



RockvilleReports

OCTOBER 2023 • VOL. 68 #8



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Car Show Revs Up at Rockville Civic Center Park

The Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show, a city tradition for six decades, rolls into Rockville Civic Center Park on Saturday, Oct. 14.

The show's 60th edition will be held 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the picturesque park at 603 Edmonston Drive. Home to the historic Glenview Mansion, the hills of Rockville Civic Center Park offer a fall backdrop for collectors and enthusiasts to share memories as they stroll through vehicles from 32 car clubs, from Packard and Plymouth to Fiat and Ferrari. This year's special display will celebrate 75 years of Lotus.

The free show – one of the

oldest and the largest in the mid-Atlantic region – is open to the public and will feature a flea market, car sales area and live swing music by Blue Sky Five. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

While admission is free, registration to display or sell a vehicle, and for flea market spaces, is sold out. There will be no registration on the day of the show.

To learn more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/carshow, call 240-314-8620 or email special_events@rockvillemd.gov.

For show updates, follow the Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show on Facebook. ✚

Energy Action is Climate Action

Celebrate Energy Action Month in October and Energy Efficiency Day on Wednesday, Oct. 4, and do your part to tackle climate change.

What You Can Do

Visit the Montgomery Energy Connection at www.montgomeryenergyconnection.org to find actions, resources, activities and events for all ages to help lower utility bills, keep money in your pocket and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Learn more about Energy Efficiency Day at energyefficiencyday.org.

Get started on a home energy assessment at homeenergy.savings.pepco.com/residential/energy-assessments for help understanding your home's energy use and identifying ways to save money.

Switch to green power and power your home with wind or solar, without any special equipment, by choosing a green energy supplier at mdelectricchoice.com.

This fall, Montgomery County will offer a home electrification help desk and grants for replacing fossil fuel-fired equipment with efficient electric appliances like heat pumps and hot water heaters. Take the pledge at bit.ly/ElectrifyMC to receive program announcements and get connected to the county's selected electrification installer.

What the City is Doing

The city completed the second and final phase of energy efficient light-emitting diode (or LED) interior lighting upgrades on the first and third floors of

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Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg will be celebrated at a reception prior to their last Mayor and Council meeting.



Please join us to thank them for their years of service.



Date: Monday, Oct. 30

Time: 5-7 p.m.

Place: Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave.

Budget Survey Offers Community Input Opportunity for FY25

Mayor and Council to Hold First Budget Hearing in November

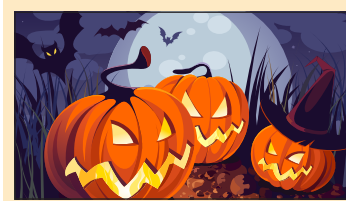
An online survey is now available for community members to identify their budget priorities and options for maintaining a balanced budget ahead of city budget hearings that will begin later this fall.

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 can present their needs early in the Fiscal Year 2025 budget process as the Mayor and Council hold their first budget hearing on Monday, Nov. 20. To testify at the public hearing, call 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. Nov. 20, or submit testimony in writing to mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov

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Halloween Haunts for a Spooky Time

Halloween is on its way to Rockville. Register at www.rockvillemd.gov/registration with the course numbers below, and get ready to get spooky!

Mini-Creep at Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road. 10-11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 20.

A Halloween event just for the little ones. Come in costume and enjoy games, crafts, a snack and hands-on fun to celebrate the season. Ages 2-6. Preregister for course #28829. The cost is \$10 for residents and \$12 for nonresidents.

Croydon Creep at Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road. 6-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21.

Get your costumes ready and celebrate Halloween at Croydon Creep, including games, treats, crafts, magic, balloon twisters, a campfire and more. No fee or registration is required for activities in the center. All ages are welcome.

For children ages 5-12, purchase a timed ticket for a 30-minute non-spooky guided hike through the forest. On the hike, you'll meet local

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Rockville Election 2023

ROCKVILLE ELECTION: TUESDAY, NOV. 7, 2023

ELECCIONES EN ROCKVILLE: MARTES 7 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2023

罗克维尔选举: 2023年11月7日, 星期二

www.rockvillemd.gov/election

SCAN ME FOR MORE LANGUAGES.

