



FY 2023 ANNUAL
REPORT INSIDE
THIS ISSUE

Nov. 7 Election Ballot to Include Four Advisory Referendum Questions

Along with a list of candidates vying for an expanded number of council seats and a mayor, four advisory referendum questions will also be on the Nov. 7 Mayor and Council election ballot.

Voters will have the opportunity to choose “yes,” “no” or “no opinion” on the following:

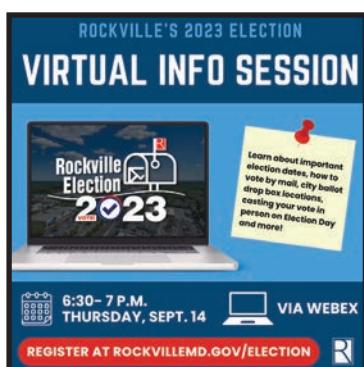
- **Voting Age:** Voters in the city's election must be 18 or older to vote. Should Rockville allow 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in city elections?
- **Non-Citizen Voting:** Only U.S. citizens who live in Rockville can vote in city elections. Should Rockville allow city residents without U.S. citizenship to vote?
- **Term Limits:** Mayor and Council members have no limits on the number of four-year terms they can serve. Should elected officials be limited to three consecutive terms?
- **Representative Districts:** Councilmembers are elected at large, meaning all registered city voters vote for all six councilmembers. Should the city be divided into representative districts to elect some, or all, of the six councilmembers?

The nonbinding advisory questions — meaning they allow voters to express a preference without resulting in a change to Rockville law — are based on recommendations from the Charter Review Commission.

The Mayor and Council may consider voters' preferences on the ballot questions should they choose to change the city's election law.

In this election, voters will have the opportunity to elect seven members of the city's elected body — a mayor and six council members — following a unanimous vote Feb. 6 by the Mayor and Council on a charter amendment resolution to add two seats to the council.

The Mayor and Council will hold a public hearing during their Monday, Sept. 11 meeting on a charter amendment to modify the procedure for adopting ordinances by increasing the number of councilmembers needed to request a public hearing on an ordinance when introduced, and increasing the number of councilmembers needed to vote in favor of waiving layover and agenda requirements



to adopt an ordinance.

Ballots will be mailed to all registered voters who live within Rockville city limits.

All ballots must be received by 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 7. Voters will be able to vote by mail, in person at the two Election Day Vote Centers on Nov. 7, or at an election drop box.

Voters can cast their ballots in person at vote centers on Election Day, Nov. 7, at either City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive. Vote centers will be open 7 a.m.-8 p.m. on Election Day only.

If voting by mail, voters can return their ballots in the provided envelope by prepaid mail or by delivering them to a secure ballot drop box.

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

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

Key 2023 election dates:

- **On or before Friday, Oct. 13:** Ballots mailed to registered voters.
- **Tuesday, Nov. 7:** Election Day. Completed ballots must be received by 8 p.m. in person at City Hall or by mail.

For more info., visit www.rockvillemd.gov/election or email elections@rockvillemd.gov. ❀

Rob DiSpirito Resigns as Rockville City Manager

Barack Matite Named Acting City Manager

Rob DiSpirito has resigned as Rockville's city manager.

DiSpirito submitted his resignation to the Mayor and Council on Thursday, Aug. 17. It became effective at 5 p.m. that day.

The Mayor and Council accepted his resignation and appointed Deputy City Manager Barack Matite as acting city manager, effective immediately.

The City of Rockville operates under a council-manager form of government. The city manager is responsible to the Mayor and Council for the day-to-day management of city operations. Under provisions of the City Charter



Acting City Manager
Barack Matite.

and code, the city manager prepares a budget for the Mayor

and Council's approval; recruits, hires, and supervises staff; implements Mayor and Council policies; and provides professional recommendations.

DiSpirito had served as Rockville's city manager since January 2017.

In a statement, the Mayor and Council said: “The Mayor and Council appreciate Mr. DiSpirito's nearly seven years of service to the City of Rockville and his contributions to our community and stakeholders. We wish him well as he pursues his future endeavors.” ❀

Rockville Turns September Purple in Fight for Opioid Awareness

In their ongoing fight to bring awareness to the national impact of opioid addiction and signal hope for recovery, Rockville's Mayor and Council proclaimed September as National Recovery Month at their Monday, Aug. 7 meeting.

The theme for National Recovery Month is “Recovery is for Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community.”

The proclamation states that: “The Rockville Goes Purple initiative is increasing awareness of the dangers of opioids and other substances,

and strives to reduce the number of lives lost to drug addiction in our community.”

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that deaths from drug overdoses reached 107,622 nationwide in 2021, an increase of nearly 15% from the 93,655 deaths estimated in 2020, and 108,500 in 2022, “a staggering record that reflects the crisis and the continued spread of the synthetic opioid fentanyl in the

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THREE FORUMS Offer Chances to Hear from the Candidates

TUESDAY, SEPT. 26
2-3:30 p.m.

Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive
Presented by the Greater Rockville Chamber of Commerce.

THURSDAY, OCT. 5
7-8:30 p.m.

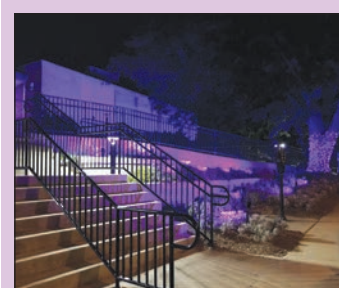
F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive
Presented by Community Reach of Montgomery County with Rainbow Place Shelter.

THURSDAY, OCT. 12
NOON-1:30 p.m.

Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive
Presented by the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County.

Rockville 11 will broadcast the 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.

For more info: www.rockvillemd.gov/election or email: elections@rockvillemd.gov.



Labor Day in Rockville

City government will be closed Monday, Sept. 4 in observance of Labor Day.

City Hall and the following city facilities will be closed: Lincoln Park, Thomas Farm and Twinbrook community centers; the Rockville Senior Center; Croydon Creek Nature Center and the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre and box office, which are closed Mondays; Glenview Mansion and the Rockville Civic Center business office. The Rockville Skate Park, which is closed Mondays in the fall, will also be closed.

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will be open. For swim and fitness center facility hours, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/swimcenter.

Recycling and trash collections will occur one day later than usual throughout the week. For more information on recycling and trash collection, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash or call 240-314-8568.

Parking will be free at city-owned meters.

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

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
111 Maryland Ave.
Rockville, Maryland
20850-2364

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Radon Rental Testing Requirement to Begin This Month

An ordinance that will require specific rental properties in the city to be tested for the presence of radon will go into effect Sept. 27.

Radon is an invisible, odorless, tasteless, radioactive gas found in soil and rock, formed by the natural decay of uranium. While no immediate symptoms signal its presence, exposure at high levels can cause cancer. Testing is the only way to know a home's radon levels.

