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# **Vote-by-Mail Election Concludes 8 p.m. Nov. 7**

Last Minute Tips, Where to Find Results, and Inauguration Information

The deadline for Rockville voters to get their ballots in for the 2023 vote-by-mail election is 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7.

#### **Casting Ballots**

Ballots must be received by 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7.

Register and vote in person on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 7, at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Fallsgrove Drive. These vote centers will be open 7 a.m.-8 p.m. on Election Day only.

Drop off a completed ballot anytime, 24/7, before 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7, at the election drop boxes in the upper parking lot of City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or Montrose Community Center, 451 Congressional Lane.

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

## Request a Replacement Ballot

Voters who have made an error, wish to change a selection or have lost their ballot can request a replacement.

Ballots can be brought to the City Clerk's Office at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., during regular business hours (8:30 a.m.-5

p.m. Monday-Friday) to receive a replacement.

To replace a ballot on Election Day, bring it to vote centers at City Hall or Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Fallsgrove Drive, from 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7. An election official will help spoil the ballot and issue a replacement.

#### **Results**

Unofficial results will be available as soon as all ballots have been counted after the election deadline of 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7, in the following places:

- www.rockvillemd.gov.
- Broadcast on Rockville 11 (channel 11 on county cable systems).
- Via social media on the City of Rockville's Facebook and X/ Twitter accounts (www.face book.com/cityofrockville and www.twitter.com/rockville411 respectively).
- On Nextdoor at www. nextdoor.com.

Official results will be certified and announced on Tuesday, Nov. 14.

## **Inauguration Ceremony**

An inauguration ceremony for the new Mayor and Council will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive. The inauguration is open to the public.

The first meeting of the Mayor and Council will be 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 20.



You are cordially invited to attend

The Inauguration Ceremony

for the 67th

## Mayor and Council of Rockville

at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19

F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park 603 Edmonston Drive, Rockville, Maryland

Reception immediately following in the lobby.

## **Rockville to Host Salute to Service at Veterans Day Ceremony**

Rockville will honor veterans of our nation's armed forces with a ceremony at 11 a.m. on Veterans Day, Saturday, Nov. 11.

The ceremony is planned for Veterans Park, at the intersection of MD 28 and Rockville Pike. Free parking will be available at Sandy Spring Bank, 611 Rockville Pike.

The ceremony, which is open to the public, will include a wreath laying and a presentation of colors. A reception will follow at American Legion Post 86, at 2013 Veirs Mill Road.

Paul Hughes, a retired Army colonel, will be the guest speaker. Hughes, an active-duty Army officer from 1975-2005 with the 8th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and the 9th Infantry Division, served as director of national security policy on the Army staff from 2000-2002, developing and providing policy guidance on arms control, weapons of mass destruction, missile defense, emerging nontraditional security issues



Paul Hughes

and crisis prediction. From 1996-2000, he served in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, where he led the Department

of Defense effort to craft U.S. landmine policy and the department's response to several international humanitarian crises. He is a veteran of Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, and of the Iraq War. He recently retired from the United States Institute of Peace as its director of overseas safety and security, and as a special advisor.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/veterans day, email specialevents@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620.

For video of past ceremonies, search "Veterans Day Ceremony" at youtube.com/cityofrockville.

## **Holiday Drive Helps Rockville's Most Needy**

Donations are being accepted for the 2023 Holiday Drive, Rockville's annual push to help the community's hundreds of children and families in need during the holiday season.

In 2022, the city served 630 families, and 1,200 children, during the Thanksgiving and December holidays. This year, the city will provide fresh produce and gift cards for Thanksgiving, and books and gift cards for each child in a family for December. Here's how to get involved:

- Donate online easily at bit.ly/ HolidayDriveDonate.
- Write a check: Checks can be made payable to "City of Rockville" (with "Rockville Holiday Drive" in the memo line) and sent to Community Services Division, Department of Housing and Community Development, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- Organize a book drive to collect new or gently used books

(books for ages 0-5 and 14-17 are most needed).

- Donate \$25 Target or \$50 Giant Food gift cards.
- Volunteer to sort and bag produce or books, or make deliveries to homebound residents.
   Books can be dropped in

collection boxes at several locations: City Hall; Twinbrook Community Recreation Center; Lincoln Park Community Center; Thomas Farm Community Center; Rockville Swim and Fitness Center; and Rockville Senior Center.

All donations of money and goods are tax deductible. For more information on the Holiday Drive and caregiving organizations in Rockville, see the "Caregivers Guide" insert in this edition.

For more information, contact Frederika Granger at fgranger@rockvillemd.gov, or visit www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive.

## November Hours of Operation in Rockville

Rockville City Hall will be closed Friday, Nov. 10 in observance of Veterans Day, and on Thanksgiving weekend. Other city facilities will be closed or will operate on limited schedules.

Veterans Day (observed), Friday, Nov. 10: City Hall, the Rockville Senior Center, Glenview Mansion, the Rockville Civic Center business office, and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed. Croydon Creek Nature Center will be open 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All other city facilities will open as usual.

Wednesday, Nov. 22: Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers will be open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. All other city facilities will be open for regular hours, and recycling and trash will be collected on the regular schedule.

Thanksgiving, Thursday, Nov. 23 and Friday, Nov. 24: City Hall, the senior center, Glenview Mansion, the Rockville Civic Center business office and the Fitzgerald theater box office will be closed. Theater tickets are always available at www.rockville md.gov/theatre. Recycling, trash and yard waste normally collected on Thursdays will be collected Friday, Nov. 24.

Facilities closed Nov. 23 and open for the following hours Nov. 24: Croydon Creek Nature Center (10 a.m.-2 p.m.);

continued on pg. 6...

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- REDI Delivers Annual
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- Friendsgiving, Wellness and More for Seniors

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## **Ardennes Avenue: New Residential Project Planned**

A new residential project has been proposed at 12501 Ardennes Ave., a site used exclusively for office in the past.

Located near the southeast boundary of the city in the Twinbrook neighborhood, the redevelopment envisions a conversion of the existing office building into a 181-unit residential multifamily building.

The improvements include the construction of three additional stories to provide the proposed units and will utilize an existing underground parking garage below the building for use by residents.



## 2 Research Place: Life-Science Building Proposed

The Planning Commission has approved a new seven-story life-science building at 2 Research Place, adjacent to Interstate 270 in the heart of the I-270 Technology Corridor.

The new building will accommodate about 200,000 square feet of laboratory and associated office space, representing a continued interest and investment in research and development in the city and surrounding areas.

