 11 on county cable and livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11.

For more information, including the adopted FY24 budget book, which will be available in July, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget. ❄

RHE Wait Lists to Open for Housing Choice Voucher, Project-Based Voucher and Public Housing

Rockville Housing Enterprises opened its wait list in April for the Housing Choice Voucher program, project-based voucher programs and public housing program.

Apply for the waitlist: Find the online portal at www.myportal.rockvillehe.org and follow the instructions provided.

The RHE waitlists will remain open until further notice.

Applicants will be required to provide contact information, including an email address for the application process, details about income sources, household members and other information needed to determine program eligibility.

Applicants will be required to update their application information annually. Failure to update the application annually when notified will result in the removal of the waitlist application.

For more information about the waitlist or for assistance completing the online application, email ylopez@rockvillehe.org or call 301-424-6265, extension 110. For more information about RHE, visit www.rockvillehe.org. ❄

State Legislative Wins

continued from pg. 1...

from pre-K through college.

Lawmakers also approved legislation addressing financing for state transportation projects and establishing a commission to make recommendations about transportation funding and infrastructure needs. The legislation could support improvements to state roads identified by Rockville's Vision Zero Action Plan to eliminate traffic- and pedestrian-related deaths and serious injuries. It could also affect Maryland's approach to the state's proposed I-495 and I-270 Managed Lanes Project. The Mayor and Council remain strongly opposed to the project and are committed to working with Gov. Wes Moore's administration to rethink it.

Lawmakers also voted to make permanent a pilot program that allows customers to share electricity from solar energy generating systems. The community solar program addresses a goal of Rockville's Climate Action Plan, to increase access to affordable, reliable, clean energy.

In another win for Rockville, lawmakers approved a \$350,000 grant for renovations to create gender-neutral, single-user restrooms at the Twinbrook Community

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Get Involved with the City

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

Boards and Commissions

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

While some meetings are canceled, other 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.

- **May 10 and 24; June 14 and 28** 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 alt.; 1 youth)
- Board of Supervisors of Elections (1)
- Planning Commission (2)
- Senior Citizens Commission (3)

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.

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www.youtube.com/cityofrockville

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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.

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. Registration is free and open to all who live in within the city limits of Rockville. For more, call 240-314-8900 or email publicsafety@rockvillemd.gov.

Bike Rack Grants Available for Businesses

Bicycle parking means business. Studies show that businesses with bicycle parking near their storefront 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.



REDI Publishes 'Rockville Guide for Businesses'

The new "Rockville Guide for Businesses" is a comprehensive resource for entrepreneurs and business owners looking to grow and thrive in Rockville.

Created by Rockville Economic Development, Inc., in consultation with the City of Rockville and local business organizations and stakeholders, the guide provides city data, resources and contact information for key partners and stakeholders in Rockville and the wider community.

"Whether you're just starting up or are looking to take your business to the next level, the 'Rockville Guide for Businesses' is an invaluable resource that can help you easily navigate Rockville's business community, and help you achieve your goals," said REDI Chief Executive Officer Cindy Rivarde.

The online, mobile-friendly guide can be found at rockvilleredi.org/rockville-md-guide-for-businesses-2023.

REDI is a nonprofit public-private partnership that identifies and develops economic opportunities to help businesses launch, locate and expand in the City of Rockville. Learn more at rockvilleredi.org.

Rockville to Pedal Away with Bike Month in May

Rockville celebrates National Bike Month in May with rides to work and school, and in-memoriam, and neighborhood rides all summer long.

Bike Month Kickoff Ride Saturday, April 28

Meet at 10 a.m. at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. Join Rockville officials and neighbors to celebrate National Bike Month.

Pedal a casual 6-mile loop along multi-use 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 and Roll to School Day Wednesday, May 3

Start a celebration or event at your school! Visit www.walkbiketoschool.org or check with your school to see how you can join in. 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.

10th Annual Tour de Cookie Saturday, May 6

Join the Tree House Child Advocacy Center at the Carver Educational Services Center, 850 Hungerford Drive, for a 10- or 30-mile noncompetitive, family-friendly, fun-filled bike ride, stopping at cookie stands to collect treats along the way. A free Kids Fun Fest will feature a bike rodeo for children and activities for riders and non-riders alike.

Learn more and register to ride at treehousemd.org/tour-de-cookie.

16th Annual Rockville Ride of Silence Wednesday, May 17

Meet at 6:40 p.m. in front of Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave. in Rockville Town Square. 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 riding on streets with traffic and ride approximately 10 miles in one hour. Visit www.rideofsilence.com for more details about this international event.

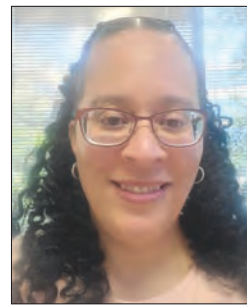
National Bike to Work Day 6:30 a.m. Friday, May 19

Registration is now open at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org for all 14 Montgomery County pit stops, including stops at Dawson's Market in Rockville Town Square and — new this year — at Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive. Pit stops will have free snacks, beverages and bicycling giveaways while supplies last, and free T-shirts for the first 15,000 people in the Washington metropolitan region to register and stop by.

The Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee hosts rides throughout the summer. Find upcoming rides at facebook.com/bike-rockville. Learn more about bicycling in Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov/bicycling and www.rockvillemd.gov/rbac.

Meet a Rockville Employee: Kina Campbell

Kina Campbell joined the city in April as the new Permit and Inspection Services Division chief, bringing with her more than 25 years of experience in the building permitting and construction industry. We asked her a few questions to get to know her better, learn more about her role and introduce her to the Rockville community.



Kina Campbell,
Chief of Permit and
Inspection Services
Division

permitting shop, and managed the daily operations of more than 70 team members.

Tell us more about what it means to be chief of inspection services.

I oversee the daily operations of building

plan review and inspections, fire plan review and inspections and property maintenance code enforcement. This is an important position, as the responsibilities of our team impact all facets of life and business in Rockville. Our team plays a monumental role in activities such as the opening of new businesses, new home construction, additions and modifications to existing homes and commercial construction, multifamily rental licenses, and working with customers who live in the city to address property maintenance regulations.

What else should we know about you?

I have a bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland, College Park, in fire protection engineering and am also a licensed professional engineer in the state of Maryland. I live in Bowie with my husband, three children and my baby dog. I am very excited to have joined the Rockville team.

FREE swimming event hosted by:
City of Gaithersburg • City of Rockville

Water Safety Day

Join us at
Gaithersburg Water Park
Friday, June 2 • 3:30-6:30 p.m.
512 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg

Stay safe at the pool this summer!

LEARN:
Preventing drowning,
proper use of life
jackets, water
rescue skills, skin
cancer prevention.

Swim lessons
(evaluations
offered).
Held rain or shine.

21st Annual

Spring Festival & Native Plant Sale

Saturday, May 6
10 a.m.-noon
No registration required

- Native Plant Talk for Adults at 10:30 a.m.
- Native Plant Sale – While Supplies Last.
- Woodland Hikes.
- Face Painting.
- Children's Games and Crafts.
- Sustainability Displays.

Croydon Creek Nature Center
852 Amery Rd. (off Baltimore Road), Rockville, MD 20851
240-314-2778 • www.rockvillemd.gov/croydoncreek



MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/cityofrockville): Rockville volunteers assemble for cleaner streams; the Rockville Economic Development Corporation has published a guide for businesses; and listening sessions kick off for the Town Center Master Plan Update.

Hosted by the Mayor and Council of Rockville



Saturday, May 27 and Sunday, May 28

Almost Queen • Enter the Haggis
Yellow Dubmarine • Funk You

The Nighthawks • The Vindys
Capital Effect • Uncle Jesse

The JoGo Project • Ocho de Bastos • Cole Larravide • The Digits

Groovy Nate • Ferrets and Friends • Thrive Yoga
Victorian Lyric Opera Company • Wootton Acatonics



SATURDAY: ALMOST QUEEN



SUNDAY: ENTER THE HAGGIS



SUNDAY: YELLOW DUBMARINE



SATURDAY: FUNK YOU



Thank You to Our Sponsors

BENEFACTORS



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- Explore Rockville
- Kitchen Saver
- Red Carpet Remodeling

At
Redgate Park



240-314-8620
www.rockvillemd.gov/HTH
#HTH23 Like us on Facebook





Hosted by the Mayor and Council of the City of Rockville
RedGate Park • www.rockvillemd.gov/HTH

SATURDAY, MAY 27

Main Stage		
	PERFORMER	GENRE
8:30-9:30 a.m.		
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	The Digits	Rock
1-2:30 p.m.	Capital Effect	Pop and Rock
3-4:30 p.m.	Funk You	Funk and R&B
5:30-7 p.m.	Almost Queen	Tribute

RedGate Stage		
11-11:45 a.m.	Groovy Nate	Children's Music
12-12:45 p.m.	Groovy Nate	Children's Music
1:15-2 p.m.	Victorian Lyric Opera Company	Opera
2:30-4 p.m.	Uncle Jesse	'90s and '00s Covers
4:30-6:30 p.m.	The Vindys	Alt Rock, Pop and Jazz

SUNDAY, MAY 28

Main Stage		
	PERFORMER	GENRE
8:30-9:30 a.m.	Thrive Yoga	Yoga
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Ocho de Bastos	Latin Pop, Rock
1-2:30 p.m.	The JoGo Project	Jazz and Go-Go
3-4:30 p.m.	Yellow Dubmarine	Beatles Reggae Tribute
5:30-7 p.m.	Enter the Haggis	Celtic Rock

RedGate Stage		
11-11:45 a.m.	Ferrets and Friends	Animal Show
12-12:45 p.m.	Ferrets and Friends	Animal Show
1:15-2 p.m.	Wootton Acatonics	Acapella
2:30-4 p.m.	Cole Larravide	Indie Rock
4:30-6:30 p.m.	The Nighthawks	Blues

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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The free Hometown Holidays Music Fest 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 27 and Sunday, May 28 at RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/HTH.

The Hometown Holidays website will help festivalgoers 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.
- Transportation and parking options.