See inside for your guide to the 2023 Mayor and Council vote-by-mail election!

In This Issue...

- 2 Holiday Drive is Underway
- 2 Last Call for Town Center Master Plan Comments
- 4 Raking News: Fall Leaf Collection Dates
- 4 Help Rockville Redesign Its Website

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



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



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



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



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

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

Meetings Schedule: Mondays, Oct. 2, 9, 23 and 30 at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

The Oct. 9 meeting will be preceded by drop-in sessions with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

To participate, sign up by 10 a.m. the day of the drop-in at www.rockvillemd.gov/FormCenter/CityClerk-11/Sign-up-for-Dropin-Meetings-227.

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

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

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

City Offers Survey and Hearings for Public Input on Pedestrian Plan

Rockville continues to collect community input as the Mayor and Council prepare to adopt Rockville's first Pedestrian Master Plan this month.

The plan will guide the development, construction and maintenance of safe, convenient, and equitable walking and rolling facilities across the city. These facilities are for mobility that does not use motor vehicles, e-scooters or bicycles, including walking with or without a white cane, audio-assistance device or walker; running; or using a wheelchair, knee-walker, mobility scooter or stroller.

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to hold a public hearing on the plan during their meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 9. (Note: This meeting was originally scheduled for Monday, Oct. 16.) They are scheduled to discuss the plan on Monday, Oct. 23, and vote to adopt the plan Monday, Oct. 30.

Community members can view a draft of the plan and submit comments to city staff via email or through the Pedestrian Master Plan Draft

Survey at engagerockville.com/pedestrian-master-plan. The survey asks community members to identify what parts of the plan work well, what changes are needed and what's missing. All comments received before Oct. 9 will receive a response and will be shared with the Mayor and Council for their public hearing.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the plan on Wednesday, Sept. 13 and were scheduled to vote Wednesday, Sept. 27 on recommendations to the Mayor and Council. Find video of a June 28 staff presentation of the draft plan to the commission, and video of the Sept. 13 hearing and Sept. 27 vote at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

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

Budget Survey for FY2023

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or Mayor and Council, City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.

The Mayor and Council are expected to review the budget process and the FY 2025 budget timeline during the meeting, which is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. Find more information in the staff report when the agenda is posted several days before the meeting at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

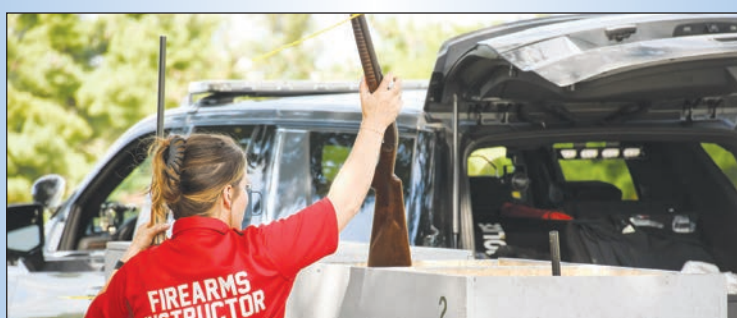
The \$157.2 million budget for Fiscal Year 2024, which began July 1, maintains the city's real property tax rate of \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation. All residential

and commercial property owners pay this tax. ❖

Tentatively, the initial stages of the Mayor and Council's budget process include:

- **Now:** Community budget and priorities survey available for responses.
- **Monday, Nov. 20:** Budget process and timeline presentation and public hearing on Fiscal Year 2025 budget.
- **Monday, Dec. 4:** Discussion of Mayor and Council budget priorities.
- Additional public hearings and work sessions will be held in 2024.
- The Mayor and Council are scheduled to adopt the budget in May.

For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400.