The building will be accompanied by onsite open areas and a six-story parking garage that will support an increase in employees at the

Several electric vehicle charging stations will also be provided in support of alternative energy transportation methods.



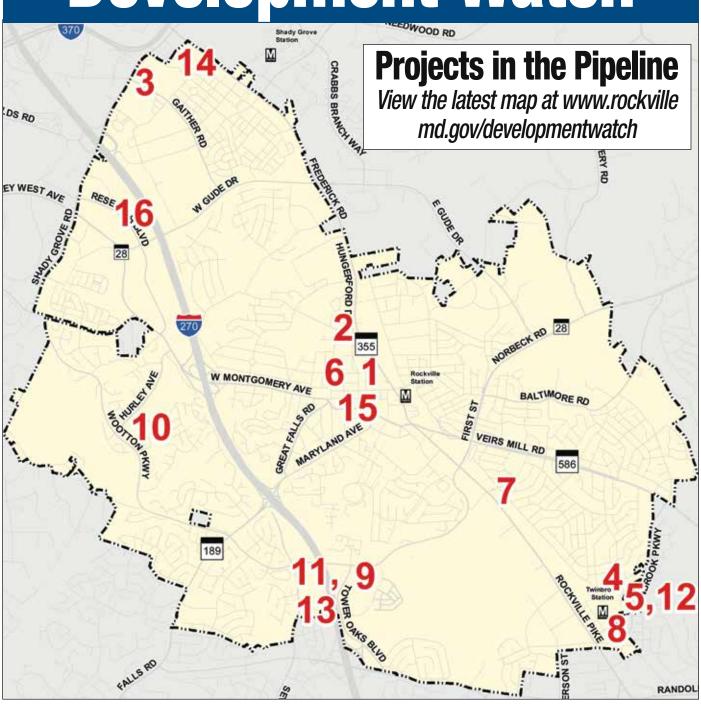
## **Construction to Begin at 22 W. Jefferson St.**

Construction is anticipated at 22 W. Jefferson St., a site nestled just outside of Town Center adjacent to the South Washington Street Historic District.

A project to convert the existing office building, originally constructed in 1959, into 12 multifamily condominium units has been approved.

Behind the existing building, an additional 17 new townhouse-style condos will be constructed to provide a variety of residential options on the property.

# **Development Watch**



## **Recent Preapplication Submittals**

The following projects are under preapplication review:

- 414-416 Hungerford Drive: A proposal to redevelop the property into a 345-unit multifamily building with structured parking, open space and dedication for the Maryland Avenue extension. Case PAM2023-00149.
- 2. **622 Hungerford Drive:** A proposal to redevelop the property into 48 two-over-two residential units. Case PAM2024-00152.
- 3. **2097, 2099 and 2101 Gaither Road:** A proposal to redevelop the property into 646,000 square feet of life-science uses. Case PAM2024-00151.
- 4. **5906 Halpine Road:** A proposal to redevelop the site into a residential development with 38 condominium townhouse units. Case PAM2023-00150.
- 5. **12501 Ardennes Ave. (Twinbrook Place):** A proposal to convert an existing 150,000-square-foot office building to a 190-unit residential building through the addition of three floors and exterior renovations. Case PAM2023-00146.

## **Applications Under Review**

 $The {\it following applications are in the development review process:}$ 

- 115 Van Buren St.: Final record plat to consolidate three existing lots into one record lot. Case PLT2023-00615.
- 900 Rockville Pike: Project plan application for a proposed 4,400-square-foot retail building with associated parking, landscaping and frontage improvements. Case PJT2023-00016.
- 8. **1700-1818 Chapman Ave. (Twinbrook Commons):** Level 2 site plan application for a mixed-use building containing 437 multifamily residential units, 5,075 square feet of ground floor retail and a parking garage. Case STP2022-00436.
- 9. **2200 Tower Oaks Blvd. (Tower Preserve):** Project plan amendment for a proposal to construct a residential development of 83 townhouses. Case PJT2023-00015.
- 2401 Wootton Parkway (Rockshire Village): Project plan amendment to amend the planned development govern-

- ing documents for the Rockshire Planned Development to redevelop the site into a mixed-use development of single-family detached dwellings, townhomes and neighborhood-serving retail. Case PJT2024-00017.
- 11. **11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Final record Plat for Lots 23A through 23E to reflect ownership transfer, resubdivide lot 23B into eight lots and one parcel, lot 23A into six lots and two parcels, lot 23B into eight lots and one parcel, and lot 23C into 37 lots and seven parcels. Case PLT2024-00618-PLT2024-00621.
- 12. **12501 Ardennes Ave. (Twinbrook Place):** Level 2 site plan application to convert existing office building space into a 181-unit residential building, with construction of three additional stories, of approximately 60,000 square feet. Case STP2024-00465.

## **Recently Approved Applications**

The following applications were recently approved and are currently, or soon to be, under construction:

- 13. **11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Final record plats 2-9 to implement the mixed-use development approved with STP2020-00399, including townhomes, multifamily, senior housing and a health-fitness facility. Cases PLT2022-00594-PLT2022-00600.
- 14. **16200** Frederick Road (King Buick redevelopment): Final record plats 1-10 to implement the residential development approved with STP2022-00433, consisting of 252 townhomes, 118 condominium townhomes and a 2,000-square-foot community building. Cases PLT2022-00601-PLT2022-00610.
- 15. **22 W. Jefferson St.:** Level 2 site plan for a residential condominium development consisting of 12 multifamily-style condo units within the existing 22 W. Jefferson St. building and 17 new townhouse-style condo units, as well as associated site improvements. Case STP2023-00449.
- 2 Research Place: Proposal to demolish the existing building and construct a 206,000-square-feet life-science building. Case STP2023-00454.





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 inauguration ceremony for the 67th Mayor and Council will be held at 1 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 19 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. All are welcome to attend.

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

The first meeting of the new Mayor and Council will be held at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 20. Visit www.rockvillemd. gov/AgendaCenter for details.

There will be no scheduled drop-in sessions with the mayor and individual councilmembers until further notice.

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

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

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.

## **Education Commission Chooses Focus Areas for Future Consideration**

Rockville's Education Commission has developed three focus areas for its future work, the committee told the Mayor and Council in October as it presented its annual report, which covers the committee's activities since it was created by the Mayor and Council in April 2022.

Those areas are: keeping Rockville schools safe and secure; improving teacher retention and recruitment; and strengthening partnerships between businesses and schools. The focus areas were drawn from information gathering and hearing the community's priorities.