Hometown Holidays Highlights

KIDS ACTIVITIES

- Kid-friendly entertainment by Groovy Nate, 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, Clayboys, Corned Beef King, Crepe Shoppe Café, Kusshi Sushi, Mosaic Cuisine, Rocklands Barbeque and Grilling Company, The Bean Bag Deli, Taste of Montreal – Pop-up Poutine.
- Tickets are \$1.25 and can be purchased at a Taste of Rockville ticket booth onsite.
- Sponsored by and benefiting the Greater Rockville Chamber of Commerce and Community Reach of Montgomery County.



AND MORE FUN!

- Beverages, including soda, water and assorted Bud Light products will be available for purchase. *Don't forget to pick up your souvenir koozie!*
- 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 28 at the Main 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 found at the festival's beverage booth to receive \$10 off your ride home between 4-8 p.m. each day. 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.



HTH Music Fest: Know Before You Go

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.
- Most events will take place rain or shine. In case of inclement weather, cancellations will be posted at www.rockvillemd.gov/HTH and facebook.com/RockvilleHometownHolidays.

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.

Getting There: Hometown Holidays Music Fest 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 above for Uber info.

By Bike

- Rockville is a bike-friendly community with parking in Lot P. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.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 27 and 28.
- Rockville Town Center Pickup/Drop-off: 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 20 minutes from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. The last Rockville Town Center pickup is 6 p.m.

HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS SITE MAP*



79th Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade

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 Rockville City Police Department Honor Guard. Rockville will offer sign language interpreters for the ceremony and parade.

10:30 a.m. • 79th MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

After the ceremony, the parade proceeds from Martins Lane and North Washington Street through Rockville Town Center (see map at right). The pa-

rade has something for everyone, with drill teams, marching bands, multicultural community groups, military units and more.



STEPHEN P. JOHNSON, GRAND MARSHAL

Stephen P. Johnson is a historian at the Department of Defense's POW/MIA Accounting Agency, working to provide the fullest possible records and accounting of missing personnel to their families and the nation. He has been a civilian employee of the Department of Defense since 2010. From 2009 to 2015, he worked in various positions at the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office. He volunteered for the Undersecretary of Defense for Policy's Personnel Accounting Consolidation Taskforce in 2014.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, in history from the University of

Washington, a Master of Arts in history and a doctorate in U.S. political and cultural history from the University of Maryland, College Park, specializing in constitutional law and political conflict with a minor specialization in European military history of the 1500s-2000s.

Johnson was an enlisted member of the Air Force from 1977-1984, reaching the rank of staff sergeant. He was stationed in South Dakota and the United Kingdom, and served as a security specialist, primarily working on the flight-line, guarding aircraft.

PARADE PARKING

On Monday, May 29, free parking is available at the Rockville Metro lots, City Hall lots and jury lot at Route 28 and Monroe Street. Paid parking is available in the Rockville Town Square garage located off Route 355 or North Washington Street. Cash and credit accepted. Accessible parking is available in the Rockville Town Center garage.

Parade Route Monday, May 29 Rockville Town Center

Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/memoralday





City of Rockville's Election Day:
TUESDAY, NOV. 7, 2023

Rockville's Vote-By-Mail Election Fact Sheet

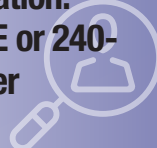
You have the right to vote in Rockville elections if you:

- Live in Rockville.
- Are at least 18 years old as of Nov. 7, 2023.
- Are a U.S. citizen.



Ways to Register to Vote:

- Online forms: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Elections/registration/VoterRegistration.html.
- In person: Rockville's City Hall, a public library, USPS or Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration.
- By phone: 240-777-VOTE or 240-777-8500 to request voter registration forms.



Change or Update Voter Registration:

Download the voter registration forms. Completed forms can be mailed or faxed to:
Montgomery County Board of Elections
P.O. Box 4333, Rockville, MD 20849
FAX: 240-777-8600



24/7 Drop Box:

Beginning in October, drop off your ballot anytime day or night at:

- City Hall (parking lot), 111 Maryland Ave.
- Montrose Comm. Center, 451 Congressional Lane.

Or drop off inside during operating hours at:

- Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.
- Lincoln Park Comm. Center, 357 Frederick Ave.
- Twinbrook Comm. Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.



Vote by Mail:

Ballots will be mailed to every registered voter.

Return your postage-paid ballot to the city by 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7.



Be sure your ballot gets to you:

Go to www.rockvillemd.gov/election.

- Check your address.
- Update your information.
- Register to vote.



Election Day Vote Centers

Vote from 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 7, at:

- City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. (Register and vote.)
- Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive. (Vote only.)



What is on the ballot?

The city elections are in four-year cycles. Rockville voters will elect a mayor and six councilmembers. This election, voters also will decide five ballot questions. Go to www.rockvillemd.gov/election to view ballot question.



Want more information?

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/election to find:

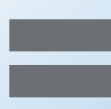
- Voter registration.
- Ballot information, including accessible voting options.
- How vote by mail works.
- Information about running for office.
- Campaign finance reports.
- How the city conducts ballot canvassing.
- How to become an Election Day challenger or watcher.
- Election results.



RECEIVED YOUR
BALLOT.



SENT IT BACK
BY MAIL.



YOU HAVE
VOTED!

IT'S THAT
SIMPLE.