ROCKVILLE BACKS GUN BUYBACK ... The Rockville City Police Department, in partnership with the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office and Montgomery County Public Schools, hosted a gun buyback on Saturday, Aug. 26 at RedGate Park. The event provided an opportunity to dispose of unwanted firearms voluntarily, anonymously and safely. Nearly 300 firearms, including handguns, rifles, shotguns, assault weapons and ghost guns were turned in, in exchange for gift cards.

2023 Rockville Holiday Drive is Officially Underway

For nearly a half century, Rockville's Holiday Drive has sponsored outreach that brings the community together to provide food baskets, gift certificates and toys to needy Rockville families throughout the Thanksgiving and December holidays.

While the drive begins officially in October, monetary donations are accepted online year-round at bit.ly/HolidayDriveDonate.

In 2022, the community contributed \$40,829 in monetary donations and \$42,500 in in-kind donations to the drive. About 1,100 children were served during the December phase of the drive. Six-hundred thirty families were served in November. In total, 300 volunteers contributed more than 700 hours of volunteer support to the drive.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/holidaydrive and the Rockville volunteer website, at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer to learn about more ways to donate and volunteer.

For more information, contact Frederika Granger at fgranger@rockvillemd.gov. ❖

Last Chance to Comment on Rockville Town Center Master Plan at Two Meetings

The City of Rockville will hold two meetings in October to present a report on community outreach and engagement for the Town Center Master Plan.

An in-person meeting will be held from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24 in the Buchanan Room on the second floor of VisArts, 155 Gibbs St.

A virtual meeting via WebEx will be held 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 26. To register, visit engagerockville.com/towncenter.

Rockville staff will present findings from four months of intensive community outreach and engagement on the Rockville Town Center Master Plan.

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

This will be the last chance for community members and other stakeholders to provide feedback before the team begins drafting the plan. ❖

Get Involved with the City

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

Boards and Commissions

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

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

- **Oct. 11 and 25** Planning Commission 7 p.m. (To participate, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details closer to the date.)

Vacancies

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

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

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

SPEAK UP

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

Call 1-866-921-6714

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

LEARN MORE ON ROCKVILLE 11



www.youtube.com/cityofrockville

SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY NEWS!
www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters



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.

October CALENDAR

FACILITIES LEGEND:

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

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

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



1 **ROCKVILLE LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS “COMMUNICATING DOORS”** Time travel and murder. Tickets: \$22; \$20 for seniors and students. 2-4 p.m. **FSF**

3,10,17,24 **4 WEEKS OF WELLNESS** Learn healthy tips with this four-week course. Register with course #28879. Free. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

3 **SAVE A LIFE: NARCAN TRAINING** Information on common opioids, instructions on how to recognize an overdose and how to properly administer Naloxone. Register with course #28897. Free. Noon-1:30 p.m. **SR**

3 **DRUMMING FOR WELLNESS WITH KATY GAUGHAN** It's Active Aging Week! Studies show that group drumming on a regular basis boosts the immune system, reduces stress and supports endorphin production. Drums provided. Register with course #28681. \$6 R/\$9 NR. 2-3 p.m. **SR**

3 **V** **HISTORIC PROPERTY TAX CREDIT WORKSHOP** A virtual historic tax credit workshop, held via WebEx, alongside the Maryland Historical Trust and Montgomery County Historic Preservation Department. 7-8:30 p.m.

5 **MEDICARE** 101 Discuss the four parts of Medicare. Presented by Suburban Hospital/Johns Hopkins Medicine. Register with course #28801. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. **SR**

5 **2023 MAYOR AND COUNCIL ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUM** Rockville 11 will broadcast the second of three candidate forums live on channel 11 on county cable systems and livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11. Replays will be available on Rockville 11 and at youtube.com/cityofrockville. Find more details on page 1 of the voter guide insert with this issue. 7-8:30 p.m. **FSF**

6 **SING ALONG WITH CONNIE HUGHES** Spend an hour singing along to longtime favorites from stage and screen, includes selections from American traditions and Celtic folksongs. Words provided. Register with course #28672. \$3 M/\$5 NM. 2-3 p.m. **SR**