The Education Commission is comprised of 11 members made up of private, home-school and public-school parents, educational professionals and a youth representative.

The commission's mission is 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 childcare and education programs in the Rockville community."

Learn about the city's 22 boards and commissions, and how to apply, at www.rockville md.gov/boardscommissions. See the commission's presentation by clicking on the video icon next to the Oct. 9 Mayor and Council meeting at www.rockville md.gov/AgendaCenter. •

## City Legislative Priorities: Schools, Support for Vision Zero and Climate Action, Tax Credit Expansion

Maryland General Assembly's 90-Day Session Begins Jan. 10

The Mayor and Council approved the city's 2024 state legislative priorities Oct. 9 and are scheduled to present them to the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly on Nov. 13. During the 2024 state legislative session, which runs from Wednesday, Jan. 10-Monday, April 8 in Annapolis, the city will advocate for:

Increased state aid for school operations and construction to support education from birth through community college, in-

cluding child care.

The city's Vision Zero and Pedestrian Master Plan efforts, including support for a comparative negligence law that allows pedestrians to claim damages at a percent at which they are determined to not be at fault in a vehicle crash, revising the state transportation code, and dedicating state funding to sidewalks, streetlighting, and pedestrian accommodations and safety.

Expanding access to the state property tax credit to low- and

medium-income homeowners.

Changes to the state's public-private partnerships law to require rigorous and consistent data modeling analysis, General Assembly review of major decisions by the state's Board of Public Works, safeguards to protect the state and taxpayers from cost increases, and the elimination of contract requirements that may prohibit transit.

A requirement that the state share a portion of its Federal continued on pg. 8...

## **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, III 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, III Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280, or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockville md.gov/boardscommissions.

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

 Nov. 8 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 (2)
- Cultural Arts Commission (I)
- Environment Commission (2)
- Ethics Commission (I)
- Human Rights Commission (I)
- Planning Commission (I)
- Senior Citizens Commission (I)
- Rockville Housing Enterprises
   (I)

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



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD ... Public participation in the budget process is a high priority for the Mayor and Council and city staff. The community budget priorities survey at www. rockvillemd.gov/budget is available in simplified Chinese, French, Korean and Spanish, as well as English. Survey responses provide valuable input to the Mayor and Council for their budget discussions. Community members will also have an opportunity to express their budget priorities during a public hearing as part of the first meeting of the new Mayor and Council at 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 20 at City Hall. To testify, call 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. Nov. 20, or submit testimony in writing to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov or Mayor and Council, City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.





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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.

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## **Don't Let a Clog Become an Unwanted Holiday Guest**

When the holiday feast is finished, don't pour fats, oils and grease, i.e., FOG, down the

FOG, including sauces, gravy and salad dressings, can trap solids, form hard deposits and clog pipes, causing basement backups, sewer overflows and costly damage to city infrastructure and private property.

Before washing dishes, scrape food and grease into a trash can, use a paper towel to wipe away oil, or pour FOG into an empty can, let it cool to solidify and dispose of it.

## **Native 'Tree-Bates': Get \$150 for Planting Native Trees**

Native trees are beautiful, provide important habitat for birds and other wildlife, and help absorb stormwater runoff and pollutants.

Rockville residents can receive a \$150 rebate per tree from the city for planting native trees and up to a maximum of \$5,000 in rebates across all rebate options. Eligible properties include single-family and townhome residences, homeowners associations, condominium associations, religious institutions, private schools and other nonprofits. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes.

Rebates are also available for permeable paver retrofits, rain barrels, native-planting projects and pavement removal.

Need ideas for trees to plant? You can usually find these native trees at local nurseries or online:

#### **Fruit Trees**

- Serviceberry (Amelanchier spp.).
- American persimmon (Diospyros virginiana).
- · American plum (Prunus americana).

- White fringetree (Chionanthus virginicus).
- Flowering dogwood (Cornus florida).
- Eastern redbud (Cercis canadensis)

## **Shade Trees**

- Red oak (Quercus rubra).
- · River birch (Betula nigra).
- Black tupelo (Nyssa sylvatica).



## **Climate Solutions Speaker Series Presents Montgomery County Home Electrification Incentives**

Join Larissa Johnson of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection to learn about the county's home electrification incentives in the latest installment of Rockville's Climate Solutions Speaker

The virtual webinar, from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 2, will discuss how to connect with the county's home electrification help desk and receive discounts for replacing fossil fuel-fired equipment with efficient electric appliances like heat pumps and electric hot water heaters. Visit bit.ly/MCElectrify2023 to register.

Visit bit.ly/ElectrifyMC to take the pledge to switch from fossil fuels to electric, receive program announcements and get connected to the county's selected electrification installer.

## **America Recycles Day: Recycle the Rockville Way**

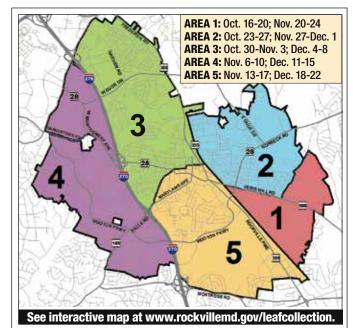
America Recycles Day is Wednesday, Nov. 15. Follow these tips to make sure you recycle right every day:

- 1. Plastic: Think "bottles, tubs, jars and jugs" only. To make your recycling efforts more accurate, don't look for numbers or recycling symbols, just recycle:
  - Bottles: containers for water, salad dressing or shampoo.
- Tubs: containers with snap-on lids, such as those for margarine or coffee, and small buckets.
- Jars: containers with screw-on lids, such as those for peanut butter, medicines or hand cream.
- Jugs: containers with a molded handle, such as those for milk or detergent.
- 2. No plastic bags, film, wrap or air-filled packing pillows. Many grocery or

retail stores offer plastic bag collection bins near their entrances. Find a drop-off location at bit.ly/ howtorecyclebags. Do not put recyclable materials in plastic bags for curbside recycling.

- 3. "Styrofoam" is not recyclable, even if it has a recycling symbol on it. This includes foam packing materials, coffee cups and takeout containers.
- 4. No "tanglers." Don't recycle items that can get wrapped in the sorting equipment. No strings, wires, hoses, cords, light strands, VHS cassettes, hangers or plastic bags.
- 5. Avoid "wishful recycling." When in doubt, throw it

To learn more about recycling in Rockville, including special collections and food scraps drop-off sites, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ recycling-trash. **†** 



## **Leave the Leaves to Us**

Second Pass for Leaf Collection Begins This Month

Rockville crews are vacuuming leaves from neighborhood curbs, with the second of two collection rounds beginning Monday, Nov. 20.

