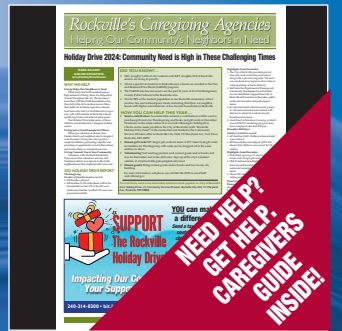




RockvilleReports

NOVEMBER 2024 • VOL. 69 #9

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2024 Rockville Holiday Drive is Officially Underway

For 50 Years, Drive Has Encouraged Heartfelt Giving

For a half-century, through the Holiday Drive, the city has sponsored outreach that brings the community together each year to provide food baskets, gift certificates and toys to needy Rockville families throughout the Thanksgiving and December holidays.

Rockville's community warmth and holiday spirit were on display during the 2023 Holiday Drive, with a total of 147 donors and a total of \$34,722 raised to support families and people in need throughout November and December.

In November, 694 families (2,396 individuals within the households) were served. In December, 1,279 children from 492 families were served.

Here are some ways you can make a difference in 2024:

- Make a cash donation online at bit.ly/HolidayDriveDonate or send a tax-deductible contribution (checks made payable to City of Rockville, with "Rockville Holiday Drive" in the memo line, and sent to 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.) Donations help Rockville buy healthy food options for individuals and families.
- Volunteer. Go to www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer to sign up for a variety of

Holiday Drive volunteer opportunities.

- Organize a canned food drive (with a focus on healthier food like low-sodium beans and soups, no-sugar-added canned fruits and whole-wheat pasta).
- Organize a toy or book drive to collect new unwrapped toys or books (new books for children of all ages, including teenagers, are needed).

The Holiday Drive relies entirely on monetary contributions, donated food and new toys from local individuals, schools, businesses and organizations.

You can donate food at City Hall and city recreation facilities until Friday, Nov. 15 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

You can donate toys and books at City Hall and city recreation facilities until Friday, Dec. 13 for the December holidays.

Food, toys and gift cards distributed by the Holiday Drive are donated or purchased using donated funds. All donations of money and goods are tax deductible.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive or email hd@rockvillemd.gov. ❖

Veterans Day in Rockville to Show Reverence for Armed Forces Members

Rockville will honor veterans of our nation's armed forces with a ceremony at 11 a.m. on Veterans Day, Monday, 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, a presentation of colors and a rifle salute led by American Legion Post 86. A reception will follow at American Legion Post 86, at 1013 Veirs Mill Road.

Dominic Russoli, a retired Air Force master sergeant, will be the guest speaker. Russoli served in the Air Force for 22 years, including as a weapons technician at Hurlburt Field and Eglin Air Force Base in Florida from 1979-1982, and a year as an enlisted aide to the commander of the 9th Air Force at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina. He arrived in Washington, D.C., in 1983, as an enlisted aide to the Air Force's vice chief of staff at Bolling Air Force Base. From 1985-2001, Russoli served as an aircrew member of the 89th Military Airlift Wing, which is responsible for Air Force One, and served in the Washington, D.C.,



Dominic Russoli, retired Air Force master sergeant.

Air National Guard, where he supported the president and other government officials.

Since retiring from service in 2001, Russoli has worked as an analyst/inspector for the Justice Department's Office of the Inspector General.

Originally from Allentown, Pennsylvania, Russoli and his husband have lived in Rockville for 22 years. He is an oil painter and an active member of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Rockville, where he serves as a committee co-chair and lay minister.

For more information about Rockville's Veteran's Day ceremony, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/veteransday, email special.events@rockvillemd.gov or call 240-314-8620. ❖

Rockville City Police Chief Victor V. Brito Resigns

City Manager Jeff Mihelich has accepted the resignation of Rockville City Police Chief Victor V. Brito.

Brito submitted his resignation Friday, Oct. 18 after six years of committed service to the Rockville community. His last day will be Friday, Nov. 22.

"On behalf of the community and the Mayor and Council, I would like to thank Chief Brito for his service to protecting and serving the City of Rockville," Mihelich said in statement.

As the city is committed to ensuring the public's safety,

the city manager will begin recruitment of a new police chief in the near future.

The City of Rockville operates under a council-manager form of government. The city manager is responsible to the Mayor and the Council for the day-to-day management of city operations, including the Rockville City Police Department.

The Mayor and Council are committed to working with the city manager to support public safety and effective community policing and outreach in the City of Rockville. ❖

November Hours of Operation in Rockville

Rockville City Hall will be closed on Election Day, Veterans Day, and on Thanksgiving weekend. Other city facilities will be closed or will operate on limited schedules.

Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5: City Hall, the Rockville Senior Center, Glenview Mansion, the Rockville Civic Center business office, and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre will be closed. Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers will be open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. All other city facilities will open as usual, and recycling and trash will be collected on the regular schedule. For information about voting times and locations and more, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/elections.

Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11: 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. All collections occur one day later than usual this week.

Wednesday, Nov. 27: Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm
continued on pg. 2...

In This Issue...

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- 3** State Legislative Priorities
- 5** Recreation Pool Renovation
- 6** Ice Rink Opens

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Bénéficiez de ces informations dans votre langue. Allez sur le site RockvilleReports.com et ouvrez le menu « Select Language » (choisir la langue) de Google Translate, situé en haut à droite de la page.