7 **FALL STAR PARTY** Soak in the stars with Montgomery College astronomy professor Carrie Fitzgerald. Learn about constellations and gaze through a telescope. Top the evening off with a s'more by the campfire. Children must be accompanied by an adult and all participants must register. Ages 7 and older. Register with course #28839. \$6 R/\$7 NR. 7:30-9 p.m. **CC**

7,14,21,28 **ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET** Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

8 **INTERGENERATIONAL FALL FESTIVAL (RESCHEDULED FROM SEPT. 23)** Harvest some fall fun with a festival featuring games, music, demos, crafts, a petting zoo and refreshments for purchase. Register with course #28992. Free entry. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

8 **FAMILIES OUTSIDE: NUTS & SEEDS** Each session explores a different nature topic about native habitats. Adults and children must register and all children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 3 and older. Register with course #28823. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 11:30-12:30 p.m. **CC**

8 **ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS “SYMPHONIC LANDSCAPES”** An evening of breathtaking musical journeys exploring the symphonic landscapes of today's most innovative and talented wind-band composers. Free admission. \$5 suggested donation at the door. 3-4 p.m. **FSF**

10 **FITNESS WORKSHOP: FEELING FIT WITH PARKINSON'S DISEASE** Take control of your symptoms and build an exercise routine to fit your needs. Register with course #28439. \$15. 1-2:15 p.m. Hybrid. **SR**

11 **MONTGOMERY COUNTY: EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESILIENCY** Sareem Streater from the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security provides practical tips and strategies to handle unexpected emergencies. Register with course #28795. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. Hybrid. **SR**

12 **SUGAR IS NOT A TREAT** How much is too much? Discuss ways to find that critical balance. Register with course #28579. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 11 a.m.-noon. **SR**

12 **CIVILIAN RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS (CRASE)** The Rockville City Police Department presents a class on response to active attack events to be better prepared if the unthinkable happens. Register with course #28796. Free. 1-2:30 p.m.

12 **2023 MAYOR AND COUNCIL ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUM** Rockville 11 will broadcast the third of three candidate forums live on channel 11 on county cable systems and livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11. Replays will be available on Rockville 11 and at youtube.com/cityofrockville. Find more details on page 1 of the voter guide insert with this issue. Noon-1:30 p.m. **SR**

15 **MEET THE ARTISTS** behind the exhibition of “Fairweather Artists.” 1:30-3:30 p.m. Glenview Mansion Art Gallery. Free. **GM**

16 **PAINTING WITH CATHY: LEAVES AND PUMPKINS ON MUGS** No painting experience required. Register with course #28564. 10:30-12:30 p.m. **SR**

18 **A TASTE OF MARYLAND** Learn about the history of Maryland's most iconic food traditions and businesses, such as hominy, crab cakes, Smith Island Cake, McCormick spices and Old Bay. Register with course #28673. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 2-3:30 p.m. **SR**

20 **MINI-CREEP** A Halloween event just for the little ones! Come in costume and enjoy games, crafts, and a snack. See article on page 1. Ages 2-6. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

21 **F. SCOTT FITZGERALD LITERARY FESTIVAL** Visit www.fscottfestival.org. See article on page 4. 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

21 **HALLOWEEN HAUNT** See article on page 1. \$12 R/\$15 NR or \$15 at the door. 2-4 p.m.

21 **CROYDON CREEP** See article on page 1. 6-8 p.m. **CC**

23 **SCARY ART BY CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART** Fun for Halloween or anytime, a program featuring goblins, witches and dastardly doings. Explore otherworldly paintings and prints for an art journey to the other side. Register with course #28548. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

24 **V** **STORYTELLING WITH ERIN: THE PEOPLE WHO SHOW UP FOR US** Ever notice how just when you need help, someone shows up? Tip your caps to the helpers by sharing stories of life's significant strangers. Register with course #28569. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 11 a.m.-noon.

24 **IN-PERSON TOWN CENTER MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT REPORT PUBLIC MEETING** Rockville staff will present findings from four months of intensive community outreach and engagement on the Town Center Master Plan. Last chance for community members and other stakeholders to provide feedback. See article on page 2. 7-8:30 p.m. VisArts, Buchanan Room (second floor), 155 Gibbs St.