Rake leaves next to, but out of, roadways, gutters and bike lanes, and away from parked vehicles. Leaves should be raked by 6 a.m. on the first day of their collection period, but no earlier than one week before the collection dates to avoid grass damage or fire hazards. Remove sticks and other objects from leaf piles. Avoid

parking near leaf piles or other vehicles.

#### **Sustainable Leaf Tips**

- Leave some leaves where they fall or rake into garden beds to serve as natural mulch and habitat for beneficial insects to overwinter, such as butterflies, fireflies and native bees.
- Mow over the leaves to break them into tiny pieces that can filter into the grass, providing much-needed nutrients.
- Compost leaves at home with other yard trimmings. 💠



## **Rockville Offers Two Food Scraps Compost Drop-Offs**

The City of Rockville offers residents two free food scrap drop-off sites to make composting easy, keep valuable materials out of landfills and reduce excessive greenhouse gas emissions:

- Rockville Senior Center at 1150 Carnation Drive.
- Maintenance Facility at 14625 Rothgeb Drive.

Food scraps will be picked up weekly by a commercial contractor and delivered to the Prince George's County Organic Compost Facility. **How To Use Drop-Offs** 1. Place food scraps in a contain-

- er empty coffee containers with sealing lids are great for this. Be sure to remove any plastic or other trash.
- 2. Bring full containers and empty them into the designated green bins at one of the food scraps compost drop-offs. Follow the signs when you arrive. The sites are accessible 24/7 and the service is free of charge.
- 3. Rinse container and repeat. Find more about the food scraps drop-off and answers to frequently asked questions at www.rockvillemd.gov/ foodscraps. \*\*



AWARDING RESILIENCY ... The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments awarded the City of Rockville a 2023 Climate and Energy Leadership Award, recognizing the city's Flood Resiliency Program as a climate stewardship program that engages and serves the region's underserved communities and neighborhoods.

Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton, center left, and city stormwater manager Heather Gewandter, center right, shown above with Fairfax County, Virginia, Supervisor Penny Gross (left) and COG Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee Vice Chair Julie Kimmel (right), accepted the award at the Oct. II meeting of COG's board of directors.

In FY 2023, the Mayor and Council appropriated \$1.8 million for a new Flood Resiliency Program to plan for and mitigate flood impacts caused by climate change. Learn more about the city's Flood Mitigation Assistance Program and other relief efforts at www.rockvillemd.gov/

Learn more about the 2023 award winners at bit.ly/ COGClimateAward2023.

Photo credit: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

Connect with us on Social Media.















MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel, (youtube. com/cityofrockville): Learn all about the candidates running for the City of Rockville's Mayor and Council with three candidates forums, hosted by the League of Women Voters and Montgomery College, Community Reach with Rainbow Place Shelter and the Greater Rockville Chamber of Commerce.

## **Pedestrian Master Plan and Vision Zero Projects Walk (and Roll and Ride) On**

Rockville is taking steps toward safer transportation options for all with the city's first Pedestrian Master Plan, and preparations for projects to create safer intersections and new bike lanes.

The Mayor and Council were scheduled on Oct. 30 to vote on adoption of the Pedestrian Master Plan, which will guide development, construction and maintenance of safe, convenient, and equitable walking and rolling facilities across the city. Learn more about the plan and find video of the vote with the Oct. 30 meeting listing at www.rockville md.gov/AgendaCenter. The plan is a recommendation of the city's Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan, and is included as an action item in the city's Vision Zero Action Plan to eliminate traffic and pedestrian deaths and serious injuries.

The city is moving ahead with several other Vision Zero projects, including the Twinbrook Safe Routes to School and Transit Access Study. This feasibility study, expected to launch by year's end with completion by the end of 2024, will identify opportunities to improve intersection safety for all

modes of transportation, especially for trips to and from Twinbrook Elementary School and the Twinbrook Metro station. It will focus on the intersections of Ardennes Avenue at Crawford Drive, Halsey Road, Halpine Road, Ridgway Avenue and Wainwright Avenue; Chapman Avenue at Bouic Avenue and at Twinbrook Parkway; and Lemay Road at Ridgway Avenue. It will also evaluate seven sidewalk gap segments to assess how existing right of way, trees, slope, drainage and other factors would impact a sidewalk. Find a list of the gap segments at www.rockvillemd. gov/visionzeroprojects.

Another project will evaluate how bicycle lanes could be added to Martins Lane between Mannakee and North Washington streets. The Martins Lane Bicycle Lane Study and Design project will and choose a preferred alterspring. The study is expected

Learn more about Vision

## Meet A Rockville Employee: **Audra Lew**

sustainability

Audra Lew joined the City of Rockville on July 24 as the sustainability program manager in the Department of Public

Works. We asked her a few questions to get to know her better and learn more about her role.

Tell us about your job.

It's very cool! We are installing more electric vehicle charg-

ing stations at city facilities to charge our growing EV fleet and expand the charging network available to the community. We are working with Pepco as they provide additional public EV charging stations around town. We are also planning the city's first solar projects, installing rooftop solar and solar canopies over parking lots on city property to generate and use our own renewable energy.

We are increasing the energy efficiency of city buildings and reducing greenhouse gas emissions by upgrading lighting at the Rockville Senior Center and Twinbrook Community Recreation Center with energy-efficient light emitting diode (LED) lighting. We're doing this with help from Maryland Energy Administration grants and Pepco rebates. Continuing to seek and administer such grants and rebates are part of my new role.

How does your job fit in with the city's Climate Action Plan?

Rockville's greenhouse gas emissions are mainly from our energy use in our fleet and our buildings. By taking actions outlined in the Climate Action Plan, such as our EV, solar and en-

ergy-efficiency projects, we are saving the city money on utility bills while reducing the city's carbon footprint.

> We are walking the talk and providing examples of actions that can be taken to protect our planet, economy and way of life.

What did you do before joining the city?

This is my fourth time as a City of Rockville employee! I was the assistant supervisor at Croydon Creek Nature Center in the early 2000s. Since then, I've earned a master's in environmental science and policy and worked as an outreach specialist at the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. I spent the last nine years at the Montgomery County Department of **Environmental Protection** and Montgomery Parks, doing stormwater management permit compliance, biological monitoring (counting samples of fish and insects in the streams to assess water quality), pollution incident investigation and data analytics.