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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.

Climate Solutions Speaker Series Presents Montgomery County Home Electrification Incentives

Join Jeremy Good 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 Series.

The virtual webinar, from 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 5, 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/MCElectrify2024 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.

November Hours of Operation

continued from pg. 1...

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. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29: City Hall, the senior center, Glenview Mansion, the Rockville Civic Center business office and the Fitzgerald Theatre box office will be closed. Theater tickets are always available at www.rockvillemd.gov/theatre. Recycling and trash normally collected on Thursdays will be collected Friday, Nov. 29.

Facilities closed Nov. 28 and open for the following hours Nov. 29: Croydon Creek Nature Center (10 a.m.-2 p.m.); 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. 5, 11, 28 and 29.**

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. ✚

Town Center Master Plan Update Draft Sent to Mayor and Council

The Rockville Planning Commission in September approved a draft of the Town Center Master Plan to forward to the Mayor and Council for their final approval.

This advancement marks a major milestone in the process that moves the plan along to its final phase.

The overarching goal of the master plan update is to strengthen Town Center by creating a cohesive vision for the planning area, one that meets the city's goals and provides a clear path for implementation.

Residents can review the draft document on the Town Center project page at engagerockville.com/towncenter.

A public hearing on the plan before the Mayor and Council was anticipated for Oct. 28, after the "Rockville Reports" print deadline. See the hearing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter by clicking the TV icon next to the Oct. 28 meeting listing.

Subsequent discussions and evaluations will take place during a Mayor and Council work session scheduled for Monday, Dec. 9, with final adoption expected in January. The meeting's exact date is yet to be determined.

View the draft, provide feedback and learn about upcoming public meetings on the Town Center project page on Engage Rockville. Visit engagerockville.com/towncenter. ✚

Matching Grant Program Seeks Projects to Improve Communities — Applications Open Nov. 4

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. 4. The application deadline is Friday, Jan. 17.

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 Abe Bruckman at 240-314-8111 or abruckman@rockvillemd.gov.

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



MEETING THE NEIGHBORS OF LINCOLN PARK ... Rockville's Mayor and Council were out and about in October on a walking tour of the Lincoln Park neighborhood.

Rockville 11 tagged along to cover the walk. Visit youtube.com/cityofrockville and search "Lincoln Park walking tour."

The tour focused on observing the look and feel of homes in this historic neighborhood in relation to design guidelines proposed for the community.

Find out more about the Lincoln Park Design Guidelines project and sign up for updates at engage.rockville.com/lincoln-park.

Help Shape Our Community

TAKE THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE

FY 2026 Budget Priorities Survey

AVAILABLE IN THREE LANGUAGES

Your Voice Counts




Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget

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 is available in English, Spanish and simplified Chinese at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget. Survey responses provide valuable input to the Mayor and Council for their budget discussions.

The Mayor and Council were scheduled to hold a budget public hearing on Oct. 28, after the deadline for this issue of "Rockville Reports." Find information and video from the hearing with the meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter. The proposed Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget and Capital Improvements Program will be posted to the city's website on Friday, March 7, with budget work sessions and public hearings to follow in the spring. The Mayor and Council are scheduled to adopt the budget on Monday, May 5.



READ ALL ABOUT IT! ... IN YOUR INBOX ... Sign up for the city's many email newsletters, featuring weekly roundups of city news and events, regular updates about arts and culture, planning and development, the environment and sustainability, and volunteering, and news from our nature, senior, and swim and fitness centers. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters.



Mayor & Council
mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov



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240-314-8293 • kfulton@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember David Myles
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Councilmember Marissa Valeri
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Mayor Monique Ashton
240-314-8290
mashton@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Barry Jackson
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Councilmember Izola (Zola) Shaw
240-314-8297 • ishaw@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Adam Van Grack
240-314-8292 • avangrack@rockvillemd.gov

City Legislative Priorities: Maryland General Assembly’s 90-Day Session Begins Jan. 8

The Mayor and Council will advocate for their slate of legislative priorities in the upcoming 2025 Maryland General Assembly legislative session, which will begin in early January.

During the session, which runs from Wednesday, Jan. 8-Monday, April 7 in Annapolis, the city will advocate for a number of priorities, which include:

- **Increased state aid for school construction and operations** to support education from birth through community college, including child care. The city will also advocate for a fair share of state funding for Montgomery County to help implement the Blueprint for Maryland’s Future, out-of-school activities, youth and at-risk youth programming.
- **The city’s Vision Zero and Pedestrian Master Plan efforts**, including support for a comparative negligence law, which would allow pedestrians to claim damages proportionate to their fault in vehicle crashes. The city will also advocate for revising state transportation code to ensure that the state is responsible for maintaining sidewalks and streetlights on state roads and for dedicated state funding to enhance pedestrian safety.
- **Expanded access to the state Homeowner’s Property Tax Credit** for low- and moderate-income homeowners to alleviate inflationary pressures and cost-of-living increases.
- **Preservation of Municipal Highway User Revenues** from the state that contribute to the cost of maintaining and repairing Rockville’s transportation infrastructure.
- **Support for Rockville’s Climate Action Plan** to reduce

greenhouse gases, prioritize equity and build resilience.