25 **WALKING SERIES: LITTLE BENNETT REGIONAL PARK** Increase your fitness level while experiencing beautiful local trails. Designed for the active participant. Transportation provided. Register with course #28438. \$12 M/\$15 NM. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

26 **ADVOCATING FOR YOURSELF AS THE PATIENT** A discussion about navigating the health care industry as a patient. Register with course #28876. Free. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

26 **V** **TOWN CENTER MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT REPORT VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING** Staff will present findings from four months of intensive community outreach and engagement on the Town Center Master Plan. See article on page 2. 7-8:30 p.m.

27 **V** **SENIORS UNDERSTANDING NATURE (SUN): FALL WOODY PLANTS** Discover the outdoors from the comfort of your home as you connect with the natural world. Register with course #28566. Free M/\$4 NM. 1-2 p.m.

27,28 **ROCKVILLE MUSICAL THEATRE PRESENTS “YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN”** An electrifying musical stage adaptation of Mel Brook's film that will have you in stitches. Recommended for ages 12 and up. See the article on page 4. Tickets: \$26; \$23, seniors (62-plus) and students. **FSF**

28 **LITTLE EXPLORERS** Take time with your little one to go exploring with a naturalist. Hiking, games and hands-on learning. Registration required. Ages 2-5. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

30 **SCARY SPECIES!** Meet real-life animals that inspire creepy creatures in some of your favorite movies and stories. Discuss creepy crawlies and crazy critters that make scary stories and chill us to the bone. Register with course #28546. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

30 **RECEPTION FOR MAYOR NEWTON AND COUNCILMEMBER FEINBERG** See page 1 for more details. Free. 5-7 p.m. **CH**

31 **SAD AND TREATMENTS** Many people suffer from seasonal affective disorder. Treatments will be shared. Register with course #28901. Free. 11 a.m.-noon. **SR**

31 **HALLOWEEN COSTUME BASH** See article on page 1. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

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

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

More about Halloween Happenings

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creatures and collect goodies. An adult must accompany registered children. Advanced ticket purchase is required. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/registration and search “Croydon Creep” to register for a time slot.

Halloween Haunt at Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive. 2-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 21.

Come in costume for Thomas Farm Community Center's annual Halloween Haunt event, with pumpkin painting, games and a family-friendly escape room. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Participants aged 2-12 are encouraged

to preregister with course #28943. The cost is \$12 for residents, \$15 for nonresidents or \$15 at the door.

Monster Mash at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway. 7-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 27.

Come in costume. Enjoy pumpkin decorating, dancing and more. Refreshments sold by Twinbrook Elementary PTA. No masks or costume props (sticks, swords, etc.).

Register in advance with course #28942, or at the door. Entry fee is \$5 per person. All ages welcome.

Peek-A-Boo Halloween at Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave. 10 a.m.-noon, Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Hey, little pumpkins aged 2-5, it's time

to celebrate Halloween little-human style. Enjoy crafts, games, a mini peek-a-boo scavenger hunt and more. Wear your costume. A small snack will be provided. One guardian per child limit. Preregistration only with course #29306.

The cost is \$35 for residents and \$45 for nonresidents.

Halloween Costume Bash at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. 1-2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Pull out that costume from the back of the closet, borrow one from a friend or use whatever's lying around the house for music, dancing and a best costume contest with prizes. Have a blast and be home before trick-or-treaters start ringing your doorbell. Register with course #28590. Free. ✚

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- ✓ Connecting with Peers
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**CONNECT THEM
WITH US!**

- ✓ Home Maintenance
- ✓ Health, Wellness, Technology & Education



Call 240-314-8800.
Email SeniorCenter@rockvillemd.gov.
Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/397/Services.

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.

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

For video of past ceremonies, search "Veterans Day Ceremony" at [youtube.com/cityofrockville](https://www.youtube.com/cityofrockville).