## Is there anything else we should know?

I would encourage everyone to read Rockville's Climate Action Plan (www. rockvillemd.gov/climate) and follow the progress of the federal Inflation Reduction Act, which invests in clean energy and climate action. These two important tools are guiding us toward solutions to the climate crisis. I am so excited to be working alongside my colleagues and city residents to be part of the solution!

## identify three alternatives native for advancement to a preliminary design phase. Public outreach about the alternatives is expected this to be completed by summer.

Zero at www.rockvillemd. gov/visionzero.

## **REDI Annual Report Outlines its Mission to Connect Businesses**

Rockville Economic Development, Inc., Rockville's economic development arm charged with helping businesses launch, locate and expand in Rockville, spent the past fiscal year identifying economic challenges and highlighting the city as a premier location for business, REDI said in its latest annual report.

REDI CEO Cindy Rivarde and members of REDI's board and staff presented the report to the Mayor and Council on Sept. 18.

The report for Fiscal Year 2023, which ended June 30, detailed REDI's focus on business retention, expansion and attraction; marketing and tourism; creative industries and placemaking; and support for small business and entrepreneurs; including:

- The completion of a survey of Rockville-area businesses, which found that businesses wanted more market information, networking opportunities and a better understanding of impactful marketing.
- Receiving a \$100,000 placemaking grant from Montgomery County to gather information, foster collaboration between businesses and create a strategy for the light-industrial Rock East District.
- Expanding the Small Business Impact Fund, to provide grants to businesses throughout the city, and the MOVE/Expansion program, including retailers in the program that provides grants to businesses moving to or expanding in the city. continued on pg. 7...

Rockville's Climate Action Plan **PROGRAM FEATURE** Flood Mitigation Assistance Rockville's Flood Mitigation Assistance Program offers financial assistance through matching reimbursement funds to residents and property owners who have installed approved practices on their properties to mitigate damage from flooding. Learn more at rockvillemd.gov/floodassistance



FALL BACK AND CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS ... Daylight saving time comes to an end at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 5, meaning clocks need to be set back an hour. This time of year is also a good reminder to check that your smoke alarms work — they're the best way of notifying you and your family of a fire.

## **City's Financial Assistance Program Can Help in an Emergency**

Need financial help? Facing eviction? Utilities about to be shut off? Need help paying for prescription medication?

Emergency financial assistance is available to eligible Rockville residents facing a financial crisis through the Rockville Emergency Assistance Program. Depending on eligibility, REAP assistance may also be available for funeral and medical expenses.

Referrals for emergency food, clothing, financial/employment counseling and other assistance are also provided.

All applicants for financial assistance must have a court-issued notice of eviction or notice of pending disconnection, and must apply to the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. Montgomery County DHHS will submit a referral to the City of Rockville Community Services Division on behalf of eligible city residents.

For more information on REAP, including how to apply, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/reap.

To donate to the REAP program and help neighbors in need, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ donate. One-hundred percent of donated funds go to Rockville families.

## **Interactive Historical Walking Tours Improved and Expanded**

Two interactive historical walking tours of Rockville now have an updated and improved online experience, with better navigation, additional locations and audio descriptions of the sites.

Rockville's history is unveiled through the Historic Rockville Tour and African-American Heritage Walking Tour. Signs at each location provide historical information to complement the

Those who want to tour from the comfort of their home can also view the story maps online.

The city's African-American Heritage Walking Tour story map, developed by the city's Department of Community Planning and Development Services, runs 2 miles and includes 20 locations in and around Rockville Town Center that highlight people and places important to the city's Black history from the 18th through 20th century.

The Historic Rockville Tour highlights the town of Rockville, Maryland, as it existed from 1801 to 1850 with a 3-mile walk around 16 city

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/history to find the interactive walking tours of Rockville's history.

## **Volunteer to Shovel Snow** for an Elderly Neighbor

City Pairs Helpers with Seniors

Each winter, the Rockville Senior Center looks for ways to help older Rockville residents with snow removal.

If you're handy with a shovel and don't mind digging out an extra driveway or clearing a walkway or two, you can sign up and volunteer for the program. The senior center's home maintenance coordinator organizes the program and can connect you with neighbors in need near your home. What better way to celebrate the season of selfless giving?

To sign up to volunteer or to request snow-shoveling assistance, email Jerry Jones at jjones@rockvillemd.gov, call Jones at 240-314-8819 or call the Senior Center Support Services office at 240-314-8810.

To sign up for assistance or volunteer online, visit bit.ly/snowshovelvolunteer. For more information about Rockville Senior Services, call 240-314-8800 or email seniorcenter@ rockvillemd.gov.

When winter weather strikes, turn to the city's website at www.rockvillemd.gov/ winterweather for information about Rockville's snow removal policies.

**NOVEMBER 2023 ROCKVILLE REPORTS** Page 5

## **Glenview-Peerless Series to Explore the Montgomery County Detention Center**

Explore the architecture of the Montgomery County Detention Center this month as the Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series presents "The Montgomery County Detention Center: Modernizing the Carceral State."

Architectural historian Teresa Lachin will present a history of the facility at 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 9 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Built in 1961, the detention center is situated historically between the outmoded and segregated Montgomery County Courthouse jail in Rockville and the 2003 sustainably designed Montgomery County Correctional Facility in Clarksburg. It was subsequently enlarged and modernized during three successive decades and now awaits partial demolition for redevelopment by the county. The detention center occupies a key transitional period, documenting modernist transformations in prison design, standards and practices, the realities of public funding and support, and the experiences of prison life, such as chronic overcrowding, mental illness and alcoholism, juvenile detention and inmate violence.

Register for this free presentation at peerless rockville.org, or with course #27892 at www. rockvillemd.gov/registration.



## **Sharpen your Skates (or Just Rent a Pair): The Town Square Ice Rink is Open!**

Tree Lighting to be Held Dec. I

The Rockville Town Square ice rink is open for the season at 131 Gibbs St.

At 7,200 square feet and 120 feet long, the rink is the largest outdoor rink in Montgomery County and has been an annual winter attraction for more than a decade.

Rink hours are noon-10 p.m. Monday to Thursday; noon-11 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturday; and 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sunday.

Admission is \$13 for adults, and \$12 for seniors 60-plus and children 12 and younger. Skate rental is \$5. Parking in Rockville Town Square garages is free for the first two hours.

The annual tree lighting will be held 6-8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. I at Rockville Town Square.

Visit www.rockvilletownsquare.com for more information about Rockville Town Square.