The testing requirement will apply to all units in a rental facility in contact with the ground, including basement apartments and any dwelling unit with a basement, crawl spaces or units built on a slab in contact with the ground.

Landlords will be required to conduct a radon test before leasing a qualifying dwelling unit.

The legislation also addresses instances when tenants can have their rental unit tested for radon. If the test results are above the 4 picocuries per liter standard, the tenant must report the test results to the landlord in writing. Landlords must initiate a follow-up radon test within 14 days to confirm radon levels. If confirmed, the landlord must take steps to reduce the radon level within safe parameters and provide tenants a copy of test results indicating levels have been reduced.

A tenant has the right to terminate the lease without the loss of a security deposit if the landlord fails to mitigate the issue.

Find information about radon mitigation measures and how to order discounted radon test kits at www.rockvillemd.gov/radon. Learn more about radon at www.epa.gov/radon. For more information, email Jim Vasilak at jvasilak@rockvillemd.gov.

Propose a Project to Improve Your Neighborhood

The city is seeking input from community members about Rockville's Capital Improvements Program for Fiscal Year 2025-2029.

The CIP lays out how Rockville plans to invest funding over a five-year period for capital projects such as parks, roads, buildings and other infrastructure. As Rockville begins preparations for the Fiscal Year 2025 budget process, which begins July 1, 2024, residents are encouraged to tell the city about the condition of streets and parks, and help plan new facilities or infrastructure upgrades to meet community needs.

To tell the city what capital projects are needed in your neighborhood, complete and submit the form at www.rockvillemd.gov/Propose-a-Project by Friday, Sept. 15.

Proposals cannot serve a private purpose or be located on private property and should have an equal, accessible benefit to all community members. If submitted on behalf of a neighborhood group, the proposal should be discussed and agreed on by the neighborhood group before submission. Neighborhood groups can provide the Mayor and Council with formal input about a project submission at any time during the budget process via a letter, email or online budget survey, or by addressing the Mayor and Council at a budget public hearing.

A summary of all proposals submitted will be provided to the Mayor and Council, the city manager and applicable city department staff, and will be included as part of the public record, beginning with the first budget public hearing in the fall. Learn more about the city's budget process at www.rockvillemd.gov/budget.

For more information about CIP proposal submissions, contact Hjarman Cordero at hcordero@rockvillemd.gov.

Meet A Rockville Employee: Jenny R. Snapp

Jenny R. Snapp, deputy director of Community Planning and Development Services, joined the City of Rockville in January and has lived in the Falls Grove neighborhood since February. We asked her a few questions to get to know her better and learn more about her new role.



Jenny R. Snapp, deputy director of CPDS.

What does your position entail?

My job entails co-leading with our director Ricky Barker. I oversee and manage the inspection services, zoning and research divisions at CPDS.

What did you do before joining the city?

Prior to joining the City of Rockville, I lived in Columbus, Ohio, and worked for Franklin County, Ohio, most recently as chief operating officer, where I managed building, planning, zoning, GIS, community development, and operations including fiscal administration for Franklin County Economic Development and Planning. I started with Franklin County in 2014. Prior to that, I was director of a three-county regional planning commission, the Logan, Union, Champaign Regional Planning Commission, where I worked from 2002 to 2014.

I have a bachelor's from the University of Toledo in international relations and a master's degree in geography and regional planning.

I also have a Women in Leadership Certificate from Cornell University.

When at Franklin

County, I served on the Columbus Sister Cities board and the Columbus Neighborhood Design Center board as well as serving as chair of their fundraising committee. I also served on the inaugural

Franklin County Racial Equity Council appointed by the Franklin County Commissioners. I was treasurer and a past president of the County Planning Director's Association of Ohio and a member of the American Planning Association Ohio Chapter. **What do you enjoy most about the job?**

Supervising and building relationships with employees and members of the community. I enjoy mentoring, especially interns coming into the field of planning.

I'm a single mom of an 11-year-old son, Rowan, who will start at Julius West Middle School as a sixth grader. We are passionate about traveling and make frequent trips with my best friend, my sister. My son has traveled to seven countries with me. Other than that, we love our pet family and have fostered dogs in the past, including Jack Russells and Great Pyrenees. ✚

City Transportation Planner Named Maryland's Municipal Employee of the Year

Bryan Barnett-Woods, a principal transportation planner with the City of Rockville, has been named the Roland B. Sweitzer Municipal Employee of the Year for the state of Maryland.

Barnett-Woods, who serves as the city's Vision Zero coordinator and the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation coordinator, was honored by the Maryland City and County Management Association and the Maryland Municipal League at MML's annual

conference in June in Ocean City.

Emad Elshafei, the city's chief of traffic and transportation, nominated Barnett-Woods for the award, which recognizes high standards of professionalism in service and outstanding performance that goes over and above the employee's job duties.



Principal Transportation Planner Bryan Barnett-Woods.

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Mayor to Discuss State of the City

Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton will discuss the state of the City of Rockville, 9-11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 21, in an event hosted by the Greater Rockville Chamber of Commerce at Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston

Drive.

Chamber public policy chair Brian Barkley will ask questions.

Questions may be submitted ahead of time to marji@rockvillechamber.org. ✚

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Greater Rockville Chamber of Commerce State of the City conversation.

WHEN: 9-11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 21.

WHERE: Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

This event is free and open to the public.



City to Plant More Than 1,000 Trees at RedGate Park with Chesapeake Bay Trust Grant Money

The Chesapeake Bay Trust has awarded Rockville an Urban Trees Award Program grant of \$199,930 to plant more than 1,000 trees and 500 shrubs in RedGate Park to reforest the area, as approved in the Mayor and Council's RedGate Master Plan.

The city has until May 1, 2026, to use the funds.

At 131 acres, RedGate, located at 14500 Avery Road, is a former golf course con-

verted to park use, and one of 67 parks in the City of Rockville.

In 2018, following the course's closure, the Mayor and Council voted unanimously to keep the open space as a park, with a lengthy period of community engagement to determine what facilities should be planned for the future.

Find out more about city parks at www.rockvillemd.gov/parks. ✚

Rockville Goes Purple

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illegal narcotic supply," the proclamation states.

Lights at City Hall, the Rockville City Police Department headquarters and other city and county facilities will once again shine purple throughout the month.

The theme of the campaign is "Opioids: Let's Talk About It," which encourages dialogue about, and openness around, the problems of opioid addiction, and awareness about the dangers of stigmatizing addiction.

The Rockville City Police Department responded to 24 reports of heroin or opioid overdoses in 2022, a 31% decrease from 2021, and three reports of heroin or opioid possession, the same number as in 2021. There were three reports of opioid sales.

