• FIND MORE CITY NEWS AT WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV •

## Watch Your Mailbox for Rockville's Community Survey

Following a pandemic-driven hiatus, Rockville's biennial survey is returning.

The community survey — which 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 — last took place in 2018. Previous survey solicitations were conducted every two years.

The 2024 survey will be the city's 11th and will be sent to a random sample of 3,000 households throughout Rockville over a roughly three-week period.

Those households will have received a postcard in late September letting them know the survey would arrive about a week later. The postcards will include a link and QR code to take the surveys online before a printed survey arrives. Survey

recipients will also receive a reminder postcard following survey distribution.

Survey results help the city improve 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, in Spanish, Simplified Chinese, French, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese and Arabic.

Translation assistance is available from the city for those who require or prefer to take the survey in another language other than those listed.

Polco will conduct the survey. Responses will be anonymous. Data collection for the survey will end Friday, Nov. 1.

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



# **Cruise to the Car Show to Peruse Classic Rides**

The Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show, a city tradition for more than six decades, rolls into Rockville Civic Center Park on Saturday, Oct. 19.

The show 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.

The free show – one of the oldest and the largest in the mid-Atlantic region – is open to the public and features a flea market, car sales area and live music by Bad Influence Band. Food and drink will be available for purchase. Registration to display a vehicle is now closed. There will be no registration on the day of the show.

A courtesy shuttle will

run every 15-20 minutes from Meadow Hall Elementary School, 251 Twinbrook Parkway, to the show grounds, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. The shuttles are accessible. They are operated by the Rockville Senior Center and say "Rockville Senior Services" on the side.

Limited public parking will be available at Rockville Civic Center Park by entering from Baltimore Road at Avery Road. Accessible parking in the park's main parking lot will be available on a first-come, first-served basis to those with an accessible placard or license plate. Bike parking is located outside the tennis courts at Rockville Civic Center Park.

Learn more at www.rockville md.gov/carshow, call 240-314-8620 or email specialevents@rockvillemd.gov.

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

## **Tricks for Making Halloween a Treat**

Trick-or-treaters take to Rockville neighborhoods Thursday, Oct. 31.

There are no set hours for trick-or-treating. The Rockville City Police Department urges drivers to be aware of extra pedestrians in neighborhoods. Homeowners should clear yards and sidewalks of obstacles, keep homes well-lit inside and out, and report any suspicious activity to police.

City police offer these additional tips:

- Kids should walk in groups and young children should be accompanied by an adult.
- Set a safe walking route and a time for children to be home.
- Costumes should be flame retardant and short enough to prevent trips and falls
- Carry flashlights or glow sticks and affix reflective strips to costumes and bags.
- Remind children not to eat treats until they get home.
   Check all treats and throw out anything that is not factory sealed.

Find details about
Rockville's Halloween events
on page 8. Check the city calendar for the most up-to-date
information at www.rockville
md.gov/calendar.

# **City Hall Election Ballot Box is Open**

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. Information about the

2024 election can be found at www.elections.maryland.gov/elections/2024/index.html.

Requests for mail-in ballots can be made to the Maryland Board of Elections or the Montgomery County Board of Elections. Visit www.777vote.org for more information.

Requests for mailed or faxed mail-in ballots must be received by Tuesday, Oct. 29. Requests to receive a ballot via the internet must be received by 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1.



Visit www.montgomery countymd.gov/elections/voteby-mail.html to find out more about mail-in ballot requests.

Early voting will be available from Thursday, Oct. 24, to Thursday, Oct. 31 (including Saturday and Sunday). Visit voterservices. elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch to find your polling place.



Puede encontrar esta información en su idioma. Visite RockvilleReports.com y abra el menú de «Seleccione Idioma» de Google Translate, situado en la esquina superior derecha de la página.

如果您希望以您的语言查询此信息,请至网站 RockvilleReports.com,点击网页右下方的谷歌翻译语言选单。

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.

이 정보를 한국어로 보실 수있습니다. RockvilleReports.com 을 방 문하여 페이지 오른쪽 위 Google Translate의 "Select Language" (원하는 언어) 메 뉴를 여십시오. In This Issue...

Development Watch

New Meeting Schedule

Watch Out for Spotted Lanternflies

Halloween Hits Rockville

MAYOR & COUNCIL 111 Maryland Ave. Rockville, Maryland 20850-2364 PRESORTED STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID SUBURBAN, MD. PERMIT NO. 63

ECR WSS

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

#### Fall Outreach Coming for Zoning Ordinance Update

Members of the community will this month be able to learn more about the ongoing update to Rockville's zoning ordinance.

Workshops will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17 (virtually) and Tuesday, Oct. 22, in person in the Mayor and Council chambers, City Hall, III Maryland Ave.

Both meetings will cover the same material. A recording of the virtual meeting will be available on the project webpage, engagerockville. com/zoningrewrite.

Participants will learn what zoning is, why it matters and how the zoning ordinance rewrite relates to the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Mayor and Council priorities.

Background on the project will be presented, including its scope, anticipated outcomes and milestones to date.

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.

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 workshops and to sign up for project updates.



## **12501 Ardennes Ave. Office Building May Convert to Residences**

A new residential project is under review at a site that has been used exclusively for offices in the past.

Located near the city's southeast boundary in the Twinbrook neighborhood, the redevelopment envisions converting the existing office building into a 181-unit residential multifamily building. The approved site plan includes construction of three additional stories to provide the proposed units and will utilize an existing underground parking garage below the building for residents' use.

The site plan application for the project was approved by the Planning Commission earlier this year.