- **Increased funding for senior services**, including transportation, recreation, wellness programs, aging-in-place initiatives, village programs and senior outreach.
- **\$500,000 in state aid for the Elwood Smith Community Center renovation**, which will support equity and inclusion goals by removing Americans with Disabilities Act barriers and reconfiguring office space for out-of-school programming and community gatherings.
- **\$500,000 in state aid for the Talbot Street Park project**, which will provide much-needed green space for the community. The project includes the removal of a decommissioned water tower and the design and construction of a half-acre park.

Find video of the Mayor and Council’s Oct. 7 priorities discussion and staff reports at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter, or contact Linda Moran at lmoran@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8115.

On Oct. 21, the Mayor and Council adopted a resolution that includes all of Rockville’s 2025 state priorities. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter and click on the meeting link to see a staff report with the full list of priorities. ➕

► 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.

Agencies: City’s ‘Financial Position is Very Strong’

Reaffirmation of Triple-A Bond Rating Will Save Taxpayers Money

Two rating agencies recently reaffirmed the city’s triple-A bond rating and expressed confidence in Rockville’s financial outlook.

Triple-A is the highest possible rating and saves Rockville taxpayers money by allowing the city to borrow at the lowest possible interest rates.

In awarding the rating, the agencies showed confidence in Rockville’s ability to meet its financial obligations, cited the city’s conservative fiscal management, strong policies and practices, ample reserve levels and stable tax base.

Standard & Poor’s said its stable outlook for the city’s finances reflected a “view of Rockville’s resilient and growing local economy, coupled with a conservatively managed budget, supported by a robust slate of policies.”

Moody’s Investors Service said: “The city’s financial position is very strong and is expected to remain so given management’s

conservative budgeting practices, prudent management of expenditures and adherence to formal fiscal policies.”

On Sept. 25, UBS Financial Services was the winner from among 10 bidders as the city sold \$16.9 million in general obligation bonds at a rate of 3.22%. The bond proceeds will support water infrastructure projects; the city’s contribution to upgrades and expansion of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority’s Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Plant, which treats the city’s wastewater; and highly anticipated improvements to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Lincoln Park Community Center and the outdoor recreation pool at the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center.

More information about these projects can be found in the city’s Fiscal Year 2025 Adopted Operating Budget and Capital Improvements Program at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget. ➕



THEY DON’T MAKE CARS LIKE THEY USED TO ...
Car enthusiasts, collectors and more than 500 vehicles from 32 car clubs graced the grounds of the Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park on Oct. 19 for Rockville’s Antique and Classic Car Show. The city tradition saw this 1957 Chevy Corvette owned by Cal Milans claim the Mayor and Council Award. Milans, of Rockville, discovered the Corvette abandoned and in rough shape and spent over 28 years restoring it. For more from this year’s show, search “2024 car show” on youtube.com/cityofrockville and follow the Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show on Facebook.

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

Meetings Schedule: Monday, Nov. 18, at 6:30 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details. A drop-in session from 5:15-6:15 p.m. with Mayor Monique Ashton and Councilmember Izola (Zola) Shaw will precede the Nov. 18 meeting.

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 mayorcouncil@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, live-streamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11 and available a day after each meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/videoondemand.

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 Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.
- **Volunteer** 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.

See times and dates on the city’s calendar: www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.

- **Nov. 13 and 27** Planning Commission 7 p.m. (*To participate, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.*)

Vacancies

- Board of Supervisors of Elections (1)
- Community Policing Advisory Board (5, 1 student)
- Cultural Arts Comm. (1)
- Education Comm. (1 youth rep; 1 parent private school rep.)
- Environment Comm. (1)
- Ethics Comm. (1)
- Human Rights Comm. (6)
- Human Services Advisory Comm. (2)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Comm. (3)
- Planning Comm. (2)
- Senior Citizens Comm. (1)
- Transportation and Mobility Comm. (3)
- Youth Comm. (10)

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



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.

Fall Into Solar Savings — Make the Solar Switch

Lower your energy costs, become energy independent and participate in the renewable revolution: Join Solar Switch to learn about options for installing a solar energy system on the rooftop of your home or small business.

Solar Switch, formerly the Capital Area Solar Co-Op, is open for applications through Monday, Nov. 25. Electric vehicle chargers are also offered in this group-driven, cooperative purchase discount program. Financing for all incomes is available.

The campaign now underway included an auction with qualified installers in August that resulted in an installation price per watt of \$2.52. That price that is 25% less than average market prices, resulting in savings of \$7,478 on an average solar system.

For more about the co-op, visit SolarSwitch.com/CapitalArea.

Don't own a roof — or have one that is shaded? Consider joining a community solar project. Learn how at www.solarunitedneighbors.org/go-solar/community-solar.

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 drain.

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 including 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.).
- Pawpaw (Asimina triloba).
- American plum (Prunus americana).

Small Trees

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

Evergreen Trees

- Southern magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora).
- Eastern red cedar (Juniperus virginiana).
- American holly (Ilex opaca).

