



ROCKVILLE reports

**FY2026
Annual
Report
Inside!**

**SEPTEMBER 2026
VOL. 71 #7**

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Rockville City Police Department to Host Open House on Sept. 19

The Rockville City Police Department is inviting the community to its 2026 open house, a free, family-friendly event offering residents a behind-the-scenes look at their local police department.

The open house is scheduled for 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, at the RCPD station at 2 W. Montgomery Ave. In the event of inclement weather, the open house will be rescheduled for the same time on Saturday, Oct. 3.

Parking will be available in nearby city garages, with free parking two blocks away at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. Staff will be on-site to direct visitors. No registration is necessary.

Visitors will have the opportunity to tour the police station, explore marked police vehicles and enjoy interactive displays showcasing the many tools and resources officers use in their daily duties. Highlights include:

- K-9 team demonstrations.
- A display of RCPD motorcycles and a chance to meet the officers who ride them.
- A community services booth with free giveaways and information about community programs.
- A hands-on station featuring some of the equipment officers use to keep Rockville safe.
- Photo opportunities with officers and police vehicles.

"Most people meet us on what may be one of the hardest days of their lives," Chief Jason West said. "An open house lets residents come to us on a different kind of day, ask questions, see how we work and get to know the officers serving their neighborhoods. The more residents understand about this department, the better we are able to serve them."

Learn more about the Rockville City Police Department at rockvillemd.gov/police.

City Seeks Community Input on Rockville's First-Ever Economic Development Strategy

Rockville wants to hear from community members as it creates its first-ever economic development strategic plan to strengthen the city's competitive position and guide sustainable growth.

A community survey, available in English, Spanish, French and simplified Chinese, offers community members an opportunity to share their perceptions of Rockville's economy; where they go and what they want for shopping, dining and entertainment; their thoughts on the city's job market, land use and development; and their priorities for the city's economic development efforts.

The city will also hold three community meetings to discuss the project, including pre-

senting a baseline economic analysis, target industry and opportunity assessment, and implementation framework.

Find the survey, meeting dates as they become available, and more about the Rockville Economic Development Strategic Plan at engage.rockvillemd.com/redsp.

Engaging residents, businesses, institutions, property owners, investors and other stakeholders offers everyone an opportunity to provide feedback on the goals and strategies of the implementation effort and to take part in shaping the plan.

An external working group comprising business leaders and other city economic

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Mayor and Council Adopt JEDI Strategic Plan

Rockville's Mayor and Council in July adopted the city's first strategic plan to advance justice, equity, diversity and inclusion citywide.

The five-year framework of the plan helps ensure city services and programs are fair, accessible and welcoming to residents and staff. The plan establishes clear goals, measurable outcomes and accountability, and strategies to ensure justice, equity, diversity and inclusion are integrated into the city's decision-making and service delivery.

Developed with comprehensive input from the community,

partners and city staff, the plan lays out seven priorities, including program accessibility, community engagement, staff training and language access, as well as a clear plan to report progress.

Updates on the plan's implementation will be shared throughout the year. Learn more at rockvillemd.gov/services/diversity-equity-and-inclusion-efforts.

To see the Mayor and Council's adoption of the strategic plan, visit rockvillemd.gov and click on "Video" next to the July 27 meeting listing.

Film Screening Closes Out National Recovery Month

A short film about Latino families affected by counterfeit prescription pills will close out National Recovery Month in Rockville, with a screening and panel discussion 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 30 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre.

"La Estrella" is rooted in the lived realities of families who have lost someone to pills made to look like legitimate medication. The film invites audiences into a conversation about grief, love and community healing, and will be screened in Spanish and English. Lt. Gov. Aruna Miller, who chairs the Maryland Overdose Response Advisory Council, will provide opening remarks. The city's Department of Housing and Community Development will host.

The screening is part of Rockville Goes Purple, the city's campaign with county and state partners to remember lives lost to overdose, celebrate recovery, reduce stigma and connect residents with prevention, treatment, recovery and harm-reduction resources. Montgomery County opened the observance Aug. 29 with an International Overdose Awareness Day remembrance event and Recovery Month launch in Rockville.

The Mayor and Council are scheduled to proclaim September as National Recovery Month at their Monday, Sept. 14 meeting, and purple lights will illuminate City Hall, Rockville City Police Department headquarters, the Taft Center and other city facilities all month long. Find the full list of facilities at rockvillemd.gov/rockvillegoespurple.

DHCD will also host a nonprofit lunch and learn, noon-1:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9 at Tree of Hope, 30 Courthouse Square, with the Maryland Office of Overdose Response and the Montgomery County Overdose Prevention Team. The session will be offered in person and virtually.

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Labor Day in Rockville

City government will be closed Monday, Sept. 7, 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.