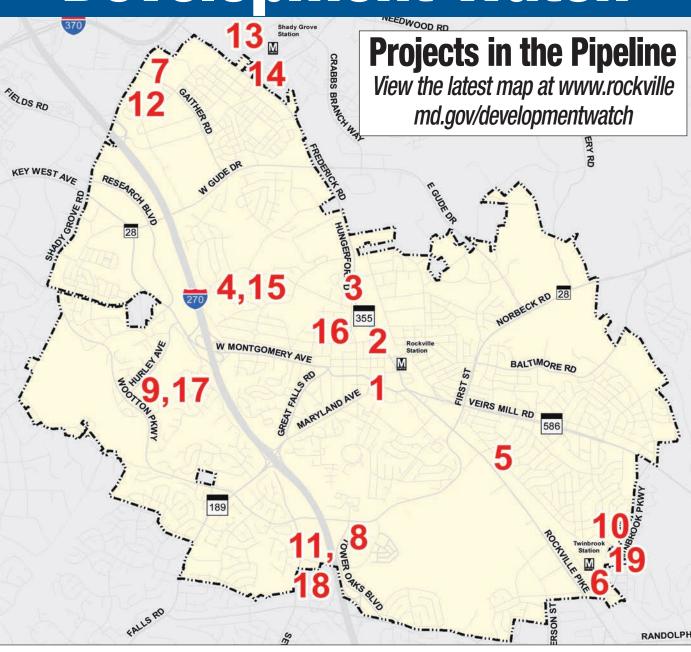
## New Townhome Community Planned at 2200 Tower Oaks Blvd.

The Mayor and Council has preliminarily approved a new residential development along Tower Oaks Boulevard, just south of its intersection with Wootton Parkway.

The adopted project plan envisions a townhome community of 82 units, which will include both front- and rear-loaded unit types and a central open-space plaza.

The project was also considered by the Planning Commission with a level 2 site plan application that was approved this summer.

# Development Watch



#### **Recent Preapplication Submittals**

There are no projects under preapplication review at this time.

#### **Applications Under Review**

The following applications are in the development review process:

- 1. **107 Fleet St.:** Final record plat to resubdivide into two lots. Case PLT2025-00626.
- 2. **414-416 Hungerford Drive (City Center):** Level 2 site plan for a proposal to redevelop the property into a 291-unit multifamily building with structured parking, open space and dedication of Maryland Avenue extension. Case STP2024-00487.
- 3. **622 Hungerford Drive (Washington Square):** Level 2 site plan for a proposal to construct a residential development of 48 two-over-two condominium units. Case
- 4. **850 Nelson St. (Woodley Gardens):** Level 2 site plan for a proposal to modify the existing pool house for school and pool uses, and overall site modifications and improvements. Case STP2024-00488.
- 5. **900 Rockville Pike:** Project plan for a proposed 4,400-square-foot retail building with associated parking, landscaping and frontage improvements. Case PJT2023-00016.
- 6. **1700-1818 Chapman Ave. (Twinbrook Commons):** Level 2 site plan for a mixed-use building containing 437 multifamily residential units, 5,075 square feet of ground floor retail and a parking garage. Case STP2022-00436.
- 7. **2097-2101 Gaither Road (Park Plaza):** Level 2 site plan for a proposal to redevelop the property into 646,000 square feet of life-science uses. Case STP2024-00482.
- 8. **2200 Tower Oaks Blvd. (Tower Preserve):** Level 2 site plan for a proposal to construct a residential development of 82 townhouses. Case STP2024-00473.
- 9. **2401 Wootton Parkway (Rockshire Village Center):** Level 2 site plan for a proposal to construct 31 single-unit detached dwellings, 29 townhouses, a commercial building and a neighborhood park. Case STP2024-00493.
- 10. **5906 Halpine Road:** A floating zone map amendment, project plan and level 2 site plan application to permit construction of 36 two-over-two condominiums on the prop-

- erty. Cases MAP2024-00120, PJT2024-00019, STP2024-00474.
- 11. **11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods):** Final record plats to resubdivide into 32 townhouse lots and six parcels. Cases PLT2024-00624 and PLT2024-00625.
- 12. 15815-15825 Shady Grove Road, 2 Choke Cherry Road, 2094 Gaither Road (Shady Grove Innovation District): Level 2 site plan for a proposal to construct a mixed-use development with lab/office and multifamily residential units. Case STP2024-00492.
- 13. **15903 Somerville Drive (Shady Grove Metro):** Annexation of Shady Grove Metro station. Case ANX2023-00147.
- 14. **15931 Frederick Road (Lidl and The Henson):** Final record/ownership plats for one lot and dedication and two ownership lots. Cases PLT2024-00622 and PLT2024-00623.

#### **Recently Approved Applications**

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

- 15. **850 Nelson St. (Woodley Gardens Project):** Major special exception modification for a private educational institution replacement school with 198-student occupancy. Case SPX2024-00408.
- 16. **115 N. Van Buren St.:** Final record plat to consolidate three existing lots into one record lot. Case PLT2023-00615.
- 17. 2401 Wootton Parkway (Rockshire Village): Project plan to amend governing documents for the Rockshire planned development to redevelop the site with single-family detached dwellings, townhomes and neighborhood-serving retail. Case PJT2024-00017.
- 18. 11511 Fortune Terrace (Potomac Woods): Final record plat for Lots 23A through 23E to reflect ownership transfer and resubdivide lot 23B into eight lots and one parcel, lot 23A into six lots and two parcels, lot 23B into eight lots and one parcel, and lot 23C into 37 lots and seven parcels. Cases PLT2024-00618-PLT2024-00621.
- 19. **12501 Ardennes Ave. (Twinbrook Place):** Level 2 site plan application to convert existing office building space into a 181-unit residential building, with construction of three additional stories of approximately 60,000 square feet. Case STP2024-00465.





Mayor Monique Ashton 240-314-8290 mashton@rockvillemd.gov



**Councilmember Kate Fulton** 240-314-8293 • kfulton@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Barry Jackson 240-314-8295 • bjackson@rockvillemd.gov



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



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



Councilmember Marissa Valeri 240-314-8296 • mvaleri@rockvillemd.gov



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

## **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 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 2026 budget process as the Mayor and Council hold their first budget hearing on Monday, Nov. 4. To testify at the public hearing, call 240-314-8280 by 10 a.m. Nov. 4, or submit testimony in writing to mayor council@rockvillemd.gov or Mayor and Council, City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.

The \$168.3 million budget for Fiscal Year 2025, 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. \*\*

#### **Mayor and Council: New Meeting Schedule**

Changes are coming to Rockville Mayor and Council meetings, beginning Monday, Oct. 7.

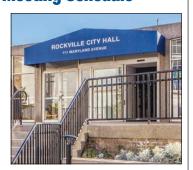
Meetings will now begin a half hour earlier at 6:30 p.m.