YES


FRUITS and VEGETABLES


NUTS, DAIRY, EGGS and BAKED GOODS


TEA BAGS and COFFEE GROUNDS


COOKED MEATS, SEAFOOD, BONES


UNCOATED PAPER PRODUCTS, COMPOSTABLE KITCHENWARE


FLOWERS

NO


PLASTIC BAGS or WRAPPERS


STYROFOAM


OIL or GREASE


FOIL


PLASTIC-COATED CARDBOARD

City Opens Third Food Scraps Compost Drop-Off in Twinbrook

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

- Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

- Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.
 - Maintenance Facility, 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 the Drop-Off

1. Place food scraps in a container. (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.

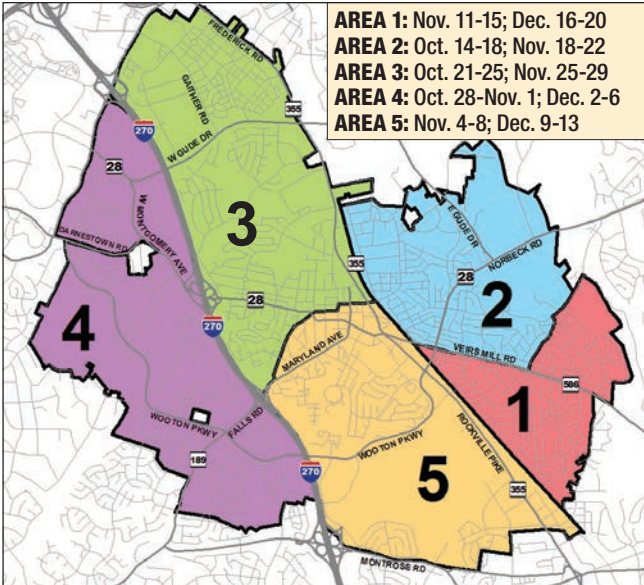
Learn more about the food scraps drop-offs and view maps and frequently asked questions at www.rockvillemd.gov/foodscraps.

How to Recycle the Right Way on America Recycles Day — And Every Day

America Recycles Day is Friday, 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 gro-

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



AREA 1: Nov. 11-15; Dec. 16-20
AREA 2: Oct. 14-18; Nov. 18-22
AREA 3: Oct. 21-25; Nov. 25-29
AREA 4: Oct. 28-Nov. 1; Dec. 2-6
AREA 5: Nov. 4-8; Dec. 9-13

See interactive map at www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection.

Sweet Re-Leaf: Final 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. 18.

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 that overwinter in leaves such as butterflies, fireflies and native bees.
- Mow over the leaves to break them up into tiny pieces that can filter into the grass, providing much-needed nutrients.
- Compost leaves at home with other yard trimmings.

ROCKVILLE TOWN SQUARE

PARKING

2 HOURS OF FREE PARKING



NO VALIDATION REQUIRED



SIGN UP

FOR THE CITY'S MANY NEWSLETTERS –

from environment to our newest volunteer news!

www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters



MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel, (youtube.com/cityofrockville): Join the Mayor and Council on a walking tour of the Lincoln Park neighborhood; find out more about the 2024 Rockville Holiday Drive (and see the front pages of this "Rockville Reports" and the community services guide insert for details); hear the proclamations issued in October by the Mayor and Council; and put some oompah in your step revisiting Rocktoberfest.

Take the Needs Assessment Survey to Help Us Help You

Rockville residents are invited to take the city's human services needs assessment survey. Data from the survey will help the city assess available services, identify residents' health and wellness needs, and make informed recommendations on how to best address those needs. The survey takes 10-15 minutes to complete online and will be open until Tuesday, Dec. 10 at bit.ly/2024hnas. 🍁

Lock It or Lose It!: Tips for Preventing Thefts from Vehicles

Thefts from vehicles continue to be a problem in Rockville, with the majority of cases due to cars being left unlocked. In 2023, there were 245 reports of theft from vehicles around the city. Don't become a victim. Follow these tips to deter criminals and protect your property:

- Lock vehicle doors.
- Don't leave valuables in your vehicle.
- Don't leave your garage door opener in plain sight inside of your vehicle.
- Park in well-lit areas whenever possible.
- Remember: briefcases, backpacks, gym bags, sunglasses, keys and small change are all tempting to a thief.

- If you see someone in your yard, driveway or lurking near vehicles, especially overnight and in the very early morning hours, do not attempt to confront or detain them, immediately call 911.
- If your vehicle is broken into, immediately contact RCPD to make a report at 240-314-8900. Documenting every theft from a vehicle is an important step toward stopping crime.

Do your part to stop thefts from vehicles occurring in our city. Remember: Lock it or lose it! 🍁



FINDING PEACE, STEP BY STEP ... A new sign of peace and hope was unveiled in Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park's Peace Garden with the Mayor and Council, and guests, cutting the ribbon on a labyrinth that encourages park visitors to walk its path, meditate and reflect. At the labyrinth's center sits a representation of the flame of hope. "Peace is a Journey Rooted in Hope," a new sign to be installed at the labyrinth says. "This labyrinth in the Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park and Peace Garden offers an opportunity to quiet the mind and find balance while walking the path." The 26-acre park was dedicated in 2008 in memory of Mattie J.T. Stepanek, a poet and peace activist who rose to national prominence before his death, aged 13. Find out more about Rockville's 67 parks at www.rockvillemd.gov/parks.

“ROCKVILLE ROLL CALL” takes a closer look at the Rockville staff members who serve our city. This month, Rockville 11 talks with Ryan Trout, the new director of the Department of Housing and Community Services. DHCD advocates for affordable housing and landlord-tenant equity, ensures safe housing conditions and offers comprehensive social services, including mentoring, mental health support and assistance to prevent eviction and utility shut-offs.