## Performances and Events, This November at the Rockville Civic Center

Rockville Musical Theatre Presents "Young Frankenstein" 8 p.m. Nov. 3, 4, 10 and 11; 2 p.m. Nov. 5 and 12

This electrifying musical stage adaptation of Mel Brook's brilliantly funny film will leave you in stitches. Recommended for ages 12 and older. Book by Brooks and Thomas Meehan; music and lyrics by Brooks.

The Friday, Nov. 3 performance will be accompanied by American Sign Language interpretation.

Tickets cost \$26; \$23 seniors and students. Group pricing available. Call the box office for more information. Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare. com/Frankenstein for tickets.

Murder at the Mansion Presents "Polter-Heist" by Tony Schwartz and Marylou Ambrose 8 p.m. Nov. 3 and 4; 2 p.m. Nov. 4 and 5.

Join Madame Zelda Von Schpookum, president of the Boogeyman Outreach Organization (BOO), and a host of whacky characters as they attempt to contact the ghost haunting the Moldering Pines Inn.

Glenview Mansion doors open 90 minutes before performances begin for the dinner buffet and 30 minutes before the scheduled start time for all patrons. Cash bar (beer, wine, soda) available. Dessert is included for all attendees.

Tickets are \$35; \$55 for ticket and Mission BBQ buffet. Visit fscottfitzgerald. showare.com/heist for more information.

#### Musical Magic with the Washington Balalaika Society Orchestra 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18.

The Washington Balalaika Society, a folk orchestra of balalaikas, domras, accordions, winds and percussion performs musical selections from throughout the world.

Tickets are \$30; \$25 for military and seniors; \$15 for students; and \$5 for children 12 and younger. Group pricing is available. Call the box office for more information. Visit fscottfitzgerald. showare.com/Musical\_Magic for tickets.

**Rockville Concert Band** 

**Presents "Celebrating Diversity"** 3 p.m. Saturday,
Nov. 18.

Artists from diverse backgrounds unite to showcase vibrant music, dance and performances while fostering understanding and appreciation for different cultures with guest conductor Christian

No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation.

For more information, visit rockvilleconcertband.org.

## Rockville Civic Ballet Presents "The Nutcracker" 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2

and 9; 2 p.m. Dec. 3 and 10. Join Clara on her magical journey. Directed by Eleanor Simpson and Erin Kwong.

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

Visit fscottfitzgerald. showare.com/Nutcracker2023 for tickets. Visit friendsrcb.org for more information.

#### 2024 Rockville Student Juried Art Exhibit

Present by the City of Rockville's Arts Division and the Rockville Art League.

Students from grades 6-12 who live or attend school in Rockville are eligible to enter two 2D or 3D works of art, in any medium, to be considered for the show.

Online entry forms must be submitted by Thursday, Nov. 30. Find the form at arcg. is/0yrK100. Students will be notified by Friday, Jan. 5 if their artwork was selected for inclusion.

Meet the artists from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21. The exhibit dates are Jan. 21-Feb. 16. For more information, contact Betty Wisda, arts programs supervisor, at bwisda@rockvillemd.gov.

## Swim and Fitness Center Outdoor Recreation Pool Art Project Survey

The City of Rockville plans to work with the community and an artist to determine a piece of art to be installed at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center's outdoor recreation pool.

Survey input from the community will be shared with the artist, once selected, to inform the design for their art proposal. Find the survey at bit.ly/artprefs.

# **Better Balance, Better Breathing and Celebrating Friendsgiving, This Month at the Senior Center**

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

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

#### **Fall Risk Assessments**

Physical therapists from Adventist Rehabilitation and HealthCare provide information on fall risks and assess mobility, recommend exercises and discuss following up with physical therapy.

Call Betty at 240-314-8803 for an appointment. Register with course #28799. 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 1. Free.

#### **Balance Testing**

Dr. Carlos Martinez, director of CAM Physical Therapy, will perform fall risk assessments. Assessments will use the Biosway portable balance system, which is designed to measure balance and stability, and allows health-care professionals to develop treatment plans.

Call Betty at 240-314-8803 for an appointment. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 15. Free.

## Digital Tools for Creative Expression

Interested in becoming more creative? This handson series of presentations and workshops with Senior Planet will explore popular ways to express creativity digitally. Learn about sharing photos with smartphones, as well as popular apps like Instagram, Canva and

Enwoven.

Register with course #28906. 1-2 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 14- Dec. 19. Free.

#### **Better Breather's Club**

An educational presentation and tips for respiratory issues. Create an affirmation/encouragement stone to help on your breathing journey. Meets third Thursday of each month

Register with course #28985. 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 16. Free.

#### **RSC** Friendsgiving

Thanksgiving lunch with friends, with lunch, bingo and prizes.

Register with course #26648. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 16. The cost is \$12 for members and \$14 for nonmembers.

#### Financial Tips, Tax Preparation and Health Screening

Financial tips, 2023 tax return tax-prep tips, a health screening and a wellness clinic with vaccines will be available. Sponsored by the Gaithersburg/Rockville Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., National Council on Aging and Rockville Senior Center.

Register with course #30022. 10:30 a.m.-noon, Friday, Nov. 17. Free.

## Recent Developments in Alzheimer's Disease

Learn about recent advancements in Alzheimer's disease treatment, and ways to keep your brain and body healthy to prevent onset. Led by the Alzheimer's Association National Capital Area Chapter. Presented through Suburban Hospital/Johns Hopkins Medicine.

Register with course #29831. 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 30. Free. Online.

## **November Hours**

continued from pg. 1...

Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers (10 a.m.-6 p.m.); the Rockville Skate Park (3-9 p.m.); and the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center (6 a.m.-9 p.m.). Visit www. rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter for more information.

Parking will be free at city-owned meters on Nov 10, 23 and 24.

For more information on recycling and trash collection, visit www.rockvillemd. gov/recycling-trash or call 240-314-8568.

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



**WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING THIS MONTH?** November is Municipal Government Works Month. It's also National Native American Heritage Month, National Novel Writing Month, Military Family Appreciation Month, Alzheimer's Disease Month and Gratitude Month (so thanks for being a "Rockville Reports" reader!).

# CALENDAR

#### **FACILITIES LEGEND:**

- Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
- Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
- Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780.
- (H) Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
- Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
- Rockville Swim and Fitness Center; 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
- Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Fallsgrove Dr., 240-314-8840.

Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.

- Hybrid: Offering both Virtual and

Virtual Program/Offering

Facebook Live Event









1 FALL RISK ASSESSMENTS See article on page 6. Register with course #28799. 1-2:30 p.m. 😘

**1 W** ASK AN EV (ELECTRIC VEHICLE) OWNER Join the Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington on the first Wednesday of every month for an online Ask An EV Owner event. Event page: evadc.wildapricot.org/Ask. 7:30-8:30 p.m.