Proclamations — official statements or declarations presented by a city's mayor and council to recognize and honor specific events, causes or individuals — will be presented from 5:30-6:30 p.m. before the first meeting of the month.

The Mayor and Council drop-in, where the mayor and a councilmember meet with members of the public, will be held from 5:15-6:15 p.m. before the second meeting of each month.

#### **Schedule:**

- ullet The month's first meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. so proclamations can be read and presented from 5:30-6:30 p.m.
- Meetings other than the first of the month will begin



at 6:30 p.m.

• Drop-in sessions with the mayor and a councilmember will be held from 5:15-6:15 p.m. before the *second meeting* of each month.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ mayorcouncil for information about meetings and agendas, and to sign up for drop-ins.

Mayor and Council meetings and proclamation presentations are broadcast on Rockville 11, channel 11 on county cable, livestreamed at www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville 11 and available a day after each meeting at www.rockville md.gov/videoondemand. \*

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

- Now: Community budget and priorities survey available for responses.
- Monday, Nov. 4: Public hearing on Fiscal Year 2026 budget.
- Additional public hearings and work sessions to be held in 2025. 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 GOES PURPLE WRAPS ... The city's campaign to highlight the dangers of opioid addiction and signal hope for healing throughout September's National Recovery Month has wrapped for this year. Members of the Mayor and Council joined county and state leadership in attending Montgomery Goes Purple's International Overdose Awareness Day ceremony in late August. Pictured speaking (center) is Rockville Councilmember Marissa Valeri with (at right) Councilmember Barry Jackson.

## 'Rockville Means Business' Event to Highlight How Vendors Can **Work with City Government**

Rockville's Procurement Division will host an event in November offering vendors the opportunity to learn more about doing business with city government.

Registration is now open for "Rockville Means Business" on Thursday, Nov. 14 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. The event, from 9 a.m.-noon, will feature information sessions and exhibits by city departments, giving vendors the opportunity to interact with City of Rockville staff. A continental breakfast will be

Sessions will include an overview of the city's e-bidding system and vendor collaboration portal and strategies for doing business with the city. A moderated panel discussion will feature representatives of the city's public works, recreation and parks, and information technology departments.

Minority-, female-, disabledor veteran-owned businesses are especially encouraged to attend.

Seats are limited. For more information and to register, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ procurement. \*

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

Meetings Schedule: Monday, Oct. 7 at 5:30 p.m. and Oct. 21 and 28, at 6:30 p.m. Visit www.rockville md.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

A drop-in session from 5:15-6:15 p.m. with Mayor Monique Ashton and Councilmember David Myles will precede the Oct. 21 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 II, channel II on county cable, livestreamed 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 mayor council@rockvillemd.gov.
- Testify at a hearing or in writing to mayorcouncil@ rockvillemd.gov or by mail to Mayor and Council, Rockville City Hall, III 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, III Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850, call 240-314-8280, or fill out and submit an expression of interest form at www.rockville md.gov/boardscommissions.

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

Oct. 9 and 23 Planning Commission 7 p.m. (To participate, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/ AgendaCenter.)

#### **Vacancies**

- Board of Supervisors of Elections (I)
- Community Policing Advisory Board (5; I student rep.)
- Cultural Arts Commission (I) Education Comm. (I youth rep.)
- Environment Commission (I)
- Ethics Commission (2)
- Financial Advisory Board (I)
- Human Rights Commission (3)
- Landlord-Tenant Affairs Commission (3)
- Planning Commission (2)
- Senior Citizens Comm. (I)
- Transportation and Mobility Comm. (3)
- Youth Commission (10) For more information, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/boards commissions 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.

**OCTOBER 2024 ROCKVILLE REPORTS** Page 3

#### Participate in City Parks to Celebrate Service in October

Celebrate Montgomery County Community Service Month in October by volunteering in a city park.

Help remove litter from Rockville streams and protect our waterways by joining a stream cleanup. Want to go at your own pace? Adopt a local stream and host your own cleanups. Find cleanups and register or apply to adopt a stream at www.rockvillemd.gov/adopt-a-stream.

Join a Rockville Weed Warrior workday to help remove non-native invasive plants from local forest and help restore biodiversity. Find workdays and register at www.rockvillemd.gov/ weedwarriors.

Student Service Learning credit hours are available. Registration is required.

Find other ways to give of your time and talents at www.rockvillemd.gov/volunteer.

For more opportunities around the county, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/volunteercenter.

#### **Green Yard Tips for Fall**

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 into tiny pieces that can filter into the grass, providing much-needed nutrients. Or consider composting leaves at home with other yard trimmings.

For information about city leaf collection beginning this month, see the map and article on this page.

## **Save the Date for the County's H20 Summit**

The Montgomery County H20 Summit in November will offer a deep dive into urban watersheds.

The summit, from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Nov. 9, at the Agricultural History Farm Park, 18400 Muncaster Road, in Derwood, offers an opportunity to learn from experts, connect with neighbors who share a passion for protecting water resources and get inspired to act. The free summit welcomes anyone — from seasoned environmentalists to those merely curious about how to make a difference. Topics will include:

- Bugging Out!: Explore the county's biomonitoring program as well as new and established citizen science monitoring programs.
- Watershed Planning: Learn how to provide input for the county's watershed planning process.
- Stormwater Around the County: Hear highlights of work to reduce stormwater in jurisdictions across the county.
- Urban Watershed Research: Researchers will discuss recent and percolating projects to quench your thirst for knowledge.

Light refreshments will be provided. Bring a reusable cup or mug.

Learn more and register at mygreen montgomery.org/2024/montgomery-county-h2o-summit.





## **Spot the Spotted Lanternflies**

The spotted lanternfly, an invasive insect native to eastern Asia that can damage crops has recently spread throughout Maryland.

This pest, also known as Lycorma delicatula, does not bite or sting and is primarily a nuisance pest in home gardens, but is considered a threat to agriculture. Maryland residents are urged to report sightings of spotted lanternflies to the Maryland Department of Agriculture.

Here's how you can help:

Scrape egg masses, usually found on tree trunks during the fall, into a sealed bag with hand sanitizer or alcohol and dispose of it in

the garbage.