Find “Rockville Roll Call” on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, and at www.youtube.com/cityofrockville.

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

D.A.R.E.-ing TO HELP KIDS RESIST DRUGS AND VIOLENCE ... Rockville City Police Department Cpl. Ronnie Crowe recently graduated from Maryland's 40th Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) officer training program. The rigorous, two-week course involves daily classroom instruction and many hours outside the classroom working on projects and presentations. Crowe, center with (L to R) Sgt. Javier Baquero and Acting Maj. Jason West, also had the opportunity to teach a session of D.A.R.E. to elementary school students. Learn more about D.A.R.E. at dare.org and about RCPD at www.rockvillemd.gov/police.

ROCKVILLE REC POOL RENOVATION GOING SWIMMINGLY ... Work is underway on a comprehensive renovation and reconfiguration of the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center's outdoor recreation pool. Improvements are being made to accessibility, amenities will be modernized, and infrastructure will provide new recreational features and pools for swimmers of all ages and abilities. Construction is expected to last through spring 2025. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rsfcrenovations for information and periodic updates.

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 gjones@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/rkvsnowvol. 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.

Always use headlights at night, dusk, in bad weather or any other situation where visibility is low.

VISION ZERO

The Dangers of Less Daylight: Tips for Driving, Biking and Walking

The end of daylight saving time on Sunday, Nov. 3, and the coming winter, mean less daylight and a reminder to use caution while driving, biking and walking on city streets. A National Highway Traffic Safety Administration study found that in 2022 nearly 54% of all fatal crashes occurred at night. A 2018 study by AAA Mid-Atlantic found that crashes in the Washington metropolitan area involving pedestrians on roads and walking paths peaked in October (284), November (292) and December (288). AAA provides the following safety tips for drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians.

Tips for Drivers:

- Slow down.
- Turn on headlights for increased visibility during early morning and evening hours.
- Keep vehicle headlights and windows (inside and out) clean.
- Do not use high beams when other cars or pedestrians are around.
- Yield the right of way to pedestrians in crosswalks. Do not pass vehicles stopped at crosswalks.

Tips for Pedestrians and Bicyclists:

- Cross only at intersections. Look left, right and left again and only cross when it is clear.
- Cross at the corner – not in the middle of the street or between parked cars.
- If you must walk on a road that does not have sidewalks, walk facing traffic.
- Evaluate the distance and speed of oncoming traffic before you step into the street.
- Avoid listening to music or listen at a low volume so you can hear motor vehicles approaching.
- Bicycle lights are a must-have item for safe night riding, especially during the winter months when it gets dark earlier.

Find more pedestrian safety tips at bit.ly/BeStreetWise.

FALL BACK AND CHECK YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS ... Daylight saving time comes to an end at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 3, 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.

Peerless Presents ‘Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP in Rockville’

Peerless Rockville in November presents a look at Rockville’s role in school desegregation. In “Thurgood Marshall and the NAACP in Rockville,” from 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 at the Grey Courthouse, 27 Courthouse Square, Peerless Rockville volunteer historian Ralph Buglass will explore how a case in a Rockville courtroom was an early step toward the landmark Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court decision that overturned school segregation. The illustrated talk examines how a lawsuit by William Gibbs, a teaching principal in Rockville who sued for equal pay for black teachers, took on national significance and helped lead to a countywide NAACP chapter. The program will be held in the historic courtroom, recently restored to appear as it did when future Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and NAACP chief counsel Charles Hamilton Houston argued the case there in 1937.

Admission is free. Space is limited. Register at peerlessrockville.org.



Ice, Ice, Baby: The Town Square Ice Rink is Open!

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. Mondays-Thursdays, noon-11 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m.-11 p.m. Saturdays and 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Sundays.

Adult admission (13 and older) is \$13 and \$12 for children 12 and younger. Skate rentals are \$6. Group and private lessons are available.

The annual tree lighting ceremony will be held 6-9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6.

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

Join Rockville's Youth Mentoring Program and Empower Kids Through Education and Sports

ROCK-KIDZ: Dedicate just one hour a week to mentoring elementary school students, boosting their grades and self-esteem.

Sports Mentors: Coach, mentor, guide and inspire young athletes to greatness.



**Make an impact.
Become a youth mentor today!**

Questions? Contact C.J. Rucker
at crucker@rockvillemd.gov.
To apply, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/2075/Mentoring.

Murder, ‘Meat’ Pies and Music, This Month at the Civic Center

Find the following shows in the coming weeks at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive:

Murder at the Mansion presents “Last Call at Chez Mort” 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1 and 2; 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 3.

A nightclub in the 1940s is the scene of a bizarre death. Possibly an accident or, more likely, a murder. Inspector Constantine could pin it on any one of these mugs: the gangster, the show girl, the French guy, or the Russian with a hatchet. Enjoy an outing riddled with clues and a buffet of sweet treats. Dress in 1940s costume for a chance to win a prize. Recommended for ages 15 and up. Written by Lee Mueller.

Tickets cost \$35; \$30 for students and seniors. Add Maggiano’s Little Italy Buffet for \$30 more (available two hours before the performance).

Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Last_Call for tickets.

Rockville Musical Theatre presents “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street” 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Nov. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16; 2 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 10 and 17.