Events Throughout the Month Will Include:

- Attendance by members of the Mayor and Council at **Montgomery County's International Opioid Awareness Day** event, Thursday, Aug. 31.
- The Rockville City Police Department's **Rockville Goes Purple Drug Takeback**, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23 at the department's headquarters parking lot at 2 W. Montgomery Ave.
- Join **Rockville City Police Department officers at the Rockville Senior Center** from 1-2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 27 to learn about opioids and drug problems in our community, and how you can help.
- The City of Rockville will collaborate with Montgomery College and Montgomery Goes

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Connect with us on Social Media.



FOLLOW US! ... ON FACEBOOK: Including the following pages: City of Rockville Government; City of Rockville Recreation and Sports; Rockville City Police Department; Croydon Creek Nature Center; City of Rockville Rocktoberfest; and City of Rockville Farmers Market. **ON INSTAGRAM:** @city_of_rockville, @rockvillerec and @rockvillecitypolice. **ON X (FORMERLY TWITTER):** @Rockville411 and @RockvilleCityPD. **ONLINE:** Rockville Reports.com.

Mayor & Council

mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov



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



Councilmember Monique Ashton
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mashton@rockvillemd.gov



Councilmember Beryl L. Feinberg
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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, Sept. 11 and 18 at 7 p.m. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter for details.

The Sept. 18 meeting will be preceded by drop-in sessions with Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and Councilmember Monique Ashton, 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.

Zoning Ordinance Rewrite to Kick Off Soon

A comprehensive rewrite of Rockville's zoning ordinance will be underway soon to modernize city code in a way that accommodates the changing living, working and lifestyle choices of residents in the 21st century.

The Mayor and Council approved a contract June 13 with ZoneCo to assist the city with rewriting the zoning ordinance in chapter 25 of city code. The

current zoning ordinance was adopted in 2009.

The project, expected to be completed in the next 18-24 months, will include ways for the public to be engaged.

The purpose of the project is to:

- Implement recommendations of the Rockville 2040 Comprehensive Plan.
- Accomplish goals from the FAST initiative — making

the development review and permitting process Faster, Accountable, Smarter and Transparent.

- Incorporate the best practices of planning and zoning.
- Create an easily understood, accessible and organized document.

A meeting to kick off the zoning ordinance rewrite will be held this fall. ✚

Applications for Community Development Block Grants Due by October

Applications for Community Development Block Grant funding for Fiscal Year 2025 are available now on the City of Rockville's website. The allocation process for the grants begins this fall.

CDBG provides federal funding for housing and community development programs that benefit low- and moderate-income people. Rockville's CDBG funding comes through Montgomery County.

The Mayor and Council will hold a public hearing on com-

munity needs at their Monday, Sept. 11 meeting, which begins at 7 p.m., and begin a competitive grant application process for nonprofit organizations and government entities to apply for funds. Grant applications are due by Monday, Oct. 2. Proposals will be reviewed and prioritized by city staff and forwarded, with recommendations, to the Mayor and Council for review and approval this fall.

Interested community members and organizations should

check Mayor and Council agendas from July at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter and visit www.rockvillemd.gov/cdbg for updated information on the grant application.

For more information, contact Charles Dunn, rehabilitation specialist, at 240-314-8260 or cdunn@rockvillemd.gov or Asmara Habte, director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, at 240-314-8203 or ahabte@rockvillemd.gov. ✚

City Seeks Community Comments with Surveys

Mayor and Council to Take Up Pedestrian Master Plan; Begin FY25 Budget Work

The city is seeking community input as work on Rockville's first Pedestrian Master Plan continues this fall.

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

Find video of a staff presentation of the draft plan with the June 28 Planning Commission meeting listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter.

View the draft 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 will receive a response and will be shared with the city's Planning Commission and Mayor and Council for their pub-

lic hearings.

The Planning Commission is scheduled to hold a public hearing on the plan on Wednesday, Sept. 13 and vote Wednesday, Sept. 27 on recommendations to the Mayor and Council. The Mayor and Council are scheduled to hold a public hearing on Monday, Oct. 16, a discussion Monday, Oct. 23, and a vote to

adopt the plan Monday, Oct. 30.

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. ✚

Help Shape Our Community

TAKE THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE FY 2025 Budget Priorities Survey

AVAILABLE IN FIVE LANGUAGES

Your Voice Counts

Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/budget

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.

- **Sept. 13 and 27** 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:

- Cultural Arts Commission (1)
- Environment Commission (1)
- Ethics Commission (1)
- Finance Advisory Board (1)
- Human Rights Commission (1)
- Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (1)
- Planning Commission (1)
- Senior Citizens Commission (1)
- Rockville House Enterprises (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

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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.

Free Trees, If You Please

The City of Rockville will give away a limited number of native trees and shrubs to Rockville residents during a pickup event from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturday, Sept. 30, at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

- Here's what you need to know:
- Trees will be available to City of Rockville residents only.
- Preregistration is required and opens Friday, Sept. 1 at www.rockvillemd.gov/treegiveaway. No walkups.
- Limit one tree per household.
- Five species are expected to be available.

This list is subject to change and species preferences are not guaranteed:

- River birch (*Betula nigra*).
- Arrowwood viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*).
- Serviceberry (*Amelanchier canadensis*).
- Flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*).
- Spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*).

Interested in planting more trees? The Rockville RainScapes Rebates offers rebates of up to \$150 per native tree to single family residences, homeowners and condominium associations, and nonprofits in the City of Rockville. To learn more and apply, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes.

Human Rights Commission Seeks Student Ambassadors

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

Ambassadors will serve as liaisons between the HRC and their high schools. The program will accept two students each from Richard Montgomery, Rockville and Thomas S. Wootton high schools, and four students who attend other Rockville high schools or who live in Rockville but attend high schools outside Rockville. Students must be 10th-, 11th-, or 12th-graders. 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. 13 at www.rockville.md.gov/humanrights.

If necessary, virtual interviews will held for selected applicants.

Binge Watch the City's Climate Solutions Speaker Series

Rockville is addressing carbon reduction, equity and resiliency through its Climate Action Plan, and community members can play their part by learning about actions to take at home to support the city's climate goals.

The city's Climate Solution Speaker Series offers presentations from experts on maintaining a healthy, organic lawn; sustainable home landscaping; net-zero energy homes; dealing with flooding; reducing household waste; and native plants and trees for yards. Find the full playlist by visiting www.rockvillemd.gov/climate and selecting "What Can I Do On Climate Change?"

The series returns this fall. Find information about future sessions as they are announced in "Rockville Reports" and by subscribing to the city's "Environment and Sustainability News" email newsletter at www.rockvillemd.gov/newsletters.

Be Rockville Ready and Be Prepared for Flooding

Anywhere it can rain, it can flood. With hurricane season here, it's important to know the risk and be prepared to reduce the impact of potential flooding.