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

Report your sighting of any of the life's stages to MDA at bit.ly/ ReportSpottedLanternflies.

Pesticides are not recommended to manage spotted lanternflies. Spraying insecticides, including home remedies, can harm butterflies and other beneficial pollinators and native insects.

Learn more about the spotted lanternfly, including more tips of managing them at home, at extension.umd. edu/resource/spotted-lanternfly-home-gardens.

## **Rockville Publishes New Guidelines for Crosswalks**

Rockville has a new tool for helping pedestrians cross city streets safely with new guidelines for evaluating requests for crosswalk installation and related pedestrian safety improvements.

The new Marked Crossing Guidelines, published in September, will help city staff determine when a marked crosswalk can be considered at an intersection or midblock. By Maryland law, pedestrians may cross the street midblock only when using a marked crosswalk. Intersections are considered legal crosswalks whether marked or unmarked. The city's new guidelines better account for the area immediately surrounding a crosswalk and update the thresholds for considering whether a marked crosswalk should be installed.

Residents can request a marked crosswalk evaluation by selecting "Report a concern" at the bottom of the page at www.rockville md.gov.

The guideline update is part of the city's Vision Zero Action Plan to eliminate traffic-related deaths and serious injuries. Find the guidelines and learn about other projects related to Vision Zero at www.rockvillemd.gov/visionzeroprojects.

Even with the new guidelines, there are some instances where marked crosswalks will not be recommended. These include intersections where sight distances between motorists and pedestrians are blocked or where intersection geometry would make crossing too complicated.

The Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee advocated for the guideline update, which was an action item in the Pedestrian Master Plan the Mayor and Council adopted in October 2023. The guidelines were funded with a Regional Roadway Safety Program grant through the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

## **Energy Action in October is Climate Action in Rockville**

Celebrate Energy Action Month in October and Energy Efficiency Day on Wednesday, Oct. 2, and do your part to tackle climate change.

#### What You Can Do

Visit the Montgomery Energy Connection at www. montgomeryenergy connection.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.

Montgomery County also offers a home electrification help desk and grants to replace fossil fuel-fired equipment with efficient, electric appliances like heat pumps and hot water heaters. Learn more at www.montgomery countymd.gov/DEP/energy/homes/electrify-mc.html.

Get started on a home energy assessment. Visit homeenergysavings.pepco. com/residential/energyassessments for help understanding your home's energy use and identifying ways to save money

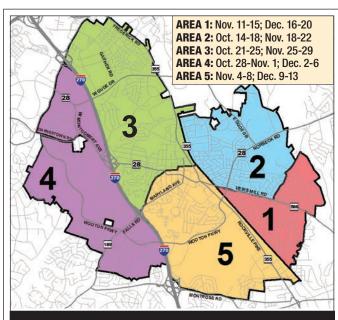
Switch to green power and power your home with wind or solar, without any special equipment, by choosing a green energy supplier at mdelectricchoice.com.

Learn more about Energy Efficiency Day at energy efficiencyday.org.

#### What the City is Doing

LED lighting upgrades are in progress at the Rockville Senior Center and Twinbrook Community Recreation Center using grants from the Maryland Energy Administration's Maryland Smart Energy Communities program, and rebates from Pepco's **Energy Savings for Business** Program. Read more about them at RockvilleReports. com/grants-and-rebates-aidenergy-efficientlightingupgrades-at-city-facilities.

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

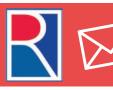


See interactive map at www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection.

## **Rockville is Raking-In Fall:** Leaf Collection

Rockville will vacuum leaves from neighborhood curbs in two rounds, beginning Monday, Oct. 14.

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.



**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.

## **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.

## Safety Improvements and Asphalt Art Begins to Take Shape in Rockville Town Center

Work began in early September on improvements to Beall Avenue on a first-of-its-kind project for the city to improve safety and make the street more attractive for residents, visitors and businesses.

A roadway resurfacing and new alignment between MD 355/Hungerford Drive and North Washington Street will create one travel lane in each direction, buffered bicycle lanes, and on-street parking and loading spaces. The addition of traffic-calming features and the reduction of pedestrian-crossing distances will improve roadway safety.

It will also create a new

space for public art.

Rockville, in partnership with VisArts, was among 25 North American cities chosen last year from a pool of 200 applicants to receive Asphalt Art Initiative grants through Bloomberg Philanthropies. The \$25,000 grant from the Bloomberg Asphalt Art Initiative will supplement funding from Rockville's Art in Public Places program to create a mural directly in the street.

The artwork is expected to be added by the end of October.

For more information about the Asphalt Art Initiative, visit bit.ly/ RkvAsphaltArt. •



**GOLD AND SILVER IN THE CITY'S WATER WORKS** ... Rockville Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Glenn Maggard (above, center, with Zoë Goodson, a regulatory and compliance engineer with the Maryland Department of the Environment, at left, and Assistant Superintendent James Boone, at right) accepted on behalf of the city the Silver Drop Award, celebrating 25 years of membership in the Chesapeake Section of the American Water Works Association. The water treatment plant also received the Gold Award from the Maryland Department of the Environment for "Outstanding Efforts Towards **Optimizing Overall Plant Performance," in August** at the 2024 Chesapeake Tri-Association Conference. Yaolin Fennell, a principal civil engineer in the Department of Public Works, presented "A Lead and Copper Rule Service Line Inventory Through a Digital Approach: A Case Study from the City of Rockville, Maryland" along with city consultant CDM Smith. Learn more about the city's approach to the Environmental Protection Agency's new Lead and Copper Rule Revisions at www.rockvillemd. gov/lcrr and more about Rockville's water at www. rockvillemd.gov/water and www.rockvillemd.gov/ waterquality.



MENDING FENCES ... Padraig Conley, an Eagle Scout candidate from Troop 1450 and Rockville resident, along with 15 Boy Scouts and local teens, joined Recreation and Parks Department staff in August to replace a split-rail fence at Croydon Creek Nature Center. The service project was part of Padraig's Eagle Scout award requirements. "The new fence has greatly improved the appearance of the Croydon Creek Nature Center and its benefits will be enjoyed by our community for years to come," Rockville's horticulturalist Jessica Corazza said. "We extend our sincere thanks to Padraig for his exceptional contribution to enhancing Rockville."



**MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ...** Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel (www. youtube.com/cityofrockville): Rockville helps celebrate Lincoln Park's 133rd anniversary; we remember those lost to the terrorist attacks of 9/11; and revisit the Rockville City Police Department for their annual open house.

## Stride Into 'Walktober' With Pedestrian Bingo and a Walk With RPAC

Celebrate "Walktober" this month in Rockville by experiencing our city on foot and transit while playing bingo.

Walktober presents a wonderful way to walk while the weather is still warm. Pedestrian Bingo, sponsored by the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee, provides a way to experience the city just as people who regularly walk Rockville do.

Find a Pedestrian Bingo card on RPAC's webpage at www.rockvillemd.gov/rpac. Once you do, use your feet to hit the city's streets, completing activities such as walking to a city park, taking transit or searching for a neighborhood that's missing a sidewalk.

Once you call "Bingo!" after completing the activities in each square, bring your card to City Hall or contact pedestrian and bicycle coordination Bryan Barnett-Woods at bbwoods@rockvillemd.gov to receive a small prize.

RPAC will host a Walktober Walk beginning at 5:30 p.m.Thursday, Oct. 10 at a location to be determined. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rpac for details on this and other Walktober events as they become available.

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

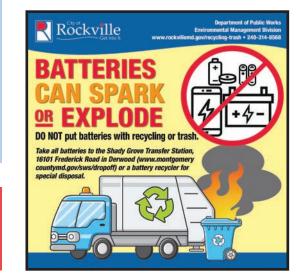
Rockville's Human Rights Commission is seeking 10 students to serve as HRC Student Ambassadors in its sixth annual Student Ambassador Program.

Ambassadors will serve as liaisons between the HRC and their high schools. The program will accept two students each from Richard Montgomery, Rockville and Thomas S. Wootton high schools, and four students who attend other Rockville high schools or who live in Rockville but attend high schools outside Rockville. Students must be from grades 10, 11 or 12. Student Service Learning hours will be available.

HRC student ambassadors will serve an eight-month term, starting in October, and will:

- Participate in HRC meetings and teleconferences.
- Act as a liaison between the HRC and the student ambassador's school, including faculty, student organizations and the student body at large.
- Assist the HRC in planning and executing programs and initiatives, including promotion, volunteer recruitment, fundraising and other activities.
- Provide suggestions and feedback on ways to improve HRC programs and initiatives.
   Apply by Friday, Oct. 11 at www.rockvillemd. gov/humanrights.

If necessary, virtual interviews will held for selected applicants.



OCTOBER 2024 ROCKVILLE REPORTS

## **Peerless Rockville This Fall: A History Happy Hour and a City Treasures Tour**

Peerless Rockville continues its celebration of 50 years as an award-winning nonprofit dedicated to preserving our city's history with the following events in October:

"Happy Hour with History," from 5:30-8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 4, at the historic Rockville B&O Railroad Station, offers a unique opportunity to tour the elegant old station that is lovingly maintained as offices by its tenants and learn about its history and preservation. Tickets cost \$36 and include live music, snacks and tours of the station. A cash bar from Twin Valley Distillery will be available.

"History Treasures Tour," from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, is a one-of-a-kind self-paced tour featuring open hours, family-friendly activities and hosted visits of city sites not usually open to the public. See a model railroad at the B&O Railroad Station, the inside of renowned psychiatrist Frieda Fromm-Reichmann's cottage, an old soda fountain and more. Cost is \$24 per household.

For tickets, visit www.peerlessrockville.org.

## More Trees? Wish Granted, Thanks to the Chesapeake Bay Trust

The Chesapeake Bay Trust awarded the city a grant of \$181,720 to plant more than 950 trees in the southern section of RedGate Park and arboretum.

This is the second year in a row Rockville has received funding to help with reforestation efforts at RedGate. In spring, nearly 1,500 trees and shrubs were planted in the northern section of the park.

These plantings are consistent with the city's Climate Action Plan and the RedGate Park Master Plan.

#### **Ready for Fall, Rockville Completes Several Park Projects**

Six accessible parking spaces have been renovated at Dogwood Park.

The spaces at the 44-acre multiuse park, at 800 Monroe St., along with accessible routes to the playground, basketball courts and picnic pavilion, were adjusted.

The Promenade Park elevator near the Monroe Street and East Montgomery Avenue intersection has been replaced. The original elevator was constructed in 1998 and is the primary accessible route to access the Rockville Metro station from Rockville Town Center.

Additionally, the construction of the replacement playground at Rockcrest Park was completed and reopened for the neighborhood.

The city completed renovations to tennis courts at the Rockville Civic Center and Montrose Park, tennis and basketball courts at Dogwood Park, and basketball courts at Monument Park, and replaced backboards at Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park.

# Rockville 10K/5K Save the Date Sunday, Nov. 3 8:30 a.m. King Farm Village Center, Rockville Register online at

www.rockville10k5k.com

## **F. Scott Shows This Month**

Murder at the Mansion presents "Last Call at Chez Mort" 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1 and 2, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 3. at Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Drive. Written by Lee Mueller.

A 1940s nightclub 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.

Constantine relates the case to a news reporter. The facts are a bit shaky and the details are hard to recall, but someone was arrested. 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 those aged 15 and older.

Tickets cost \$35; \$30 for students and seniors. Add on Maggiano's Little Italy Buffet for just \$30 more.

For more information and to purchase tickets, call the box office at 240-314-8690 or visit fscottfitzgerald. showare.com/Last Call.

Montgomery Art Association's "Autumn Colors and Reflections" **Exhibition** 

Meet the artists of the Montgomery Art Association behind the "Autumn Colors and Reflections" exhibition at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13.

The exhibition runs from Oct. 13-Wednesday, Nov. 27.

Formed in 1954 and incorporated as a nonprofit in 1991, MAA is one of the longest-running arts communities in the greater D.C. area.

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

"Cosmic Crescendos" presented by the Rockville Concert Band 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 13.

The Rockville Concert Band will present symphonic sounds of the solar system and beyond with guest conductor Kassandra Hunter. Launch your musical space odyssey with stellar selections by John Williams, Gustav Holst, Richard Strauss and others.