SCAN ME
FOR MORE
LANGUAGES.



WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/ELECTION

May/June 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



MAY

1,8,15,22 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETINGS 7 p.m. **CH**

2 WINE AND CHEESE: KENTUCKY DERBY STYLE Dress in your best, show off those hats and spend the evening with friends. Register with course #27384. \$3 M/\$5 NM. 4:30-6 p.m. **SR**

4,27 LITTLE EXPLORERS Take time with your little one exploring with a naturalist. Hiking, games and hands-on learning are part of the fun. Registration required. Ages 2-5. \$8 R/\$11 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

5,6 ROCKVILLE LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS "STICK FLY" See the article on page 11. 8-10:30 p.m. **FSF**

6 SPRING FESTIVAL AND NATIVE PLANT SALE Nature crafts, woodland hikes, games, children's entertainment, a native plant talk and a native plant sale. Free. 10 a.m.-noon. **CC**

6,7 VISARTS' 11th ANNUAL ROCKVILLE ARTS FESTIVAL See ad on page 12. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Rockville Town Square.

7 INVASIVE SPECIES PULL Make a difference in the environment by volunteering in the Hayes Forest Preserve. Gloves and bags provided. Student Service Learning hours available. Free. Registration required. Register with course #27348. Ages 8 and older. 1:30-3:30 p.m. **CC**

11 ART RECEPTION Featuring the work of Val Fry's watercolor classes. Registration required with course #26989. Free. 6-8 p.m. **SR**

11 GLENVIEW MANSION AND PEERLESS ROCKVILLE SPEAKER SERIES: ECHOES AND REFLECTIONS: TIME TRAVELLING IN ROCKVILLE. See article on page 11. Free. 7-8 p.m. **GM**

13 HIKE WITH A NATURALIST: BIRDING AT REDGATE An early morning naturalist-led hike exploring RedGate Park to discover flora and fauna. Hikes last about an hour and could be up to 1 mile. Trail quality may vary and bathroom access may be limited. Registration with course #27352. Ages 18 and older. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 8-9 a.m. RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road.

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

19 BIKE TO WORK DAY See article on page 4. 6:30-10 a.m.

19 COMPOST AND THE MAGIC OF DECOMPOSITION Discover the players and processes that take place during composting. Register with course #26995. Free M/\$4 NM. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

20 KIDS TO PARKS DAY Celebrate Kids to Parks Day in nature with your family at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Explore the center, enjoy a free make-and-take craft and explore the outdoors on your own with an outdoor scavenger hunt. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. **CC**

20 FAMILIES OUTSIDE: FAMILY BIRD HIKE Explore the habitats of the John Hayes Forest Preserve with a naturalist-led nature outing. Adults and children must register and all children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 3 and older. Register with course #27359. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

20 SUPERHERO PARTY Report to Thomas Farm Community Center dressed as your favorite heroic character and show off your extraordinary talents. Register with course #27315. \$10 R/\$12 NR; \$12 at door. 2-4 p.m. **TF**

21 MEET THE ARTISTS: ROCKVILLE ART LEAGUE Talk to members of the Rockville Art League about their artwork on display. 1:30-3:30 p.m. **GM**

21 THE ROCKVILLE CHORUS PRESENTS "UNITED IN MUSIC" See article on page 11. 7:30-8:30 p.m. **FSF**

24 HEALTH FAIR Free and in-person at the Rockville Senior Center. Blood pressure, glaucoma and hearing tests will be available. Enjoy some healthy snacks. Register with course #27426. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. **SR**

25 NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK EQUIPMENT SHOW See article on page 12. Free. 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park

27,28 HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS MUSIC FEST See insert, pages 5-7. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road.

29 MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY AND PARADE See insert, page 7. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

29 MEMORIAL DAY See article on page 1 for facility closures.

JUNE

1 LGBT AND AGING LGBT older adults frequently have higher risk of mental health concerns, disability, disease and physical limitations than their heterosexual counterparts. Discuss resources and networks to avoid these risks. Register with course #27291. Free. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

2 FATHER'S DAY COOKOUT Come by the senior center to celebrate Father's Day with burgers and hot dogs. Lunch includes toppings, beverage, a side and dessert. Register with course #27425. \$5 M/\$7 NM. Noon-1 p.m. **SR**

2 WATER SAFETY DAY Learn about preventing drowning, proper use of life jackets, water rescue skills and skin cancer prevention. 3:30-6:30 p.m. Free. 512 S. Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg.