Sweeney Todd, an unjustly exiled barber, returns to 19th-century London seeking vengeance against the lecherous judge who framed him and ravaged his young wife. The road to revenge leads Todd to Mrs. Lovett, a resourceful proprietress of a failing pie shop, above which he opens a new barber practice. Mrs. Lovett’s luck sharply shifts when Todd’s thirst for blood inspires the integration of an ingredient into her meat pies that has the people of London lining up ... and the carnage has only just begun! Recommended for ages 12 and older.

Tickets cost \$26; \$23 for students and seniors. Contact the box office for group pricing information. Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Sweeney to purchase tickets.

Washington Balalaika Society presents “Mystery of Romance” 8 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23.

A community orchestra of musicians who perform the music of Eastern Europe, Ukraine, Russia and many other countries on traditional folk instruments. It is the largest orchestra of its kind in America and has been performing in the Greater Washington, D.C., area for 36 years. WBS supports the Ukrainian people and provides humanitarian support for displaced Ukrainian refugees. This concert will include the famous spirited Ukrainian dance, “Hopak.”

Tickets cost \$35; \$30 for seniors and military; \$15 for students; and \$5 for children 12 and younger. Contact the box office for group pricing information. Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/WBSMystery for tickets.

Rockville Concert Band presents “Beyond the Equinox: Season of Change” 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24.

Highlighting the music of influence and change as the Rockville Concert Band moves into a new era, the performance will include “Gandalf” from Johan de Meij’s Symphony No. 1, “Lord of the Rings,” highlights from “Wicked,” and “Elegy for a Young American,” by Ronald Lo Presti.

Directed by guest conductor Erick Von Sas. No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation.

Visit rockvilleconcertband.org for more information.

Rockville Civic Ballet presents “The Nutcracker” 7:30 p.m. Fridays, Dec. 6 and 13; 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, Dec. 7 and 14; 2 p.m. Sundays, Dec. 8 and 15.

Join Clara on her magical journey, directed by Eleanor Simpson and Erin Kwong, and celebrate the ballet’s 50th anniversary.

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

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and its social hall will close for renovations to improve accessibility and sound on Tuesday, Dec. 17 and reopen Sept. 1, 2025. ❄️

Celebrate Caregivers, Age with Grace and Tackling Trafficking, 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.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.

2nd Annual Caregiver’s Month Celebration

Inviting professional and family caregivers. Vendors, presentations and giveaways.

Register with course #31209. 10 a.m.-noon. Friday, Nov. 1. Free.

Age With Grace (Rescheduled)

Guidance on maintaining personal hygiene with age. Smith Life Home Care will provide tips and strategies to foster a healthy and confident approach to aging gracefully.

Register with course #33007. 10-11:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 7. Free.

Medicare for Maryland Seniors

Medicare’s election period is once a year. Find a new Johns Hopkins Advantage Medicare plan that’s right for you at this seminar. Ask questions and explore options.

Register with course #33625. 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 7. Free.

A Place to Heal: No Longer in the Hospital

Learn how to navigate your insurance benefits, understand the breadth of post-acute care options available and discover how to optimize your recovery outcomes.

Session 1: Navigating Medicare and insurance for hospital stays and inpatient rehab.

Session 2: Optimizing rehab outcomes and exploring post-acute care options.

Session 3: Case study analysis — evaluating the crisis.

Presented by Kerri Donnelly, Montcare.

Register with course #33583. 1-2:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Nov. 6, Nov. 20, Dec. 4. Free. Hybrid.

Trafficking 101

The Maryland Human Trafficking Task Force teaches ways to identify human trafficking and how this crime is covered by Maryland laws. Gain valuable insight into identifying red flags and understanding the tactics used by traffickers, empowering you to protect yourself and others from exploitation. Together, create a safer environment for everyone.

Register with course #33034. 10-11 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 14. Free.

Friendsgiving Lunch

Enjoy a Thanksgiving lunch with friends. Includes lunch, bingo and games. Program Assistance Fund is available. Space is limited.

Register with course #31208. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21. \$12 M/\$14 NM.

How We Can Cope with Grief During the Holidays

Discuss the range of emotions that grieving individuals may feel during holiday time in a webinar that offers insight and strategies for coping during an emotionally charged season. Presented by Suburban Hospital/Johns Hopkins Medicine.

Register with course #33028. 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21. Free. Online.

Better Breather’s Club

Tips, info and discussion for breathing issues.

Register with course #33025. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21. Free. ❄️

Connect with us on Social Media.





WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING? 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!).

November 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
- H** Hybrid Program/Offering
- f** Facebook Live Event



1 CARING FOR THE CAREGIVERS WORKSHOP Learn essential self-care tips to focus on your own needs while caring for a loved one. The workshop covers mindfulness and meditation techniques to reduce stress, strategies to manage tasks effectively and nutritional advice. Register with course #31209. 10 a.m.-noon. Free. **SR**

1 2ND ANNUAL CAREGIVER'S MONTH CELEBRATION See article on page 6. **SR**

1,2,8,9,10,15,16,17 ROCKVILLE MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS "SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET" See article on page 6. **FSF**

1-3 MURDER AT THE MANSION PRESENTS "LAST CALL AT CHEZ MORT" See article on page 6. **GM**

2,9,16,23 ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET See article on page 8. Parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

2 PEERLESS ROCKVILLE PRESENTS "THURGOOD MARSHALL AND THE NAACP IN ROCKVILLE" See article on page 6. 10-11 a.m. Grey Courthouse, 27 Courthouse Square.