No tickets are required but \$5 suggested donations are appreciated.

# **Driving Safety, Finances and Tax Tips: This Month at the Senior Center**

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

Register with the course number at www.rockville md.gov/registration. Learn about 60-plus programs, courses, activities and services at www.rockvillemd. gov/seniorcenter or by calling 240-314-8800.

See the "Adults 60+" recreation guide at www. rockvillemd.gov/life for more information.

#### **Mental Health and Safety**

Officers from the Rockville City Police Department will discuss resources that are available for seniors, including mental health counseling, coping skills and preventing victimization.

Register with course #33620. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 2. Free. Hybrid.

#### Stress Reduction/ Meditation

Offers the tools to focus, relax, and come to a more peaceful sense of being, with time for meditation and discussion.

Register with course #33024. 1-2 p.m. Mondays, Oct. 7-Dec. 9. \$30 M/\$40 NM. Hybrid.

## Corrective Exercises to Reduce Knee Pain: A Holistic Approach

A step-by-step six-week holistic program to reduce knee pain for those aged 45 to 80-plus.

Register with course #33169. 1-2:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 8-Nov. 12. \$25. Hybrid.

## Aphasia Support Group For stroke survivors with

aphasia. Register with course

#33009. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 9. Free. **Self-Help Massage Tips for Your Good Health** 

Learn easy self-help massage techniques for you or your family to help with headaches and stomachaches, reduce pain and swelling, and ease tension and stress.

Register with course #32541. 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10. Free.

#### **AARP Driver Safety**

Tune up your driving skills, learn safe driving

strategies and refresh your knowledge of the rules of the road. Some Maryland insurance companies consider course participants eligible for discounts.

Register with course #33027. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 16. The cost is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for nonmembers. Cash or check only.

## Financial Tips, Tax Preparation and Health Screening

Get financial tips and determine what you need to prepare your 2024 tax return. While there, get a health screening. A wellness clinic and vaccines will be available.

Register with course #33205. 10 a.m.-noon, Thursday, Oct. 17. Free.

#### **How Money Works**

A financial coach will tell you how to make responsible, well-informed decisions and get the best value for the dollars you spend.

Register with course #33005. 1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17. Free.

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

Meetings discuss tips and education about breathing issues.

Register with course #33025. 1:30-2:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17. Free. Healthy Aging: Nutrition and Exercise for the Older Adult

Defines healthy eating for older adults and discusses the key to longevity using nutrition and exercise.

Register with course #33168. 1-2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 23. Free.

## Finding Relief from Spinal Stenosis

Treatments for spinal disorders will be discussed.

Register with course #33029. 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31. Free. Online only.

#### Need a Ride to Vote?

The Rockville Senior Center will be closed on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 5. Transportation will be available for seniors wishing to vote. Call the senior center at 240-314-8810 by Thursday, Oct. 31 to book a ride. Provide your address and polling place location when you call. •

### F. Scott Theater to Close for Upgrades to Accessibility, Sound

The F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and its social hall will close for nine months in late December for renovations that will improve accessibility and sound.

The venue will close Tuesday, Dec. 17 and reopen Sept. 1, 2025.

The primary focus of the renovations is to improve safety and compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act standards.

Changes will be made to the lobby, theater house and dressing rooms. The box office and restrooms will be expanded and wheelchair accessible.

New speakers will be installed in the theater house, upgrading the sound experience and making assisted listening devices more effective. The ADA-seating section will be expanded and modified for



easier and safer access.

The box office, which will move to the Rockville Civic Center Cottage during renovations, will sell tickets for some resident company performances that will be held at alternate venues. Hours will be 2-6 p.m. Wednesday-Friday and two Saturdays per month, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

In-person box office hours will be subject to change. Tickets are always available to purchase at fscottfitzgerald.showare. com. Direct questions about the closure to boxoffice@rockvillemd.gov.



**WHAT ARE WE CELEBRATING?** This is the month for Czech, Polish or Italian Americans to celebrate their culture and heritage. October is also National Bullying Prevention Month, LGBT History Month, National Crime Prevention Month and Blindness Awareness Month, as well as Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs to mid-October.

# October

**FACILITIES LEGEND:** 

- Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Rd., 240-314-8770.
- Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8660.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Dr., 240-314-8690.
- Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave., 240-314-8780. Winbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Pkwy., 240-314-8830.
- Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., 240-314-5000.
- Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Dr., 240-314-8800.
- Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane, 240-314-8750.
- Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Fallsgrove Dr., 240-314-8840.
  - 14-8840.