2 TODDLER STORYTIME Read favorite children's books to Rockville toddlers aged 2-5. Simple crafts planned by senior center staff will follow. Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Register with course #28570. Free. 10-11 a.m. §

2 OVERDOSE ACTION TOWN HALL Maryland's Opioid Operational Command Center and the county's Department of Health and Human Services host a town hall on how to address the opioid crisis. Join in person or via livestream. Register at oocc-montgomery.eventbrite.com. Learn more at bit.ly/OverdoseTownHall2023. 6-7:30 p.m. Third-floor hearing room, Montgomery County Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Ave.

**2 V** CLIMATE SOLUTIONS SPEAKER SERIES: MONTGOMERY COUNTY HOME ELECTRIFICATION INCENTIVES See article on page 4. 7-8 p.m.

3,4,5 MURDER AT THE MANSION PRESENTS "POLTER-HEIST" See article on page 6.

**3,4,5,10,11,12** ROCKVILLE MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS "YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN" See article on page 6.

**4,11,18 ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET** *See article on page 8.* Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

5 CROYDON CREEK CAMPFIRE: FALL FOLKLORE Gather around the campfire with your friends for stories, snacks and more. An adult must accompany children and all participants must register with course #28828. \$6 R/\$7 NR. 2-3 p.m. (f)

6 HOW WE BECAME A NATION: LIFE IN COLONIAL AMERICA: 1764-1765 A look back at a time that set the stage for a revolution. Why was England putting more taxes on the Colonies through the Sugar Act and Stamp Act? These events and others were driving forces for the Colonies wanting to be free. Register with course #28578. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**6** COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT MATCHING GRANT applications open. See article on page 7.

7 CITY OF ROCKVILLE ELECTION DAY See article on page 1.

7 STORYTELLING WITH ERIN: UNPACKING TRAVEL Discuss the ways travel has changed — for better and for worse — and be transported without leaving your seat. Register with course #28567. \$6 R/\$9 NR. 11 a.m.-noon.

EITTLE EXPLORERS Take time with your little one to go exploring with a naturalist. Hiking, games and hands-on learning are all part of the fun! Registration required. Register with course #28817. Ages 2-5. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 10-11 a.m.

8 WINTER: HOME COMFORT TIPS Keep homes comfortable this winter with the top five things you can do to help your utility costs and keep money in your pocket. Register with course #28905. Free. 10-11 a.m. 🖫

**8** THE HEALTH BENEFITS OF GOOD POSTURE Learn specific exercises to help achieve better posture. Register with course #28990. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. (§)

**9 FASHION SHOW WITH TAYLOR MARIE** Taylor Marie brings shopping to the senior center with the latest fashions in sizes and creative accessories for all. Browse the racks to try on and purchase. Register with course #28553. \$3 M/\$5 NM. 1-3 p.m. **(§)** 

GLENVIEW MANSION-PEERLESS ROCKVILLE SPEAKER SERIES: MODERNIZING THE CARCERAL STATE See article on page 6. Free. 7-8 p.m.

10 VETERANS DAY (OBSERVED) City Hall and some facilities will be closed. See article on page 1.

11 VETERANS DAY CEREMONY See article on page 1. Veterans Park, at the intersection of MD 28 and Rockville Pike. 11 a.m.

**12** FAMILIES OUTSIDE: ALL ABOUT FALL Spend your Sunday outside exploring a different nature topic about native habitats. Must register, and all children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 3-plus. Register with course #28824. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (C)

15 AMERICA RECYCLES DAY See article on page 4.

15 BALANCE TESTING See article on page 6. Free. 🚷

**15** CAREGIVERS MONTH It's Caregivers Month. Meet other caregivers. Caregivers and family members welcome. Register with course #28883. Free. 10:30-11:30 a.m. §

**16** ANNUAL TURKEY TROT Walk through the Woodley Gardens neighborhood or join from the comfort of home. Bring a canned food item to support the senior center food bank or make a donation to the Senior Assistance Fund. Register with course #28938. Free. 10-11:30 a.m. 😘

**16** RSC FRIENDSGIVING See article on page 6. Register with course #26648. \$12 R/\$14 NR. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

17 FINANCE, TAX AND HEALTH Receive financial tips, determine what you need to prepare your 2023 tax return and receive a health screening. Wellness clinic and vaccines available. Register with course #30022. See article on page 6. 10:30 a.m.-noon.

17 PICASSO COLLAGE Create a fun Picasso-style portrait. Draw, cut, glue and build up layers of materials to design a portrait from different perspectives. Materials provided. Register with course #28722. \$25 M/\$35 NM. 12:30-2:30 p.m.

18 LITTLE EXPLORERS Take time with your little one to go exploring with a naturalist. Hiking, games and hands-on learning are all part of the fun! Registration required. Register with course #28818. Ages 2-5. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 10-11 a.m.

18 ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS "CELEBRATING DIVERSITY" See the article on page 6. 3-4 p.m. 🚯

18 MUSICAL MAGIC WITH THE WASHINGTON BALALAIKA SOCIETY ORCHESTRA! See article on page 6. 8-10 p.m. 🚯

19 MAYOR AND COUNCIL INAUGURATION See article on page 1. 1 p.m. 🕼

23,24 THANKSGIVING City Hall and some facilities closed. See article on page 1.

**30 RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE** See article on page 6. Register with course #29831. 1-2 p.m. (§)

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

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

## **Matching Grant Program Seeks Projects to Improve Communities**

Application Deadline is Jan. 19

The city's matching grant program helps neighbors work together to accomplish common goals that support the health, vitality and inclusivity of the place they call home.

Community Empowerment Matching Grant applications will open Monday, Nov. 6. The application deadline is Friday, Jan. 19.

Neighborhood, civic or homeowners associations, community groups, organized groups of neighbors and student groups are eligible to apply. Neighbors and organizations willing to match funding through cash, in-kind donations and volunteer hours are also eligible.

Applications are reviewed and grants awarded by the City Manager's Office. Grants typically range from \$500-\$1,000, must benefit a clearly identified area within city limits and may address any or all of the following objectives:

- Building community: Projects that promote the development or sustainability of a neighborhood association or community group. Activities that foster diversity, equity and inclusion.
- Community improvement projects: Projects that improve shared space within a neighborhood or strengthen community identity. This may include landscape improvements and maintenance, natural features management, benches, painting,

- or certain exterior improvements. Bonus points will be awarded if two or more groups work together on a project.
- **Livability initiatives:** Projects that provide educational and outreach opportunities that strengthen social connections between neighbors or neighborhoods. This may include improving safety, addressing a neighborhood challenge or conflict, serving low-income seniors or finding ways to welcome newcomers to Rockville.