3,10,17 ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

5,12 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETINGS 7 p.m. **CH**

6 AAA CARFIT See article on page 11. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

7 TALK TO A PHYSICAL THERAPIST: FREE SCREENING DAY See article on page 11. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

9,10,11,16,17,18 VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY PRESENTS "H.M.S. PINAFORE" See article on page 11. **FSF**

9 END OF THE YEAR PARTY Celebrate the end of the school year with a DJ, games, crafts and more. Refreshments available for purchase. Register with course #27317. Grades 2-5. \$15 R/\$20 NR. 7-10 p.m. **TF**

10 SUMMER BLOCK PARTY Moon bounce, crafts, games, face painting, dancing and more. Snacks and drinks sold by Twinbrook Elementary PTA. Register with course #28355 or pay \$5 at the door. 1-3 p.m. **TC**

14 WALKING SERIES: SENECA CREEK STATE PARK Enjoy the outdoors with this seasonal walking series. Increase your fitness level while experiencing some of the beautiful local trails. Trails may include uneven surfaces. Transportation provided. Bring a bag lunch. Register with course #24966. \$12 NM/\$15 M. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

15 AROUND THE WORLD IN A DAY Celebrate International Day with the Rockville Senior Center. Recognize cultures with food, music and dance. Register with course #27424. \$5. 1:30-3 p.m. **SR**

17 JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION See ad on page 12. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

17 SUDS & SOLES 5K A family 5K race that winds through Rockville neighborhoods and ends in Town Center with beverages from local breweries and live music. See article on page 12. 7:30-9:30 p.m.

19 JUNETEENTH See article on page 1 for facility closures.

24 ROCKVILLE PRIDE Celebrate the LGBTQ community. See ad on page 12. Free. 1-4 p.m. Rockville Town Square.

25 OPEN HOUSE AT GLENVIEW MANSION Learn more about hosting your event at Glenview Mansion. Group tours every half hour and reservations made onsite. See article on page 11. Free. 1-4 p.m.

30 FAMILY GAME NIGHT Bring your family and friends for board games, charades, Twister and more. Register with course #28342 or pay \$5 at the door. 6:30-8:30 p.m. **TC**

Rockville Independence Day Celebration
Tuesday, July 4, 7-10 p.m.
 Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park
 1800 Piccard Drive, Rockville 20850
*** Live Music * Fireworks at Dusk**
www.rockvillemd.gov/IndependenceDay

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

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

Parks Foundation to Celebrate 15 Year Anniversary with Twilight Hike

The Rockville Recreation and Parks Foundation is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year.

RRPFI is a nonprofit comprised of volunteers whose mission is to raise funds to help send kids to camp, provide scholarship assistance, purchase sports and accessibility equipment, and make other improvements to Rockville's parks and recreation programs.

Join the celebration by registering for a free, naturalist-guided Twilight Hike, 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 16 at RedGate Park, 14500 Avery Road. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/registration and search for "twilight."

For more information on the foundation, visit www.rrpfi.org.

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 will be open for applications from Monday, May 15-Thursday, Aug. 31. Online information sessions will be held monthly. Learn how to register and find more information beginning in May at www.solarunitedneighbors.org/maryland.

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



Protect Pollinators: Plant Natives, Provide Water, and Preserve Habitat and Insect Life

June is National Pollinator Month

Bees, butterflies, moths, beetles and other garden helpers play an important role in the food chain by fertilizing plants that produce seeds, berries, fruits and other plant foods. But pollinators worldwide are in decline due to habitat loss, climate change, invasive species and pesticides. Check out the tips below to learn how to do your part to help pollinators.

Plant native flowering plants in your garden, reduce the size of your lawn and don't plant non-native invasive plants.

Plant host plants to provide essential habitat. Butterflies need special host plants as food for their caterpillars. Native oak trees are host to over 400 butterflies and moths. Monarchs rely on only one host plant, milkweed.

Provide water for pollinators. Fill a shallow birdbath with gravel or create a muddy patch in a corner of your yard.

Plant dense shrubs where hummingbirds can nest and, to provide food, native plants with bright red and orange tubular flowers. Supplement as needed with a nectar feeder.

Leave hollow stems, fallen logs and bare patches of sandy soil. Most native bees are solitary and lay eggs in tiny tunnels in hollow stems, dead trees, fallen branches or sandy soil.

Avoid using pesticides. Most insects are a sign of a healthy garden and an important food source for birds.

Find more tips and resources at www.rockvillemd.gov/backyardhabitats.

Learn How to Help Save the Bay Every Day

Rockville is part of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Actions we take in our own backyards can have a significant impact on the health, habitat and wildlife of local waterways, and eventually the Chesapeake Bay.

Help Rockville celebrate Chesapeake Bay Awareness Week, from Saturday, June 3-Sunday, June 11, by sharing, with friends and family, these actions to help protect local water resources, the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay:

Reduce pesticide and fertilizer use. Or better yet, don't fertilize at all if it isn't necessary! Never fertilize or use pesticides if rain is forecast within 24 hours. Fertilizers and pesticides can end up in streams and harm aquatic life — and most synthetic pesticides are prohibited in Rockville. Learn more and find organic lawn care tips at www.rockvillemd.gov/pesticideban.

Reduce impervious surfaces to reduce polluting runoff, plant a native tree to absorb harmful nutrients and prevent erosion, and landscape with plants native to the bay. Learn how to get rebates for taking these actions at www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes.

Pick up after your pet. Rain washes pet waste left on the ground into storm drains or streams. Please place bagged waste in a trash can.

Keep our city litter free. Litter often ends up in local streams and eventually the Chesapeake Bay. Don't overflow your outdoor trash cart. Keep the lid closed securely and put trash out shortly before pickup, especially on windy days. Adopt a stream to keep clean at www.rockvillemd.gov/adopt-a-stream, or take the Plogging Pledge at www.rockvillemd.gov/environment.