Here are some tips you can follow to be prepared:

- Reduce your risk. Prepare now to protect your family, home and belongings from flooding. The Federal Emergency Management Agency offers several publications to help homeowners manage flooding risks. Find a few at mailchi.mp/rockvillemd/storm-flood-damage-survey-summer. Find more resources at www.fema.gov/flood-maps/know-your-risk/homeowners.
- Insure your property. Flood damage isn't covered by standard homeowners insurance policies, and is expensive. An inch of floodwater can cause more than \$25,000 in damage. Talk to your insurance agent about flood insurance or visit floodsmart.gov.
- Report storm flood damage. Rockville residents or property owners who have experienced flood damage associated with severe weather can help the city understand the impact of intense storms on our community. Take the Storm Flood Damage Survey and find additional resources at www.rockvillemd.gov/flooding.
- Take advantage of the Flood Mitigation Assistance Program. Rockville offers matching reimbursement funds to residents and property owners who make flood protection improvements to their properties.

For tips on solving minor drainage issues and environmentally friendly solutions, find "Slow It. Spread It. Sink It!: A Homeowner's Guide to Sustainable Home Drainage" at www.rockvillemd.gov/drainageguide. ➕

Rockville Revitalizes RainScapes Rebates with Chesapeake Bay Trust Partnership

Rockville is proud to partner with the Chesapeake Bay Trust, a leader in engaging communities in protecting local watersheds, for an improved and expanded RainScapes Rebates program that helps residents save more money when installing sustainable landscaping and small-scale stormwater practices on their property.

Eligible properties, including single-family homes and townhouses, homeowners and condominium associations, and other nonprofits can now receive up to \$5,000 in rebates.

The expanded list of eligible practices includes three new projects: rain gardens, cisterns and green roofs. Additionally, rebate rates for permeable paver retrofits, pavement removal and conservation landscaping have been increased to offset the higher cost of these projects. See the table to the right for all eligible projects and

rebate amounts.

To be eligible, property owners must apply before project installation and submit itemized receipts and/or final invoices for all project costs. Rebate amounts will not exceed documented costs. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes to learn more information and apply.

Chesapeake Bay Trust staff will review and process rebate applications and perform site visits, and are available to answer property owners' questions. Email rockvillerebate@cbtrust.org.

The RainScapes Rebates program is part of the city's efforts to meet its Climate Action Plan goals by creating private property incentives and education programs to promote tree planting and environmentally friendly landscape conversions and practices. ➕

Electrify Everything

Electrification is the process of replacing technologies that use fossil fuels (coal, oil, natural gas) with technologies that use ELECTRICITY as a source of energy.

Sign the *Electrify Everything* Pledge to commit to choosing climate-friendly, clean, ALL-ELECTRIC appliances and equipment when renovating or upgrading your home! You can also opt to be connected to our certified installer!



To take the pledge, scan the QR code!



ELECTRIFY ROCKVILLE ... *Montgomery County will launch a program in October to offer incentives for residents to electrify their homes. Electrification involves replacing fossil fuel-powered equipment with electric. Household gas stoves, water heaters, furnaces, or dryers can be switched for cleaner, more efficient, climate-friendly electric appliances or heat pumps. Take the Electrify Everything Pledge at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/green/energy/electrification.html to receive updates on the program.*



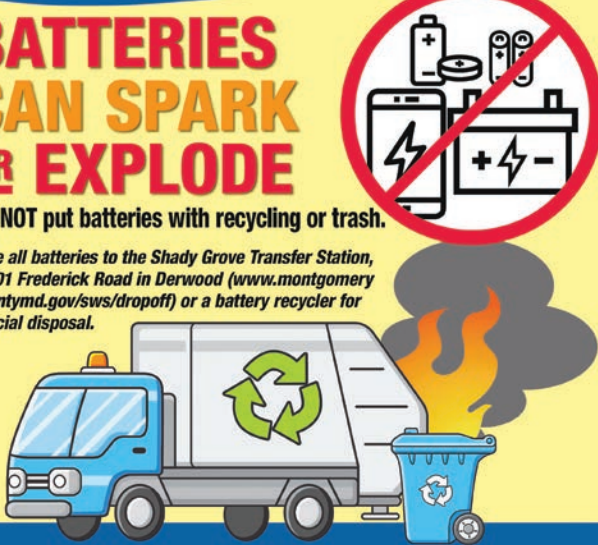
City of Rockville
Get Into It

Department of Public Works
Environmental Management Division
www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash • 240-314-8568

BATTERIES CAN SPARK OR EXPLODE

DO NOT put batteries with recycling or trash.

Take all batteries to the Shady Grove Transfer Station, 16101 Frederick Road in Derwood (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/dropoff) or a battery recycler for special disposal.



PROJECT	REBATE
Permeable Paver Retrofit	\$14 per square foot
Conservation Landscaping	\$5 or \$6* per square foot
Pavement Removal	\$3 or \$6** per square foot
Rain Barrels	\$1 per gallon
Cisterns	\$1 per gallon
Tree Canopy	\$150 per tree
Rain Garden	\$10 per square foot
Green Roofs	\$9 per square foot

* Higher rebate option for conservation landscapes that include soil improvement through decompaction and compost amendment.

** Higher rebate option for pavement removal replaced with conservation landscaping.



MORE NEWS, MORE OFTEN, ON YOUTUBE ... Now on Rockville 11's YouTube channel (www.youtube.com/cityofrockville): See the Mayor and Council's proclamation of September as National Recovery Month (and read about Rockville Goes Purple on page 1); see what you missed on National Night Out; and learn about the life and legacy of Mattie J. T. Stepanek at Rockville's Peace Day celebration.

Citywide Streetlight Replacement to Begin This Fall

Rockville will begin work this fall on the first phase of a citywide project to replace streetlights owned and maintained by the city with energy-efficient light-emitting diode fixtures.

The project's first phase includes replacing approximately 2,000 fixtures of the more common types, including colonial, contemporary and cobra-head fixtures. The city will replace other decorative fixtures as a later phase of the project. Streetlights that are owned and maintained by the city are located on metal or fiberglass poles and are fed by underground power. Streetlights owned and maintained by Pepco are located on wooden utility poles and are fed by overhead power.

The Mayor and Council awarded the roughly \$1 million project contract Aug. 7 to Lighting Maintenance, Inc. The city is funding nearly \$675,000 of the project through a grant award from the Maryland Energy Administration and from Pepco's EmPowerMD rebates.

The project supports energy efficiency efforts that are part of Rockville's Climate Action Plan. LEDs offer reduced greenhouse gas emissions and save tax dollars through lower energy and maintenance costs. ✚

Maryland's Municipal Employee of the Year

continued from pg. 2...

"I strongly believe that Mr. Bryan Barnett Woods is an outstanding example of a public servant," Elshafei wrote in making the nomination. "He is hard worker, pleasant, professional, and sincerely cares about making Rockville a better place while

serving the residents and visitors of the city."

Community members who work closely with Barnett-Woods submitted letters supporting the nomination.