Jonathan Franzen to be Honored with F. Scott Fitzgerald Award

The 27th annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival will honor author Jonathan Franzen with the F. Scott Fitzgerald Award for Outstanding Achievement in American Literature.

Since 1996, the award has been presented to some of America's most distinguished writers, including Richard Russo, Annie Proulx, Norman Mailer, Pat Conroy, John Updike, Amy Tan, Barbara Kingsolver and Richard Powers.

The festival will take place on Saturday, Oct. 21 at the Theatre Arts Building of Montgomery College's Rockville campus. This year's theme is "Mental Illness in Fiction."

The festival will host other events throughout the month, such as a celebration of Fitzgerald's birthday at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 3, with a performance by the Rose Theatre Company of "Devotedly, With Dearest Love: A Dramatic Reading Drawn from The Love Letters of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald," by Lorrie Kyle, at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda.

Top prize winners from the festival's adult and student short story contests will read from their entries from 6-7:45 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 12 in the first-floor reading room of Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Ave.

A free festival event, "Readings in Honor of Jonathan Franzen," co-sponsored with the Writer's Center, will be held 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20 at The Writer's Center.

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival was established in 1996 to celebrate the centenary of F. Scott Fitzgerald's birth and the city where Fitzgerald, his wife and daughter are buried. The festival is co-sponsored by the City of Rockville and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference, Inc.

The festival is open to everyone, especially writers, book lovers and Fitzgerald fans. For more information and to register visit www.fscottfestival.org.

Rockville Musical Theatre Presents 'Young Frankenstein'

8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Oct. 27, 28, Nov. 3, 4, 10, 11; 2 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 5 and 12.

Frederick Frankenstein reluctantly inherits his infamous family's estate in Transylvania. Urged on by a hunchbacked sidekick, Igor, and a leggy lab assistant, Inga, Frederick finds himself fulfilling his grandfather's corpse-raising legacy.

This electrifying musical stage adaptation of Mel Brook's brilliantly funny film will have you in stitches. Recommended for ages 12 and older.

Tickets are \$26; \$23 for seniors 62 and older and students.

Why the Tree of Heaven is Not So Heavenly (And Why You Should Remove It)

Tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) is a fast growing, non-native, invasive tree that spreads rapidly in natural areas and yards, produces toxins that prevent other plants from growing, and is the host plant for the spotted lanternfly, a highly destructive, non-native, invasive insect.

For these reasons, they should be removed.

Removal: Simply cutting down tree of heaven will not control it. It will regrow from any roots that are left alive. Saplings can be removed by hand when the soil is moist, and the entire root system can be removed. Selective herbicide application is recommended on larger trees. Visit extension.umd.edu/



resource/tree-heaven for detailed identification and removal steps. Be sure to properly identify any tree before removal as the native trees listed below can look similar.

Native Alternatives: Plant these instead: smooth sumac (*Rhus glabra*), black walnut (*Juglans nigra*) and hickories (*Carya* spp.)

Learn more about native plants, non-native invasive species and how to be a Rockville Weed Warrior volunteer at www.rockvillemd.gov/backyardhabitats.

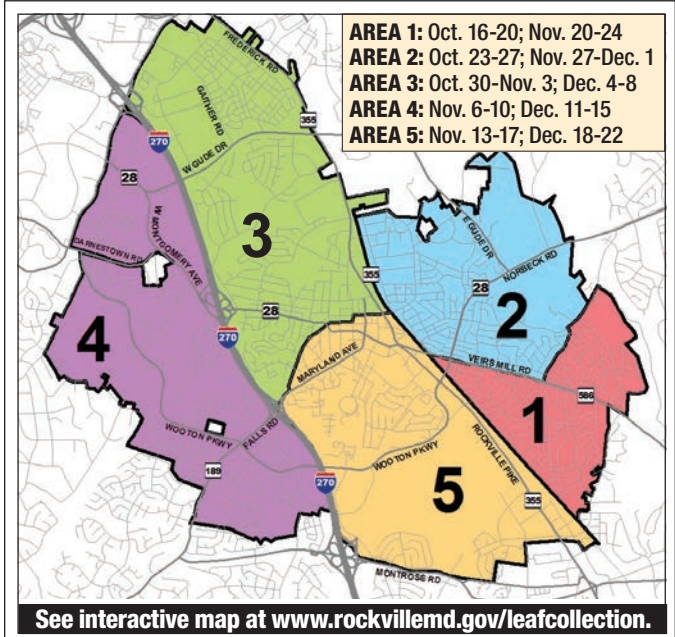
Overseed, Not Weed and Feed Law Means No Pesticide, But No Less of a Lawn