Visit Croydon Creek Nature Center for exhibits, camps, events and programs year-round, and for all ages, to learn about and get involved in taking care of streams and reducing water pollution. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/croydoncreek.

Report illicit or illegal discharges from improper disposal, spills, land-disturbing activities or other potential stormwater pollution, or, if you suspect a problem from water that is an unusual color, is cloudy, and/or has a strong smell. Call the Pollution Hotline at 240-314-8348. ✚

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 containers.**
If possible, bring indoors. Cover large toys and sand boxes with tightly fitting tarps, or drain weekly.
- **Remove trash from yard.**
As little as a bottle-cap full of water is enough for mosquitoes to breed.
- **Clean out roof gutters and downspout screens.**
If possible, replace corrugated downspouts with smooth PVC.
- **Store recycling bins out of the rain. Dump out any water at least weekly.**
Even though bins have drain holes, small amounts of water may still collect.
- **Add an aerator or fountain to birdbaths or ornamental ponds.**
Mosquitoes do not breed in moving water.
- **Tighten tarps and pool covers to minimize folds.**
If water still collects, shake out the tarp at least weekly.
- **Fix outdoor leaks and dripping faucets.**
Get rid of puddles from window air conditioners.
- **Dump and scrub saucers under potted plants, and flush birdbaths at least once a week.**

Where to Check:

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

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

Connect with us on Social Media.



Funds Available for Flood Protection

The City of Rockville's Flood Mitigation Assistance Program offer matching reimbursement funds to residents and property owners who make flood protection improvements to their properties.

The matching reimbursement funds will provide up to 50% of the total costs of approved mitigation measures, up to \$5,000. Funds will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Examples of eligible practices include floodproofing windows, floodgates, "sandless sandbags," battery-powered sump pumps, modifying topography, elevating utilities, flood alert systems and flood-resistant building materials.



Residential and commercial properties, including homeowner associations and condominium associations, can apply. Renters can only apply with documentation of approval from the property owner.

For program guidelines, eligibility requirements and to apply, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/floodassistance. ✚

Save Energy — and Money — with These Energy-Efficiency Tips for Summer

Small energy-saving habit changes and upgrades can help you save money, be cool and stay comfortable all summer long. Try these when the weather gets warm:

Set it and forget it. Using a programmable or smart thermostat can keep your home cool when you need it — and help you avoid running your air conditioner when you don't.

Cool down with a fan. Fans keep air circulating, allowing you to raise the thermostat a few degrees to stay just as comfortable while reducing air conditioning costs.

Close your shades. Sunlight passing through



windows heats your home and makes your air conditioner work harder. Keeping blinds or drapes closed on sunny days helps block this heat.

Replace filters as needed. Dirty air filters make your air conditioner work harder to circulate air. By cleaning or replacing the filters monthly, you can improve energy efficiency and reduce costs.

Find more resources and tips at montgomeryenergyconnection.org. ✚



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. Never leave a grill unattended. Find these tips and more at www.nfpa.org.

Performances, an Open House and Savings for Theatergoers in May and June at the Civic Center

Coming in May and June to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Rockville Chorus presents "United in Music"

7:30 p.m. Sunday, May 21.
Directed by Linda Garrettson and featuring "Blues in the Night" by Mercer and Arlen; "Les Miserables" by Schonberg; "Let's Swing It" by Schmutte; "Prayer for the Children" by Bestor; "The Rose" by Gjeilo; "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" by Hogan; "United in Purpose" by Rogers; "What I Did for Love" by Hamlish and Kleban; "You Raise Me Up" by Grahm and Lovlan.
No tickets required, but a \$5 donation is suggested. Find out more at rockvillechorus.com.

Washington Balalaika Society presents "International Favorites"

8 p.m. Saturday, June 3
The Washington Balalaika Society celebrates its 35th season with a concert of international favorites, featuring soprano Olga Orlovskaya and Andrei Saveliev on the balalaika. WBS artistic director Svetlana Nikonova will conduct. The Washington

Balalaika Society is a community orchestra of musicians who perform the music of Eastern Europe, Ukraine and Russia on traditional folk instruments. It is the largest orchestra of its kind in America, and performs in the greater Washington, D.C. area.

The concert's repertoire will include Schubert's "Serenade," Dvořák's "Slavonic Dance," Bizet's "Habanera" from "Carmen," and Massenet's haunting "Thais Meditation."

Tickets are \$30; \$25, seniors and military; \$15, students; \$5, children 12 and younger.

Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/International_Favorites to buy tickets.

Victorian Lyric Opera Company presents "H.M.S. Pinafore"

8 p.m. June 9, 10, 16 and 17. 2 p.m. June 11 and 18.

VLOC presents one of Gilbert and Sullivan's most popular and beloved operettas.

Josephine, daughter of the captain of the H.M.S. Pinafore, falls in love with simple sailor Ralph

Rackstraw. Her father, however, has already promised her hand to Sir Joseph Porter, First Lord of the Admiralty. Josephine is torn between her love for Ralph and her duty to her father. Can love truly "level all ranks?"

Tickets are \$28; \$26 seniors (65 and older); \$24, students. Tickets are available at fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Pinafore.

Group pricing for the shows above is available; call the box office for more information.