For additional information, contact Hjarman Cordero at 240-314-8344 or hcordero@rockvillemd.gov.

To see the objectives for matching grants, and for an application form and additional information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ communityempowerment. \*

## **REDI Annual Report**

continued from pg. 5...

- Working with the City of Rockville and Montgomery College on a stronger relationship that includes learning opportunities for students with Rockville businesses.
- Creating the Global Bites pilot program and using the ExploreRockville.org website to highlight Rockville as a destination for international dining and business
- Facilitating over 100 virtual workshops, attended by over 1,550 entrepreneurs.

Find the full report and video of the presentation with the Sept. 18 Mayor and Council meeting listing at www.rockville md.gov/AgendaCenter.

Learn more at www.rockvilleredi.org. **†** 

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## RHE Waitlists to Open for Housing Choice Voucher, Project-Based Voucher and Public Housing

Rockville Housing Enterprises opened its waitlist in April for its housing choice voucher program, project-based voucher programs and public housing program.

Apply for a waitlist by following the instructions at https://myportal.rockvillehe.org.

RHE's waitlists will remain open until further notice.

Applicants will be required to provide contact information, including an email address for the application process, and 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 waitlist@rockvillehe.org or call 301-424-6265, extension 100. For more information about RHE, visit www.rockvillehe.org.

## **Human Rights Commission Seeks Student Ambassadors**

Rockville's Human Rights Commission is seeking 10 students to serve as HRC student ambassadors in its fifth annual Student Ambassador Program.

Ambassadors will serve as liaisons between the HRC and their high schools. The program will accept two students each from Richard Montgomery, Rockville and Thomas S. Wootton high schools, and four students who attend other Rockville high schools or who live in Rockville but attend high schools outside Rockville. Students must be in grades 10-12. Student Service Learning hours will be available.

HRC student ambassadors will serve and will:

- Participate in HRC meetings and teleconferences.
- Act as a liaison between the HRC and the student ambassador's school, including faculty, student organizations and the student body at large.
- Assist the HRC in planning and executing programs and initiatives, including promotion, volunteer recruitment, fundraising and other activities.
- Provide suggestions and feedback on ways to improve HRC programs and initiatives.
   Apply at www.rockvillemd.gov/humanrights. If necessary, virtual interviews will held for selected applicants.

# Rockville Recreation Guides: Winter registration is just around the corner!

"Life in Rockville": Find classes, programs and special events for all ages and interests.

"Adults 60+": A guide especially for the 60-plus community.

Find our guides at

www.rockvillemd.gov/guide

or in print at

City Hall, community centers and libraries.

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

## **Be Thankful for Fall Flavor at the Rockville Farmers Market**

Bring local farm-fresh fall flavor to your Thanksgiving with produce from regional growers/producers at the Rockville Farmers Market.

Fall offerings include apples, cider, gourds, potatoes and pumpkins. The market also features plants and flowers, herbs, baked goods, local spirits, meat, and coffee. It is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, through Nov. 18 in the jury parking lot at the corner of East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets in Rockville Town Center.

Receive a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$20 weekly when shopping 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). Matching funds can be used to purchase locally grown and produced items including fruits, vegetables, meat, cheese, dairy, baked goods, eggs and honey.



The Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money programs remove economic barriers for foodinsecure shoppers, by increasing access to fresh produce and increasing purchasing power. Eat Fresh Rockville is sponsored in part by grant funds from the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission. The program aims to fight hunger while investing directly in farmers, strengthening the local food system. Stop by the market tent, located at the market entrance, for more information.

Learn more at www. rockvillemd.gov/farmers or 240-314-8620 or follow the market on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ RockvilleFarmersMarket.

## **State Legislative Priorities**

continued from pg. 3...

Emergency Management Performance Grant Program funding with municipalities to address emergency preparedness and mitigate climate change risks. The city also supports a request by the Maryland Municipal League and Maryland Association of Counties for the state to designate \$10 million for local emergency management.

Legislation supporting Rockville's Climate Action Plan goals of reducing greenhouse gases, prioritizing equity and building resiliency.

Increased funding for senior transportation services, recreation and wellness programs, senior programs in neighborhoods, aging-in-place and village initiatives, and senior outreach.

Legislation to address

excessive noise caused by illegally modified vehicle exhaust systems.

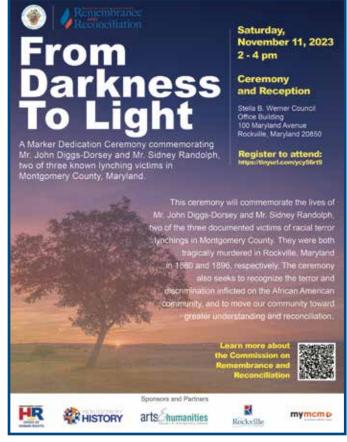
\$500,000 for the David Scull Park Improvements Project. The county to request

The county to request state aid to renovate and preserve historic Lincoln High School.

Rockville is also supporting MML's push to expand municipal revenue sources; allow trained staff, instead of police officers, to review speed camera citations; and to allow local governments to provide business tax credits or waivers through local tourism zones.

Find video of the Mayor and Council's Oct. 9 priorities discussion and staff reports at www.rockville md.gov/AgendaCenter, or contact Linda Moran at lmoran@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8115.







## SIGN UP

FOR THE CITY'S MANY NEWSLETTERS -

from environment to our newest volunteer news!
www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters



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Director of Communication: Katherine Kirk-Dantzler
Asst. Director of Communication: Sean Sedam
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Web and Digital Manager: Nick Kanary Graphics and Printing: Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell, Lori Russler Rockville II: Hagop Balekjian, Adrian Zlotescu Social Media and Digital Engagement: Becca Brown

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**BACK IN THE DAY** ... A decade ago this month, the City of Rockville was beginning an update to its Bikeway Master Plan, reported the November 2013 "Rockville Reports." First adopted in 1981, the plan was updated in 1998 and 2004. A component of the city's comprehensive plan, the latest Bikeway Master Plan was adopted in April 2017. It is used by city staff, elected officials and residents as a guide for improving bicycling infrastructure and programs over a 10-year period. Find it at www.rockvillemd.gov/bikewaymasterplan.