To explore some of Barnett-Woods' work in action, find the city's Vision Zero Action Plan at www.rockvillemd.gov/VisionZero. ✚

Rockville Awarded Grant to Study Historic City Sites

The Maryland Heritage Areas Authority has awarded the City of Rockville grant funding to study the Avery Road Colored Cemetery and Benjamin Franklin Smith Family Homestead, located within the footprint of today's Croydon Creek Nature Center and John G. Hayes Forest Preserve.

The city was awarded \$16,941 to hire a consultant to perform historical background research and use ground-penetrating radar to document what remains below ground connected to Benjamin Franklin Smith, his family and the sites' development.

This nondestructive approach will seek to discover what lies beneath the areas, including burial sites, funerary objects, architectural relics, and stone tools, arrowheads or other artifacts. Survey findings will assist with a second phase of the project

to provide overall site interpretation of the Smith homestead and cemetery sites.

The sites were once part of Bowie's Glenview Estate. The Bowies used the labor of enslaved Black people, including Smith, to operate the plantation. Up to 31 enslaved people were used to clear forested areas, for farming, and in the family home's upkeep and operation.

The plantation was comprised of the Bowie residence, farm fields, a chapel and cemetery slave quarters, a slave cemetery, and timberlands. In 1884, per Bowie's final wishes, the lands were deeded to Smith, who developed a homestead and an adjacent family burial plot.

One-hundred grants were awarded to state non-profits, local jurisdictions and other heritage tourism organizations, totaling \$5 million. ✚



Road Diets Project Brings New Traffic Pattern to Town Center

The city's contractor applied final pavement markings on North Washington Street and East Middle Lane in August as part of the city's Town Center Road Diets Project.

New traffic patterns are now in place on North Washington Street and East Middle Lane after the city's contractor converted the two existing motor vehicle travel lanes into one lane in each direction, creating new bike lanes. New on-street parking spaces were also added.

As a final step in the project, the contractor will install precast concrete curbs for the bike lanes, meter poles and signs.

For more information, including the approved construction plans, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/visionzeroprojects. ✚



A Night Out with Neighbors

Rockville celebrated National Night Out on Aug. 1 as Rockville City Police Department officers joined McGruff the Crime Dog and neighbors at gatherings across the city. In its 40th year, National Night Out is a nationwide effort to raise awareness about crime and drug prevention, generate support for anti-crime programs, and strengthen community spirit and community policing partnerships. See more of how Rockville celebrated: Visit [youtube.com/cityofrockville](https://www.youtube.com/cityofrockville) and search "National Night Out."

Learn About Resources to Help Rehab Your Historic Home

Rockville will hold a virtual historic tax credit workshop, Tuesday, Oct. 3, alongside the Maryland Historical Trust and Montgomery County Historic Preservation Department.

The workshop will be held via WebEx at 7 p.m. Find registration information in the October calendar listing at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar.

Guest speakers will be Dana Marks, a preservation officer with Tax Credit Programs of the Maryland Historical Trust, and Michael Kyne, a cultural resources planner with the Historic Preservation Section of the Montgomery County Planning Department.

Learn about federal, state and local preservation tax credits available to encourage investment in the rehabilitation and reuse of historic buildings, including:

- Basic information about each tax credit program.
- What properties are eligible for the county, state and federal tax credit programs.
- What projects and expenses are eligible for tax credits.
- How to prepare a county and/or state tax credit application.

For more information, contact 240-314-8236 or history@rockvillemd.gov.

Register Now for This Month's Fair and Impartial Policing Community Training

The Rockville City Police Department is offering free Fair and Impartial Policing training for community members in September.

Community members are encouraged to participate in this important training that promotes bias-free behavior in community policing. The training gives officers and community members tools to better communicate and work together to make the community safer and more resilient.

The training will be held from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 9 in the social hall of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

An FIP national instructor will lead a roundtable discussion covering the following topics:

- What is implicit bias? Participants will learn about the modern science of bias and prejudice, including implicit bias.
- How might implicit bias manifest in police and in community members?
- What can individuals and agencies do to promote bias-free behavior? Participants will learn skills for reducing and managing bias.
- What is RCPD doing to promote fair and impartial policing?

This training is open to Rockville residents only. Light refreshments will be served.

To register visit bit.ly/FIPSept2023.



SAFETY FIRST ... The city's safety and risk, public works, and recreation and parks teams held a ceremony Aug. 9 recognizing Rockville employees for their contributions to promoting safety in city operations.

Miguel Hernandez (pictured above, top), a street maintenance worker with the Department of Public Works for over 25 years, was recognized for prioritizing the safety of co-workers. According to his nomination, "Miguel is the guy that is always looking out for his crew and encouraging everyone to keep safety in the forefront of operations."

Ethan Dibble (above, at bottom), a certified tree climber with the Department of Recreation and Parks and a member of the city's Safety Committee, was recognized because, according to his nomination, "His excellent safety practices set an example to the rest of the Forestry Crew and other crews in the city. Ethan consistently puts the safety of his crew members at the forefront of their work."

Hernandez and Dibble each received a \$500 check in recognition of their awards.



READY FOR SEPTEMBER ... September is National Preparedness Month. Are you ready? The Rockville City Police Department offers a list of items to have in a kit at home and a "go" bag, in case you have to leave home fast, due to an emergency. Visit www.rockvillemd.gov/EmergencyPreparedness for the list, as well as tips for creating a family emergency plan and about staying informed during an emergency. Visit ready.gov/september for more.

Veterans and Military Members Wanted for City Ceremonies

Rockville's annual Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies each include a member of the military as a featured speaker.

Rockville and Montgomery County residents who have retired from, or currently serve in, the United States military are eligible to take part in the ceremonies. The Veterans Day ceremony will be held Saturday, Nov. 11. The Memorial Day ceremony will be held Monday, May 27.

Volunteer speakers must be comfortable speaking in public and must prepare a five- to seven-minute speech about their experiences in the armed forces, including what it means to serve and to honor those who have served.

Contact Cristina Willis at 240-314-8610 or cwillis@rockvillemd.gov to participate or learn more.

For video of past ceremonies, search "Memorial Day Ceremony" or "Veterans Day Ceremony" at 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. The location is still to be determined. 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.



Jonathan Franzen.

Photo: David Levenson/Getty Images

Sing-Alongs, Sorcerers, Sketch Comedy and New Murals, This Month in Rockville

Victorian Lyric Opera Company Presents "The 7th Great Gilbert & Sullivan Sing-Out"

The Victorian Lyric Opera Company kicks off its 45th anniversary by giving fans the opportunity to experience and sing through the complete musical scores of all 13 intact operettas across three days, Friday, Sept 1-Sunday, Sept. 3.

To register as a participant, visit www.vloc.org. Tickets are \$28; \$26 for seniors 65-plus; and \$24 for students.

Victorian Lyric Opera Company Presents "The Sorcerer" 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 2.