Subscribe and Save

The 2023-2024 Rockville Little Theatre and Rockville Musical Theatre season subscription is now available. Each package includes three plays and two musicals, plus added benefits. Subscribe today to support local theater.

For more information, visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Consortium2023_2024.

Glenview Mansion Open House

1-4 p.m. Sunday, June 25 at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Interested in hosting an event at Glenview Mansion? The annual Glenview

Mansion Open House is a great opportunity to speak with staff about the unique needs of your event and make it extraordinary. All contracts executed on this day will be at current rental prices, no matter when your event will be held.

Group tours will be available every half hour with immediate contracting all day.

The open house is free and no reservation is required. Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, email glenview@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8660. The Rockville Civic Center Business Office is open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Rockville Art League Members' Juried Spring Show at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery

Varied media will be on exhibit. Meet the artists 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 21. The exhibition will run May 21 through Friday, June 23.

The Americans with Disabilities Act-accessible gallery, on the second floor of Glenview Mansion, is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and closed on official city holidays. +

Health Fair, Hips, Hearts, Cars and Eyes: At the Senior Center

Stay healthy and informed with free seminars from the Rockville Senior Center in May and June.

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 1-2 p.m., except where noted.

Health Fair at the Rockville Senior Center.

Local health information, snacks and a raffle. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Wednesday, May 24.

Financial Elder Abuse.

An overview of how lawyers help clients reduce the risk of

financial elder abuse through estate planning documents, such as power of attorney, and trusts with guardianship. Learn how lawyers and courts help victims of elder abuse and their families. Presented by Henry Nash.

Register with course #27274. Thursday, May 11. 1-2:30 p.m. Hybrid.

Better Breather's Club.

An educational presentation on respiratory issues, with useful information and tips.

Register with course #27271. Dates include Thursdays, May 18 or June 15.

Hip, Hip Hooray.

Join Dr. Alex Johnson, a sports medicine physician, as he discusses hip preservation.

Register with course #27476. Thursday, May 25. Online.

Heart to Heart.

Regine



Josie, with Ambiance Primary Care, provides tips for a healthy heart. Free blood pressure and diabetes screenings will be available.

Register with course #27478. Wednesday, May 31. 10-11:30 a.m.

CarFit. A quick, comprehensive check of how well you and your vehicle work together. A trained professional helps with a 12-point checklist. You must have an appointment — call Betty at 240-314-8803.

Tuesday, June 6. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m., in the senior center back parking lot.

Talk to a Physical Therapist.

If you are in

pain or have a question for a physical therapist, see Dr. Carlos Martinez, Director CAM Physical Therapy, for a free 15-minute consultation. Call Betty for an appointment at 240-314-8803.

Wednesday, June 7. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Keep Your Eyes on the Prize. Dr. Mona Kaleem, an ophthalmologist from Wilmer Eye Institute, will discuss glaucoma, its effect on eye health, how it is diagnosed, and prevention and treatment.

Register with course #27292. Thursday, June 22. Online. +

Glenview-Peerless Speaker Series to Time Travel with 'Frieda's Song' Author Talk

Novelist Ellen Prentiss Campbell discusses "Frieda's Song," a Rockville-based novel of historical fiction infused with a hybrid of imagination, fact and emotional truth, in the latest installment of the Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series.

In "Echoes and Reflections: Time Traveling in Rockville," at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive, Campbell will discuss her novel, inspired by renowned psychiatrist Frieda Fromm-Reichmann. "Frieda's Song" explores Fromm-Reichmann's haunting influence on a current day therapist living in her former cottage in Rockville, where Fromm-Reichmann worked at Chestnut Lodge Sanatorium after fleeing Nazi Germany.

The program is free, but registration is required. Register at www.peerlessrockville.org or www.eventbrite.com/e/echoes-and-reflections-time-traveling-in-rockville-tickets-594854524897 or by using course #23559 at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration.

For more information, call Glenview Mansion at 240-314-8660.

Celebrate the B&O Railroad's 150th Anniversary with an Explore Rockville Tour

Peerless Rockville celebrates the 150th Anniversary of Rockville's Baltimore & Ohio Railroad station with "Explore Rockville: The B&O Railroad Changes Rockville Forever," a self-guided tour and scavenger hunt.

In the summer of 1873, the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad opened its station in Rockville. The arrival of the Railroad brought enormous change to Rockville, then a small agricultural village.

The outdoor walking tour and scavenger hunt, which can be completed from Thursday, May 25-Monday, May 29, takes you through more than 10 sites and stories of how this exciting new transportation system caused Rockville to grow by leaps and bounds.

Tour stops are a surprise and feature Rockville's unique sites, stories and art located across the city. Explore places you've never been and sites you pass-by all the time, unaware of their rich history.

Cost is \$15 per household. To register, visit peerlessrockville.org. After registration, each household will receive a link to a printable program with site details and scavenger hunt instructions for each stop.

Registration Open for Summer Camps

Rockville's summer camps are open for registration — and it's time to plan your adventure!

Summer Blast Camps feature full-day and extended-day hours at local schools and community centers. Park Adventure Camps will have full- and half-day options, and will be held at neighborhood parks throughout Rockville.