Virtual Program/Offering

Facebook Live Event





- **2,12** LITTLE EXPLORERS Is your little one curious about nature? Join a naturalist for crafts, hands-on sensory activities, games, stories, hikes and more, all with a nature theme. Ages 2-5. Register with course #33137 or #33138. \$10 R/\$12 NR. 10-11 a.m. (6)
- 2 ENERGY EFFICIENCY DAY See article on page 4.
- 2 COFFEE WITH A COP See ad on this page and article on page 8. 10:30 a.m.-noon.
- **2 MORNING MEDITATION** Experience tranquility and enhance well-being with meditation techniques for relaxation, mental clarity and stress relief. Tailored for seniors. Register with course #33764. Free. 11:30 a.m.-noon.
- 2 H MENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY See article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. 🚷
- **2** VASK 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.
- **3 ROLLING INTO THE MORNING** Start your morning with bagels, coffee and a tour for new members at the Rockville Senior Center. Register with course #33763. Free. 10-11 a.m.
- **3** FLAT BAND CLASS A strength workout using resistance bands to improve flexibility, strength and fitness. Suitable for all levels, seated or standing. Register with course #33762. Free. 1-1:45 p.m. **\$\frac{1}{3}\$**
- **4 ZUMBA PARTY** Join a fun workout and meet new people with light refreshments provided. Register with course #33765. Free. 10:30-11:30 a.m.
- **4** PEERLESS ROCKVILLE PRESENTS "HAPPY HOUR WITH HISTORY" See article on page 6. 5:30-8 p.m.
- **TWILIGHT AT REDGATE** Join a naturalist to search for crepuscular creatures like bats, foxes and owls on a twilight hike. Ages 5 and older. Bring a flashlight. Register with course #33153. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 7-8 p.m. **(f)**
- **5,12,19,26** ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- **5** PEERLESS ROCKVILLE PRESENTS "HISTORY TREASURES TOUR" See article on page 6. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- **7** LATINO ART AND CULTURE Explore the emergence of a collective Latino identity and how Latino artists influenced artistic movements. Presented by the Smithsonian American Art Museum. Register with course #32962. \$7 M/\$10 NM. 1-2 p.m.
- 7,14,21,28 STRESS REDUCTION/MEDITATION See article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. (3)
- **8 SCIENCE TUESDAYS** Monthly presentations and conversations with a scientist on various topics. No scientific background required. Cosponsored by Rockville Science Center. Register with course #32995. Free. 1-2 p.m. (§)
- **9 WALKING SERIES: GREAT FALLS PARK** Enjoy local trails and enhance fitness in this outdoor event. Designed for active participants. Transportation provided. Bring a bagged lunch. Instructor: Chris Klopfer. Register with course #32883. \$12 M/\$15 NM.10 a.m.-2 p.m. \$1
- 9 APHASIA SUPPORT GROUP See article on page 6. 1:30-2:30 p.m. 锅
- 9 SELF-HELP MASSAGE TIPS FOR YOUR GOOD HEALTH See article on page 6. 1-2:30 p.m. 😘
- 10 WALKTOBER WALK See article on page 5. 5:30 p.m.
- **10 FABULOUS FALL FOLIAGE** Learn about fall colors and engage in hands-on experiments and art projects with a naturalist. Register with course #32946. \$10 M/\$12 NM. 10-11 a.m.
- **10 COOKIE DECORATING** Decorate sugar cookies in fun fall shapes with guidance from Twinbrook Bakes. Supplies provided. Register with course #32720. \$15 M/\$20 NM. Noon-1 p.m. \$\frac{\mathbf{s}}{2}\$
- 10 V LISTENING SESSION: ELECTRIC VEHICLE PLAN DRAFT Hear an update on the Draft Rockville Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan and provide feedback. Visit engagerockville.com/evplan. 7-8 p.m.
- **13** MEET THE ARTISTS OF THE MONTGOMERY ART ASSOCIATION See article on page 6. 1:30-3:30 p.m. (1)
- 13 ROCKVILLE CONCERT BAND PRESENTS "COSMIC CRESCENDOS" See article on page 6. 3-4 p.m. (§)
- **15** STORYTELLING WITH ERIN: FLOWERS TO LAUGH, FLOWERS TO CRY Explore the symbolism of flowers in life and storytelling, led by Erin Vannella, a TEDx speaker and founder of Pure Vannella, LLC. Register with course #32904. \$7 M/\$10 NM. Noon-1 p.m.





- 16 AARP DRIVER SAFETY See article on page 6. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. 锅
- **16** SENIOR SCIENTISTS PROGRAM Engage in discussions and research activities related to speech, language and hearing. Led by faculty from the University of Maryland's Hearing and Speech Sciences department. Register with course #33008. Free. 1:30-3 p.m.
- 17 HOW MONEY WORKS See article on page 6. Free. 1-2:30 p.m. 😘
- 17 FINANCIAL TIPS, TAX PREPARATION AND HEALTH SCREENING See article on page 6. 10 a.m.-noon.
- 17 BETTER BREATHERS CLUB See article on page 6. 1:30-2:30 p.m. 😘
- 17 COUNTRY LINE DANCE PARTY Dance the afternoon away with country-western music. Snacks provided. Register with course #32956. \$7 M/\$10 NM. 3-4:15 p.m.
- 17 ZONING ORDINANCE REWRITE WORKSHOP See article on page 2. 7 p.m.
- 18 MINI-CREEP See article on page 8. 10-11:30 a.m. (f)
- 19 ROCKVILLE ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC CAR SHOW See article on page 1. 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
- 19 CROYDON CREEP See article on page 8. 6-8 p.m. (1)
- **20 BRASS BAND CONCERT** Enjoy a concert by the Rockville Brass Band. Free. \$5 suggested donation. 3-4 p.m.
- **PAINTING WITH CATHY: PUMPKIN PAINTING** Paint and decorate a pumpkin with instructions and supplies provided by instructor Cathy Pasquariello. Register with course #32939. \$13 M/\$16 NM. 10:30 a.m.-noon.
- **22 ZONING ORDINANCE REWRITE WORKSHOP** See article on page 2. 7 p.m.
- 23 HEALTHY AGING: NUTRITION AND EXERCISE FOR THE OLDER ADULT See article on page 6. 1-2 p.m. (§)
- **24** V BOOK CLUB Join a discussion of a broad spectrum of books with a moderator. Register with course #32695. Free M/\$7 NM. 9:30-10:45 a.m.
- **24** CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK MOBILE MARKET Free fresh produce for anyone. No income requirement. 2-4 p.m. 😚
- **24 W HISTORIC TRAIN TRAVEL** Take a virtual tour of authentic train cars from the 1890s to the 1950s. Register with course #31845. \$7 M/\$10 NM. 3:30-4:30 p.m.
- **27** FIRST-EVER ROCKVILLE BIKE PARTY See article on page 8. 4 p.m.
- **29 V EDGAR ALLEN POE'S LIFE, LITERATURE AND LEGACY** Explore Poe's life and works through an engaging tour of the Poe Museum. Register with course #32964. \$7 M/\$10 NM. 11 a.m.-noon.
- 29 HALLOWINE AND CHEESE See article on page 8. 4:30-6 p.m.
- **30** DOGGIE HALLOWEEN EXTRAVAGANZA See article on page 8. 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- 31 V FINDING RELIEF FROM SPINAL STENOSIS See article on page 6. Free. 1-2 p.m.
- 31 HALLOWEEN STOP AND TREAT See article on page 8. 6:30-8 p.m. (P)



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

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

OCTOBER 2024 ROCKVILLE REPORTS
Page 7

## **City Police Invite Community for Coffee and Conversation**

Get to know the men and women who protect and serve our city.