Rich but witless Alexis is betrothed to the beautiful Aline. After a vision, he plots to bring the joy of marriage to the entire town at his wedding ceremony.

Tickets cost \$28; \$26 for seniors 65 and older; and \$24 for students. Presented in conjunction with "The 7th Great Gilbert and Sullivan Sing Out." **Capital Comedy Presents "Take My Candidate... Please!"** 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 8 and Saturday, Sept. 9; 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10.

A troupe of talented sketch performers, singers and impressionists poke fun at today's political realities, whether left, right, center, red, blue or somewhere in between.

Tickets are \$40; \$30 for seniors 65 and older; and \$25 for students and children.

Rockville Little Theatre Presents "Communicating Doors" 8 p.m. Sept. 22, 23, 29 and 30; 2 p.m. Sept. 24 and Oct. 1.

A London call girl stumbles into a murder plot that sends her, compliments of a unique set of hotel doors, traveling back in time.

Tickets cost \$22; \$20 for seniors and students.

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery "Times5" Show

Mygenet Harris, Dustine Hayes, Michael Metzner, Tom Ruttkay and Jane Walsh, a group of five current and former Albert Einstein High School artists/teachers, collaborated for more than five years, inspiring others to make art.

Times5 represents their unique and creative energy and will be on exhibit at the Glenview Mansion Art Gallery from Sunday, Sept. 10 to Friday, Oct. 6. Meet the artists 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 10 at the gallery.

The ADA-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.

Rockville Chorus to Hold Auditions

Auditions for the Rockville Chorus will be held Monday, Sept. 11 for the fall session, focusing on voice parts for bass and tenor. Email Betty Wisda, arts programs supervisor, at bwisda@rockvillemd.gov to schedule an audition.

Rockville City Hall Generator Screen Mural

A generator outside of Rockville City Hall has a more attractive look, thanks to Shawn James of Mural Masters, Inc., who designed and fabricated a mural to cover the screen, titled "Cool Blue Rockville." The mural was funded through the Art in Public Places program funds with a budget of \$12,500.

Senior Center Mural

Rockville Senior Center also has a new mural, titled "Connections," designed and fabricated by Katie Giganti. The mural was also funded through the Art in Public Places program with a \$12,500 budget. ✚

Declutter, Avoid Falls, Fun Festivals and More at the Senior Center

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

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

See the "Adults 60+" recreation guide at www.rockvillemd.gov/life for more information. Activities are free and in person, except where noted.

Senior Tax Credits

The deadline is approaching for senior tax credits in Maryland. Have questions?

Register with course #28903. 10-11 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5. Hybrid.

Decluttering 101

A virtual eight-week course on effective ways to declutter with instructor Carrie Noel-Nosbaum, the owner of Carrie It Away. The course builds a support network for participants to reach their goals.

The cost is \$30 for senior center members and \$45 for nonmembers.

Register with course #28896. 11 a.m.-noon Mondays, Sept. 11-Oct. 30. (Note that this is a change to information provided in the senior recreation guide.) Hybrid.

Home Safety and Fall Prevention

Falling is not part of normal aging. Dr. Carlos Martinez of CAM Physical Therapy will discuss safety tips to prevent falls at home.

Register with course #27767. 1-2 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13. Hybrid.

Ask the Aces

Meet with professionals from local organizations: DMV Living Realtors; Cherished Hands Home Health, LLC; Right At Home; and more. This free panel will provide resources and answer your questions.

Register with course #28882. 10:30 a.m.-noon Thursday, Sept. 21. Hybrid.

Understanding Social Isolation Series

This free seasonal series, in collaboration with the Senior Citizens Commission, provides education and builds tools to help improve seniors' *continued on pg. 7...*

Farm-Fresh for Fall at the Rockville Farmers Market

The Rockville Farmers Market offers fall produce and a dollar-for-dollar match, up to \$20, for customers using their federal nutrition benefits.

The market is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 18, in the jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets in Rockville Town Center.

Fall offerings include apples, cider, gourds, potatoes and pumpkins. The market also features plants and flowers, herbs, baked goods, local beer and spirits, meat and coffee.

Now in its 12th year, the Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money program removes economic barriers for food-insecure shoppers by increasing access to fresh produce and increasing purchasing power. Customers can receive a dollar-for-dollar match of up to \$20 weekly when they shop with SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program/ Electronic Benefits Transfer), P-EBT (Pandemic EBT) and



WIC-FVC (Women, Infants and Children-Fruit and Vegetable Checks) at the market.

Matching funds can be used to purchase locally grown and produced items including fruits, vegetables, meat, cheese, dairy, baked goods, eggs and honey. The program aims to fight hunger while investing directly in farmers, strengthening the local food system. Customers can stop by the market tent, located at the market entrance, for more information.

Learn more about the Eat Fresh Rockville and Maryland Market Money program and find a list of participating vendors and approximate harvest dates for select fruits and vegetables at www.rockvillemd.gov/farmers, or call 240-314-8620 for more information.

For more updates, follow the market on Facebook at www.facebook.com/RockvilleFarmersMarket. ✚



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
10/5K early bird rate: \$30 through Monday, July 31.
\$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



WHAT WE'RE CELEBRATING ... Hispanic Heritage Month begins Sept. 15 and runs to Oct. 15. Not only that, September is the month for better breakfasts, blueberry popsicles, chicken, honey, Italian cheese, mushrooms, papaya, potatoes, rice and whole grains. This is also the month for national preparedness and don't forget that Sept. 22 is Car Free Day.

September 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
Rockville Goes Purple Event



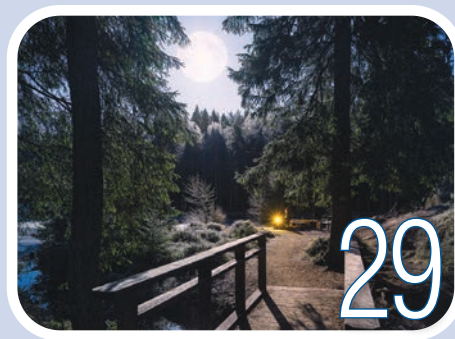
8,9



10



23



29

2,9,16,23,30 **ROCKVILLE FARMERS MARKET** Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe streets. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. *See article on page 6.*

1-3 **VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY PRESENTS "THE 7TH GREAT GILBERT & SULLIVAN SING-OUT"** *See article on page 6.* **FSF**

2 **VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY PRESENTS "THE SORCERER"** *See article on page 6.* 8-10:15 p.m. **FSF**

4 **CITY GOVERNMENT CLOSED** for Labor Day. *See article on page 1.*

5 **SENIOR TAX CREDITS** *See article on page 6.* Hybrid. Free. 10 a.m.-11 a.m. **SR**

7 **WILLS AND ESTATES** The Montgomery County Office of the Register of Wills will provide and answer questions. Register with course #27761. Hybrid. Free. 10 a.m.-noon. **SR**