Summer Blast and Park Adventure camps both welcome children aged 5-12 and open from June 26 until mid-August. Camp activities feature swimming, field trips and a variety of games, crafts, water activities and outdoor play time.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/camps for more information and view the "Summer Camps 2023" guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/life.

Summer Guides are Here!

See Rockville's recreation guides at www.rockvillemd.gov/life. Register online for programs, courses and events, and browse online listings at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration.



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

Last Call to Lace Up for the Suds & Soles

Register now for the Suds & Soles 5K.

The Montgomery County Road Runners Club and the City of Rockville will present the 5K race at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, June 17. The course winds through neighborhood roads and begins and ends in Rockville Town Center.

The post-race party will feature live music and refreshments, including beverages from local breweries. A KidZone will feature activities for children ages 10 and younger.

The race is open to adults, youth and children, and features a tiered pricing structure offering limited slots at reduced prices. Race-day registration will be available beginning at noon June 17, only if slots remain.

For more information and to register, visit www.mcrsudsandsoles.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.

Farmers Market Returns in May with Food Benefit Matching Programs

The City of Rockville and Rockville Farmers Market opens for the season on Saturday, May 13 and will provide a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$10 for customers using their federal nutrition benefits.

Entering its 12th 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 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 13 through Nov. 18, 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.

State Legislative Wins

continued from pg. 3...

Recreation Center and Annex.

Lawmakers also passed bills changing how municipalities are required to advertise proposed charter changes and real property tax increases. The measures are expected to save the city money on the cost of public notices.

Several city-backed priorities failed to win passage, including Maryland Municipal League-backed legislation to give municipalities the option of creating their own police accountability board and administrative charging committee, a bill extending a state rebate program for electric vehicle charging equipment, and bills to crack down on illegally modified vehicle exhaust systems that generate excessive noise.

For more information, contact Linda Moran at lmoran@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8115. ❖

Equipment Show to Highlight How Public Works is 'Connecting the World'

Display of the City's Big Trucks Returns to Stepanek Park

Climb into the operator's seat of some of the big trucks used by the city's Department of Public Works as the City of Rockville joins the American Public Works Association to celebrate National Public Works Week, Monday, May 22-Friday, May 26.

The highlight of the week will be the city's annual Equipment Show from 10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 25 at Mattie J. T. Stepanek Park, 1800 Piccard Drive.

The free show includes displays, demonstrations, balloons, popcorn, coloring books and other giveaways, and the chance to meet some of the public works employees who provide important services that keep Rockville running. It features exhibits on recycling and refuse, environmental management, the city's water treatment plant, water and sewer operations, and stormwater management. School and daycare groups are welcome.

APWA first sponsored National Public Works Week in 1960. Today, more than 30,000 APWA members in the U.S. and Canada use the week to energize and educate

the public about the important contributions of public works, including planning, building, managing and operating infrastructure and services in our communities.

This year's Public Works Week theme, "Connecting the World Through Public Works," highlights the way public works professionals connect us physically, through infrastructure, and inspirationally, through service to their communities, whether as first responders or daily workers carrying out their duties with pride. Follow the celebration on Facebook and Twitter at #NPWW and #ConnectingTheWorld ThroughPW.

Rockville's Department of Public Works provides water, wastewater, stormwater, streets, recycling and trash, transportation, fleet services, engineering, and environmental and right-of-way management.

To learn more about Rockville's Department of Public Works and its celebration of National Public Works Week, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/publicworks or call 240-314-8500. ❖

JUNETEENTH

The City of Rockville joins Montgomery County to celebrate Juneteenth.
Saturday, June 17 • 10 a.m.-10 p.m. • BlackRock Center for the Arts,
12901 Town Commons Drive, Germantown
Learn more at www.blackrockcenter.org/juneteenth.

**PRESENTED BY
THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

**SEVENTH ANNUAL
ROCKVILLE
PRIDE!**

IN-PERSON EVENT
**SATURDAY, JUNE 24
1-4 p.m.**
Rockville Town Square
Free and open to all ages
Featuring:

- Live performances.
- Information booths and dialogue.
- Arts and crafts/children's activities.

For more information, contact Tyree Davis IV at 240-314-8112 or tdavis4@rockvillemd.gov. Wheelchair accessible. For ADA modifications, contact 240-314-8108, TTY 240-314-8137 or Relay 711 by June 1.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT www.rockvillemd.gov/pride



**VISARTS' 11TH ANNUAL
ROCKVILLE
ARTS FESTIVAL**

May 6-7, 2023 | 10 AM-5 PM
Rockville Town Square

Free Admission / Rain or Shine

Digital Art by Bryan Broadie, 2022 Award of Excellence



130 ARTISTS AND ARTISANS / ART DEMOS / ARTISANAL FARE / COMMUNITY ART PROJECT / CRAFT BEER AND WINE



Get Into It

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

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BACK IN THE DAY ... Chris Van Hollen, then a congressman (now a United States senator), toured the 15-acre site of the then-planned redevelopment of Rockville Town Center, reported the June 2003 issue of "Rockville Reports." Van Hollen "was shown how infrastructure grants that he helped obtain will be used to improve pedestrian safety in Town Center," the article stated. See page 2 of this issue to learn how the city is continuing to improve pedestrian safety in Town Center and across Rockville.