3 ROCKVILLE 10K/5K See ad on page 8. 8:30 a.m.-noon.

3 CAMPFIRE SWEETS AND TREATS Try campfire favorites like s'mores, banana boats and baked apples. Learn about the history of campfires for cooking, try making delicious campfire treats and go home with some new recipe ideas. Ages 6 and older. Register with course #33154. 2-3:30 p.m. \$8 R/\$10 NR. **CC**

4 V COLONIAL THANKSGIVING TRADITIONS Explore how the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag people celebrated Thanksgiving in 1621. Register with course #32674. 10:30-11:30 a.m. \$7 M/\$10 NM. **SR**

4 VETERANS APPRECIATION A special program to honor veterans, featuring patriotic songs performed by woodwind specialist Seth Kibel. Register with course #32940. 11 a.m.-noon. Free. **SR**

5 ELECTION DAY Get out and vote! See article on page 8.

6,16 LITTLE EXPLORERS Is your little one curious about nature? Join a naturalist for crafts, hands-on sensory activities, stories and hikes. Ages 2-5. Preregistration required with course #33139 (Nov. 6) and #33140 (Nov. 16). 10-11 a.m. \$10 R/\$12 NR. **CC**

6 WINTER PREPARATION Learn essential tips to stay safe and comfortable during winter, from home safety to health precautions. Register with course #33022. 10:30-11:30 a.m. Free. **SR**

6,20 H A PLACE TO HEAL See article on page 6. 1-2:30 p.m. Free. **SR**

6 V WHEN HOME IS 250 MILES UP! LIFE ON THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION Discover life aboard the International Space Station. Presented by Space Center Houston. Register with course #32965. 1-2 p.m. \$7 M/\$10 NM. **SR**

6 V ASK AN EV OWNER Are you shopping for an EV? Do you have questions about your new EV? Or are you just curious about EVs? If you answer "yes," then join EVADC for its online "Ask An EV Owner" event. 7:30-8:30 p.m. Visit evadc.wildapricot.org/ask.

7 AGE WITH GRACE See article on page 6. 10-11:30 a.m. Free. **SR**

7 V ART AND MONUMENTS: HONORING MEMORY AND SERVICE Learn how war memorials and monuments convey themes of honor and sacrifice. Register with course #32961. 1-2:30 p.m. \$7 M/\$10 NM. **SR**

7 FASHION SHOW WITH TAYLOR MARIE Senior center models showcase the latest fashions. Register with course #32996. 1-3 p.m. \$3 M/\$5 NM. **SR**

7 H MEDICARE FOR MARYLAND SENIORS See article on page 6. 1-2:30 p.m. Free. **SR**

7 BROADWAY DANCE PARTY Dance along to Broadway hits! Register with course #32724. 3:30-4:45 p.m. \$7 M/\$10 NM. **SR**

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

12 RETIRE TO INSPIRE: CREATING A BUSINESS IN YOUR RETIREMENT Learn how to launch and manage a business after retirement. Register with course #33003. 10-11 a.m. Free. **SR**

12 SCIENCE TUESDAYS Monthly presentations and conversations with a scientist. Register with course #32995. 1-2 p.m. Free. **SR**

13 SING ALONG WITH CONNIE HUGHES Sing along to favorites from the screen and stage. Register with course #32926. Noon-1 p.m. \$4 M/\$6 NM. **SR**

13 '80s GLOW FITNESS PARTY Dance to '80s hits in neon workout gear. Snacks provided. Register with course #32955. 2:30-4 p.m. \$7 M/\$10 NM. **SR**

14 TRAFFICKING 101 Learn how to identify human trafficking and understand Maryland laws. Register with course #33034. 10-11 a.m. Free. **SR**

15 FUN UNDER THE FULL MOON Celebrate the full moon with stories, crafts and stargazing. Ages 7-12. Register with course #33155. 7-8 p.m. \$6 R/\$8 NR. **CC**

18 V ONE-HIT WONDERS Explore the history of famous one-hit wonders like "Sugar Sugar" and "Teen Angel." Register with course #32675. 10:30-11:30 a.m. \$7 M/\$10 NM. **SR**

19 FITNESS WORKSHOP — FUELING TO EXERCISE DURING THE HOLIDAYS Learn how to stay fit and healthy during the holiday season. Register with course #32902. 11 a.m.-noon. \$15. **SR**

19 V FACING FEAR Discuss Susan Jeffers' book "Feel the Fear ... and Do It Anyway." Register with course #33016. 1-2:30 p.m. Free. **SR**

20 SENIOR SCIENTISTS PROGRAM Engage in research discussions on speech, language and hearing with University of Maryland faculty. Register with course #33008. 1:30-3 p.m. Free. **SR**

21 FRIENDSGIVING LUNCHEON See article on page 6. Register with course #31208. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. \$12 M/\$14 NM. **SR**

21 V HOW WE CAN COPE WITH GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAYS See article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. Free. **SR**

21 BETTER BREATHERS CLUB See article on page 6. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Free. **SR**

23 THE WASHINGTON BALALAIKA SOCIETY PRESENTS "MYSTERY OF ROMANCE" See article on page 6. 8-10 p.m. **FSF**

24 ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS "BEYOND THE EQUINOX: SEASON OF CHANGE" See article on page 6. 3 p.m. **FSF**

28,29 THANKSGIVING City Hall and some facilities closed. See article on page 1.