7 **FITNESS WORKSHOP: BASIC SELF-DEFENSE AND SAFETY** Learn techniques to defend yourself and disable an assailant, if necessary. Register with course #27710. 1-2:15 p.m. **SR**

8,9 **CAPITAL COMEDY PRESENTS "TAKE MY CANDIDATE... PLEASE!"** *See article on page 6.* 7 p.m. **FSF**

9 **DOGGIE DIP DAY** *See ad on page 8.* **SFC**

9 **FAIR AND IMPARTIAL POLICING TRAINING** *See article on page 5.* Free. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. **FSF**

10 **FAMILIES OUTSIDE: CATERPILLARS AND BUGS** Each session will explore a different nature topic that will teach you about native habitats. Adults and children must register and all children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 3 and older. \$5 R/\$6 NR. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **CC**

11 **9/11 MEMORIAL CEREMONY** *See article on page 8.*

13 **FIRE SAFETY: BATTERIES AND MORE** Smoke alarms are an essential part of your fire safety strategy. Jim Resnick provides tips for a safer home. Register with course #27766. Hybrid. Free. 10-11:30 a.m. **SR**

13 **HOME SAFETY AND FALL PREVENTION** *See article on page 6.* 1-2 p.m. **SR**

14 **ROCKVILLE ELECTION VIRTUAL INFO SESSION** *See ad on page 1.* 6:30-7 p.m. **V**

14 **GLENVIEW MANSION-PEERLESS ROCKVILLE SPEAKER SERIES: SCIENCE, SOCIETY AND SUBURBS** *See article on page 8.* Free. 7-8 p.m. **GM**

19 **THE 1956 WASHINGTON SENATORS** Two guest speakers were with the team as bat boy and scoreboard keeper. Hear their experiences at the Senators all-star game, including tales about Mantle, Mays, Williams and Berra. Register with course #28552. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 1:30-3 p.m. **SR**

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

20 **HISPANIC FESTIVAL** *See article on page 6.* 11 a.m.-1 p.m. **SR**

20 **OUTDOOR NATURE CLUB** Spend time after school in nature. Investigate the forest preserve, play games, perform experiments and more. Dress for the weather; a majority of time is spent outside. Six meeting dates, starting Sept. 20. Ages 6-11. \$60 R/\$72 NR. 4:30-5:30 p.m. **CC**

21 **GREATER ROCKVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE STATE OF THE CITY CONVERSATION** *See article on page 2.*

21 **ASK THE ACES** *See article on page 6.* Free. 10:30 a.m.-noon. **SR**

21 **LINE DANCE PARTY WITH GIZELLE** Popular social dances such as swing, salsa and line dancing, beginning with 30 minutes of instruction and followed by a short break with refreshments. No partner necessary. Register with course #28674. \$21. 3:30-4:45 p.m. **SR**

22,23,24,29,30 **ROCKVILLE LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS "COMMUNICATING DOORS"** *See article on page 6.* FSF

23 **INTERGENERATIONAL FALL FESTIVAL** *See article on page 6.* **SR**

23 **ROCKVILLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S ROCKVILLE GOES PURPLE DRUG TAKE-BACK** *See article on page 1.* 2 W. Montgomery Ave. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

26 **ROCKVILLE ELECTION CANDIDATE FORUM** *See ad on page 1.* **TF**

27 **RADON RENTAL ORDINANCE** goes into effect. *See article on page 2.*

27 **FITZGERALD AND "THE GREAT GATSBY"** Actor, writer, and teaching artist J.T. Turner appears as F. Scott Fitzgerald to discuss the author's life with a specific focus on "The Great Gatsby" and its protagonist, Jay Gatsby. Register with course #28541. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

27 **THE OPIOID AND DRUG CRISIS** Part of the monthlong Rockville Goes Purple awareness campaign. *See article on page 1.* Free. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

28 **MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT SEMINAR** *See article on page 6.* 10-11 a.m. **SR**

28 **NATIONAL DEA DRUG TAKE BACK AT SENIOR CENTER** *See article on page 6.* 10 a.m.-noon. **SR**

28 **FIESTA! MUSIC AND CULTURE OF SPAIN AND LATIN AMERICA** Celebrate the rich cultural traditions of Spain and Latin America. Register with course #28547. \$6 M/\$9 NM. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

28 **UNDERSTANDING YOUR GUT MICROBIOME** *See article on page 6.* Free. 1-2 p.m. **SR**

29 **HARVEST MOON HIKE** Join a naturalist for an evening hike to learn moon lore while looking for nocturnal animals who roam the forest preserve at night. Ages 6 and older. \$6 R/\$7 NR. 8-9 p.m. **CC**

30 **ROCKVILLE GOES PURPLE — "LET'S TALK ABOUT RECOVERY: SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND RECOVERY"** *See article on page 1.* Free. 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

30 **LITTLE EXPLORERS** Take time with your little one to go exploring with a naturalist. Registration required. Ages 2-5. \$8 R/\$10 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

30 **ROCKTOBIERFEST** Two stages of entertainment, including Bavarian and rock music. *See article on page 8.* Free. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Rockville Town Center.

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

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

More at the Senior Center

continued from pg. 6...

quality of life.

Register with course #28880. 1-2 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 21. Hybrid.

Better Breather's Club

Educational programs for respiratory issues. A pharmacist will discuss medication and answer questions.

Register with course #27714. 1-2 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 12.

Intergenerational Fall Festival

Harvest the happiness of fall with games, music, crafts, educational fun, food (for purchase) and refreshments. COVID-19 vaccines and flu shots will be available.

Bring your insurance card.

A shuttle will run from the Rockville

Swim and Fitness Center to Rockville Senior Center. Free. Register with course #28992. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 23.

Flu Shot Clinic

Be prepared for flu season with a flu shot, from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26 at the Rockville Senior Center, provided by Giant pharmacists. Bring your insurance card.

Hispanic Annual Festival

Lunch and entertainment. The cost is \$15 for senior center members and \$22 for non-members. Register with course #26647. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 26.

The Opioid and Drug Crisis

Join Rockville City Police Department officers as part of Rockville Goes Purple to learn about opioids and drug problems in our community, and how you can help. See

page 1 for other Rockville Goes Purple and National Recovery Month events.

Register with course #27719. 1-2 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 27.

Medicare Open Enrollment Seminar

Enrollment allows you to make changes to your Medicare coverage. Join or switch to a different Medicare Advantage or Medicare Part D plan during open enrollment. Learn about options with the Montgomery County State Health Insurance Assistance Program.

La inscripción abierta open enrollment

Inscripción abierta es su oportunidad para hacer cambios a su cobertura de Medicare. Ud. puede cambiar a Medicare Advantage o cambiar la cobertura de su plan de Parte D (Medicina). Aprenda sus opciones con el Programa Estatal de

Asistencia de Seguro de Salud del Condado de Montgomery.