The Rockville City Police Department invites community members for National Coffee with a Cop Day from 10:30 a.m.-noon Wednesday, Oct. 2 at Starbucks, 39 Maryland Ave., in Rockville Town Square.

RCPD officers will be on hand for informal one-on-one conversations with community members.

Coffee with a Cop helps to 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.

As part of its community policing mission, the RCPD strives to get to know community members, build trust and discover mutual goals with the Rockville community the department serves.

Learn more about the RCPD and its mission at www.rockvillemd.gov/police.

## **Rockville Honored for a 34th Time for Its Budget Presentation**

The city's Department of Finance in September earned the Government Finance Officers Association's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for Rockville's FY 2025 Adopted Budget.

This is the 34th time the city has received the award. It includes special recognition in three categories: Budget Process, Capital Program and Financial Policies.

"While we have received special recognition in previous years, it is a remarkable feat to obtain special recognition in three categories," City Manager Jeff Mihelich said in announcing the award to staff.

"The award represents a significant achievement by the entity," GFOA said in a news release. "It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting." To receive the award, the city met nationally recognized guidelines for assessing how well the budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device.

Reviewers of the city's budget wrote that "The city appears to be positively positioned to move the community forward. The city's fiscal future looks bright," and, "The Performance Management system is exemplary and meets all appropriate standards for productivity and management."

For more information and to read the city's FY25 adopted budget, visit www.rockvillemd. gov/budget.

## **New Grant Program Will Open Soon for Applications**

Applications will open soon for a new grant for local organizations that partner with Rockville to support community services and enrichment programs that benefit city residents and visitors.

The Community Services and Enrichment Grant Program will make the application process easier and more efficient for applicants and for the city.

Local nonprofit community organizations are encouraged to apply.

The amount of funding for the grant program will be about \$1.2 million. Grants will be awarded to about 35 applicants.

Applications are now open. The deadline to apply is Monday, Oct. 14.

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/grants to apply and for instructions for accessing the portal.

For more information, contact Sarah Maizel at smaizel@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8304, or Abe Bruckman at abruckman@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8111.

## **2024 Rockville Holiday Drive is Officially Underway**

For Close to 50 Years, Drive Has Encouraged Heartfelt Giving

For nearly 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.

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 Holdiay 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-so-

dium beans and soups, nosugar-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.

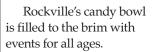
You can donate food at City Hall and city recreation facilities until Friday, Nov. 15 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

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.

## Halloween Hits Rockville



Register at www. rockvillemd.gov/registration for events with a course number.

#### Mini Creep

10-11:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 18. \$12 residents/\$15 nonresidents. Register with course #33151.

A Halloween event just for the little ones! Come in costume to the Croydon Creek Nature Center at 852 Avery Road and enjoy games, crafts, a snack and hands-on fun to celebrate the season.

#### **Croydon Creep**

6-8 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 19. Free.

Get your costumes ready for free activities at the nature center that include games, treats, crafts, magic, balloon twisters, a campfire and more! All ages welcome.

For children ages 5-12, buy a timed ticket for a 30-minute non-spooky guided hike through the forest. On the hike, you will meet local creatures and collect goodies as you go.

Advanced ticket purchase required for the hikes: \$10 residents/\$12 nonresidents. Visit www.rockville md.gov/registration and search "Croydon Creep" for hike times.

#### Monster Mash Halloween Dance

7-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 25. Register for course #33697. Cost is \$5.

Come in costume to Twinbrook Community Recreation Center (12920 Twinbrook Parkway) for pumpkin decorating, dancing and more. Refreshments sold by Twinbrook PTA. No masks or costume props (sticks, swords, etc.).

## Halloween Stop and Treat

6:30-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 31. Free.

Stop by Lincoln Park Community Center at 357 Frederick Ave. to show off your costumes and enjoy hot cocoa and Halloween treats.

## Doggie Halloween Extravaganza

6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30. Register for course #33634. \$20 residents/\$25 nonresidents.

Attention all paw-rents and furry companions! A howlin' good time awaits at Elwood Community Center, 601 Harrington Road, filled with tail-wagging fun and delightful doggy tricks and treats.

This pawsome event will bring out the best in your four-legged friends with a bark-tacular celebration like no other.
Costumes are suggested, but not required.

Please ensure your dog is comfortable around other dogs and people. Proof of vaccination must be provided.

## First-Ever Rockville Bike Party

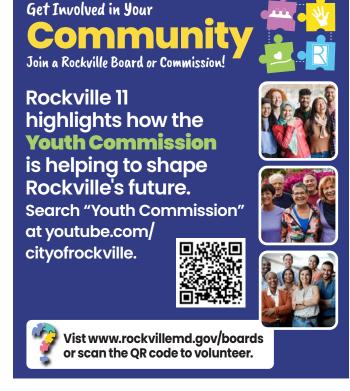
4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27. Free.

A casual ride with a Halloween theme. Everyone, including children accompanied by an adult, is welcome to join in costume. The start location is TBD. Visit www.meetup. com/bike-rockville for more information. The ride will finish before dark.

#### **HalloWine and Cheese**

4:30-6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29. Register with course #32978 \$7 members/\$10 nonmembers.

Wear a costume, take part in a Halloween game and vote on your favorite staff-decorated pumpkin at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. Sponsored by SmithLife Homecare. For those aged 60 and older. Free transportation is available by calling 240-314-8810.





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

Web and Digital Manager: Nick Kanary
Graphics and Printing: Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell, Lori Russler
Rockville II: Hagop Balekjian, Robyn Cole, Adrian Zlotescu
Social Media and Digital Engagement: Becca Brown

**Rockville Reports** is the official publication of the City of Rockville, III 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. Have an idea for "Rockville Reports"? Email pio@rockvillemd.gov.



**BACK IN THE DAY ...** From five years ago: "More than 100 people attended as Rockville cut the ribbon on four brand-new pickleball courts at Mattie J.T. Stepanek Park at an opening ceremony in September," reported the October 2019 issue of "Rockville Reports." "Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in America and the city installed four lighted, dedicated pickleball courts in the park at 1800 Piccard Drive." The courts were the first dedicated to the sport in Montgomery County — but were far from the last. Find a court in Rockville at www.rockvillemd.gov/pickleball.

Page 8