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

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

Take the Zoning Ordinance Rewrite Survey

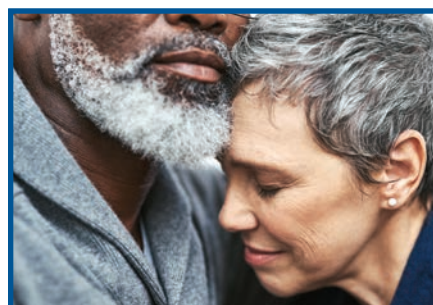
Rockville is rewriting its zoning ordinance and updating its zoning map. Interested in learning more or joining a focus group to share your thoughts? Let us know by taking a three- to five-question survey on the project's Engage Rockville page.

The comprehensive rewrite of the city's zoning ordinance — Chapter 25 of the city code — aims to enhance the code's usability and accessibility, as well as modernize land-use laws to meet the changing living, working and recreation trends of Rockville's residents in the 21st century.

Through the survey, respondents can express interest in joining a focus group or sign up for email updates.

The zoning ordinance was last updated in 2009. This project will update the zoning ordinance and implement changes to the city's zoning map, including rezoning properties as recommended by the 2040 comprehensive plan.

Visit engagerockville.com/zoning rewrite for more information about the survey, plans for future public engagement and to sign up for project updates. ✚



There is hope.



If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text **988** or chat **988lifeline.org**

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE



Reminder: Return Your 2024 Community Survey

If you were one of the 3,000 Rockville residents who received a copy of the 2024 community survey, there's still time to fill it out and return it, either on paper or online.

The deadline to take the online version or postmark your paper survey returned by mail is **Monday, Nov. 4.**

The community survey provides an opportunity for residents to rate their satisfaction with the quality of life in the city, the community's amenities and local government services. Surveys are conducted every two years.

Survey results help the city improve the quality of services to you, your family, and the community.

While the paper survey is in English only, respondents can take the survey online at any time, with the link or QR code on the mailer you received, in Spanish, Simplified Chinese, French, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese and Arabic. Translation assistance is available from the city for those who want to take the survey in another language than those listed.

Polco is conducting the survey. Responses are anonymous.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/survey to see the 2018 survey and results of the 2024 survey, when published.



To Protect and Serve (Coffee to) the Community

Members of the Rockville City Police Department, including (R to L) Sgt. Javier Baquero and Acting Maj. Jason West, visited the Starbucks in Rockville Town Square on Oct. 2 for National Coffee With a Cop Day. Coffee With a Cop helps break down barriers between police officers and the community they serve in a casual atmosphere where residents can sit with officers, ask questions and share what's on their mind. Learn more about National Coffee With a Cop Day at coffewithacop.com. Learn more about RCPD and its community policing mission at www.rockvillemd.gov/police.

SAVE THE DATE!
Winter registration is just around the corner!

Senior center member registration opens Tuesday, Dec. 3.

General registration opens Thursday, Dec. 5 at 8:30 a.m.

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

Get Involved in Your Community

Join a Rockville Board or Commission!

Rockville 11 highlights how the Transportation and Mobility Commission is helping to shape Rockville's future. Search "Transportation and Mobility Commission" at youtube.com/cityofrockville.



Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boards or scan the QR code to volunteer.



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Rockville 10K/5K

Save the Date

Sunday, Nov. 3
8:30 a.m.

King Farm Village Center, Rockville

Register online at www.rockville10k5k.com

Same Day Registration Available



Get Into It

City Manager: Jeff Mihelich
Director of Communication: Katherine Kirk-Dantzler
Asst. Director of Communication: Sean Sedam
Public Information Specialist: Cliff Cumber

Rockville Reports is the official publication of the City of Rockville, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850. It is delivered to all homes and businesses within Rockville's city limits. Any individuals with disabilities who would like to receive the information in this publication in another form may contact the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 240-314-8100; TTY 240-314-8137.

City Hall Election Ballot Box is Open Until Polls Close

A drop box installed at Rockville City Hall is accepting ballots until 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 5 for Maryland's upcoming Nov. 5 presidential general election.

Note that Rockville City Hall is not an in-person polling location.

Election Day voting hours are 7 a.m.-8 p.m. Mail-in ballots must be postmarked or placed in a designated ballot drop box by 8 p.m. on Nov. 5.

Find out more at elections.maryland.gov/elections/2024/index.html.



[elections/2024/index.html](http://elections.maryland.gov/elections/2024/index.html).



Giving Thanks 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.

November offerings include apples, herbs, potatoes and pumpkins. The market also features baked goods, local spirits, meat and coffee. It is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, through Nov. 23 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) and WIC-FVC (Women, Infants and Children-Fruit and Vegetable Checks), through the Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland

Market Money programs.

Matching funds can be used to purchase locally grown and produced items including fruits, vegetables, meat, cheese, dairy, baked goods, eggs and honey. The programs aim 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.

Learn more about the Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money programs and find a list of participating vendors and approximate harvest dates for select fruits and vegetables at www.rockvillemd.gov/farmers or 240-314-8620. For updates, follow the market on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RockvilleFarmersMarket.