Register with course #28894. Thursday, Sept. 28. 10-11 a.m. Hybrid.

National DEA Drug Takeback

Bring unused, unwanted or expired prescriptions and over-the-counter medications to the Rockville Senior Center's front lobby from 10 a.m.-noon, Thursday, Sept. 28, where RCPD officers will be available to secure them for disposal.

Understanding Your Gut Microbiome

Thriving gut health improves mental health, weight, digestion, immunity and mood. Dr. Ekta Gupta will review how diet, stress levels and medications shape gut health to improve daily living.

Register with course #27717. 1-2 p.m.

Thursday, Sept. 28. Virtual. **+**

Doggy Dip Day

Saturday, Sept. 9 • Noon-3 p.m.
Your pooch can paddle in the pool at the
Rockville Swim and Fitness Center!



Fee is \$10 per dog.

Rockville Swim and Fitness Center
355 Martins Lane • Rockville



Car Show Cruises into Rockville Civic Center Park in October

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 features a flea market, car sales area and live music. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

While admission is free, there is a fee to display a vehicle. New for 2023, participants must preregister. The early bird registration fee through Monday, Sept. 11 is \$10. Registration is \$20 from Tuesday, Sept. 12 until 5 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 11, or when registration is full. There will be no registration on the day of the show this year.

To show or sell a car, host a flea market booth, or learn more, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/carshow, call 240-314-8620 or email specialevents@rockvillemd.gov.

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

Rockville Recreation Guides: Fall Registration is Open!

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



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



Find our guides at:
www.rockvillemd.gov/guide
or in print at:
City Hall, community centers and libraries.

Peerless Presents the B&O Railroad, Rockville's Housing Boom and the U.S. Colored Troops

Peerless Rockville in September celebrates the 150th Anniversary of Rockville's Baltimore & Ohio Railroad station, the history of Rockville's post-World War II housing boom, and the stories of Black soldiers in the Civil War. Learn more and register for the following events at peerlessrockville.org.

"Explore Rockville: The B&O Railroad Changes Rockville Forever" kicks off Thursday, Aug. 31, with a self-guided walking tour and scavenger hunt that can be completed anytime through Monday, Sept. 4. This second chance to take the tour, originally held earlier this year, covers more than 10 sites and stories of how the opening of a station on the B&O Railroad's Metropolitan Branch brought enormous change to Rockville. After registration, participants will receive a link to a printable program with site details and scavenger hunt instructions. Cost is \$15 per household.

The Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series presents **"Science, Society, and**

Suburbs: Rockville's Post-WWII Housing Boom,"

at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. Jacklyn Rogers will explore how contemporary ideas about race, gender roles and heritability shaped the development of suburban communities, including Rockville. Free. Registration recommended.

"Peerless Presents a Morning of U.S. Colored Troops History," from 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30 at Jerusalem-Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church, 21 Wood Lane. Nearly 180,000 Black soldiers — including over 8,000 from Maryland — served in the Union Army during the last two years of the Civil War. Bryan A. Cheesboro, a United States park ranger, will discuss United States Colored Troops from Montgomery County, followed by stories of local veterans from Jerusalem-Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church historian Chiquita Sorrels. Free. ✚

Rockville Goes Purple

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Purple on the event, **"Let's Talk About Recovery: Supporting Mental Health and Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery,"** 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30 at Montgomery College's Rockville campus, 51 Mannakee St.

The event will include a panel discussion, education sessions with Drug Enforcement Administration-approved professional credits available and Narcan distribution and training. Student Service Learning hours are available for attending.

Also, the event will include sessions on support and resources for mental health and substance-use recovery designed for students, families and those who support them.

Register for the event at bit.ly/RGPRRecovery Conference. (Note that the link is case sensitive.)

Bethesda artist Suzanne Firstenberg will place several art installations throughout the city.

Check the city's online calendar at www.rockvillemd.gov/calendar for information as details develop. To learn more about the Rockville Goes Purple campaign, visit www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillegoespurple. ✚



Local Bands and Brews Offer Opportunity to Revel at Rocktoberfest

Rocktoberfest returns to Rockville Town Center on Saturday, Sept. 30 for a day of bands, beers and being together.

The fifth edition of the free festival, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m., will include two stages of live music, food, beer sales by local breweries, and an artisan shopping area.

Bavarian and rock musical acts will take the stage, including Mike Surratt and the Continentals, Under the Covers, Capital Effect, Chesapeake Sons, Alt Washingtonia and Rockville German Band.

Featured beverage vendors will include 7 Locks Brewing, Crooked Crab

Brewing Company, Dawson's Market, Denizens Brewing Co., Landmade Brewing, Lone Oak Farm Brewing Co., Saints Row Brewing, Silver Branch Brewing Company, Twin Valley Distillers, Waredaca Brewing Company and World of Beer.

The festival is within walking distance of the Rockville Metro station. Free parking locations include the County Council Office Building on Fleet Street, and the City Hall lot at 111 Maryland Ave.

Find the schedule of entertainment and more information at www.rockvillemd.gov/rocktoberfest. ✚

City to Mark 9/11 Anniversary with Mayoral Remarks at Memorial Ceremony

The City of Rockville will mark the 22nd anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks and remember county residents who lost their lives with a ceremony at 9 a.m. Monday, Sept. 11 at Courthouse Square Park, at the corner of East Jefferson Street and Maryland Avenue in Rockville's downtown.

The ceremony, which is free and open to the public, will include a presentation of colors and remarks by Rockville Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton.

The 9/11 memorial at Courthouse Square Park remembers the 11 Montgomery County residents who lost their lives on Sept. 11: William Edward Caswell, Dr. Gerald Paul Fisher, Capt. Lawrence D. Getzfred, Michele M.

Heidenberger, Angela Marie Houtz, Teddington Hamm Moy, Lt. Darin H. Pontell, Scott A. Powell, Todd Hayes Reuben, Patricia J. Statz and Ernest M. Willcher.

The memorial, commissioned by the Montgomery County Arts and Humanities Council and designed by artists Gene and Susan Flores, includes a grassy area circled by 11 benches – one dedicated to each victim, with an inscription related to that person's character. It also includes a plaque, covered by two doors, bearing the victims' names. The artists worked with astronomers to design the memorial so that on Sept. 11 the morning sun briefly illuminates each name. ✚



Get Into It

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Asst. Director of Communication: Sean Sedam
Public Information Specialist: Cliff Cumber

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



BACK IN THE DAY ... Rockville became the first municipality in the region to earn a Certificate of Sustainability under the Sustainable Maryland Certified program, reported the September 2012 issue of "Rockville Reports." Certification involves setting goals and completing actions related to water and air quality, waste management, energy, economic development, planning and land use, and health and wellness. The city has since been recognized as a Sustainable Maryland community four times, most recently in 2021. Learn more at www.rockvillemd.gov/climate.