Organic lawn care is healthier for children, pets and the environment — and it's in keeping with the law in Rockville.

Montgomery County's pesticide law applies in the City of Rockville and bars the use of most nonorganic pesticides on private lawns, playgrounds, mulched recreation areas and childcare facilities. And it doesn't mean your lawn has to be any less healthy or green. Using a sharp mower

blade to cut grass higher than 4 inches, pulling weeds by hand and overseeding — especially in the fall — to create a denser lawn where it's harder for weeds to grow, are a few steps you can take to keep your lawn healthy and green even without pesticides.

Learn more about the law and find tips for making a successful switch to an organic lawn at montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns.



Raking: The Rules

The city collects leaves October to mid-December. Rockville will vacuum leaves from neighborhood curbs in two rounds, beginning Monday, Oct. 16.

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.

Green Yard Tips
Consider environmentally friendly alternatives to raking, including leaving some leaves where they fall or using them as mulch in garden beds where they provide natural habitat for beneficial insects. Mowing over the leaves can break them up into tiny pieces that can filter into the grass, providing much-needed nutrients. Or consider composting leaves at home with other yard trimmings.

Energy Action

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City Hall and installed energy-saving window film on all south-facing windows. To do this, Rockville leveraged a \$50,000 Maryland Smart Energy Communities grant from the Maryland Energy Administration and a \$57,341 Pepco rebate.

Sustainability Program Manager Audra Lew joined the city's team in July and will be managing municipal Climate Action Plan initiatives and energy-efficiency projects at city facilities.

Learn about Rockville's Climate Action Plan, and how to contribute to the city's efforts, at www.rockvillemd.gov/climate.

Help the City of Rockville Design its New Website

Take the five-minute survey at bit.ly/RKVwebsite

WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK

The City of Rockville is redesigning www.rockvillemd.gov and we want to hear from you.

- Share your experience with our current website.
- Tell us what you'd like to see on the new website.

We'll use community input to help plan an improved website to better serve our city.

48th ANNUAL Rockville 10K/5K Sunday, Nov. 5

Road Closed: 8 a.m. • Race Begins: 8:30 a.m. Start/Finish: King Farm Village Center, Rockville

Race Fees: \$35 online/mail-in through Friday, Nov. 3. \$45 packet pick up, Nov. 4 and walk-up on race day Sunday, Nov. 5. Kids 1-Mile Fun Run: \$15.

Late Registration and Packet Pick-up Location: RNJ SPORTS 11910-R Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD 20852 Saturday, Nov. 4: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Race Day Morning, Nov. 5: 7:30-8:15 a.m. (at King Farm Village Center).

Register online at www.rockville10k5k.com

Acting City Manager: Barack Matite
Director of Communication: Katherine Kirk-Dantzler
Asst. Director of Communication: Sean Sedam
Public Information Specialist: Cliff Cumber

Web and Digital Manager: Nick Canary
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Rockville 11: Hagop Balekjian, Adrian Zlotescu
Social Media and Digital Engagement: Becca Brown

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BACK IN THE DAY ... The Oct. 6, 1976 issue of the then twice-monthly "City of Rockville Newsletter" reported that "During the summer of 1976, 107 youth worked for the City of Rockville under the NYC [Neighborhood Youth Corps] Program." The program, paid for with funds from the U.S. Labor Department, provided jobs to "low-income youth between the ages of 14 and 22 who have no skills or previous work experience." Jobs ranged from maintenance and clerical work to assisting with recreation and senior activities.