Theater tickets are available at rockvillemd.gov/theatre.

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center will be open. Find details of facility hours at 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 rockvillemd.gov/recycling-trash or call 240-314-8568.

Parking will be free at city-owned meters.

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

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MAYOR & COUNCIL
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Rockville, Maryland
20850

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Rockville Named GFOA Triple Crown Winner

The City of Rockville has been named a 2026 Triple Crown winner by the Government Finance Officers Association.

GFOA gives the Triple Crown designation to governments that receive all three of its major awards for the same fiscal year. Those awards are the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the Popular Annual Financial Reporting Award and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award.

Each of the three award programs has its own review process and set of professional standards. Together, they look at how clearly a government explains its finances to the people it serves, from detailed annual financial statements to summary reports written for a general audience, to the annual budget that sets the city's spending priorities.

The Triple Crown recognition reflects the city's ongoing work to make its financial information accurate, transparent and understandable. Financial documents serve residents most effectively when they can be read and understood by people who do not work in public finance, and each of the three GFOA programs rewards that clarity.

For more information, and to read the city's Fiscal Year 2027 adopted budget, visit rockvillemd.gov/budget.

City's MPDU Program Opens Door to Affordable Homeownership

Looking to buy a home but worried about affordability? Eligible households can apply to buy homes at reduced prices.

The city's Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit Homeownership program requires for-sale properties be available to Rockville residents at more affordable prices than market-rate homes. Under the program, homebuilders are required to set aside a certain percentage of for-sale homes as affordable units. Prospective homebuyers must meet specific requirements to maintain ownership and eligibility.

Get added to the list in three easy steps to receive a call when MPDU homes are available:

1. Attend a first-time homebuyer class.
2. Obtain a mortgage preapproval letter from your bank.
3. Complete the MPDU homeownership application online.

For eligibility requirements and more information, visit rockvillemd.gov/mpdu.

Rockville's Community Survey Returns

3,500 Randomly Selected Households Will Be Asked to Respond

Rockville's biennial survey is being conducted for the second time since the pandemic and will begin arriving in some city mailboxes in late September.

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 — is conducted every two years.

The 2026 survey will be the city's 12th and will be sent to a random sample of 3,500 households throughout Rockville over a roughly three-week period, starting in late September.

Those households will first receive a postcard letting them know the survey will arrive about a week later. Surveys can be completed in print or online.

Survey results help the city improve the quality of services to the community. The online option will provide the survey in several languages and translation services will be provided for those who need further assistance.

Responses will be anonymous. Visit rockvillemd.gov/survey to see the 2024 survey results, and those from 2026, when published.

Rockville Opens \$1.5 Million Grant Program for Local Nonprofits

Local nonprofit organizations that provide community services and enrichment programs to Rockville residents are invited to apply for city grant funds.

The Fiscal Year 2028 application period for the Community Services and Enrichment Grant Program opens Tuesday, Sept. 8. The deadline to apply is 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 16. Available funding is expected to total about \$1.5 million, with typical awards ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

For the FY 2028 cycle, Rockville is encouraging applications for programs that advance one or more of the city's five Impact Focus Areas:

- Household stability
- Economic mobility
- Youth and family success
- Service access and navigation
- Community enrichment and belonging

Grant funding typically supports nine service areas: adult education, arts and culture, food and clothing services, healthcare, housing services, resources for immigrant communities, public safety, senior services, and youth development. Applications may address any of these areas, and competitive applications will also explain how the proposed program contributes to one or more Impact Focus Areas.

New this year, applications requesting \$10,000 or less may be submitted beginning in March 2027 through the Community Empowerment Mini-Grant program.

Visit rockvillemd.gov/ grants for application instructions, access to the grants portal and registration for an upcoming technical assistance session.

Rockville Becomes First Maryland City to Ban Algorithmic Rent Pricing

Ban is Centerpiece of Two-Year Rewrite of City's Rental Housing Code

The Mayor and Council in July voted unanimously to adopt a comprehensive update to city code that makes Rockville the first city in Maryland to ban algorithmic rent pricing, prohibiting residential landlords from using rent-setting software and shared competitor data to set rents.

The changes to Chapter 18 of Rockville City Code, titled Rental Facilities and Landlord-Tenant Relations, take effect Friday, Jan. 1.

The ban is set out in a new section of the code, Section 18-148, Price Coordination and Algorithmic Devices. Under that section, a residential landlord may not use an "algorithmic device" to set rent, fees or other rental terms for a dwelling unit in the city.

The section defines an algorithmic device as a product or service that uses algorithms, draws on nonpublic competitor data from two or more landlords, and recommends rents, fees, terms or occupancy levels.

As part of the ban, landlords also may not coordinate prices with other landlords, agree not to compete on rent or terms, or subscribe to or pay for algorithmic pricing or price-coordination services.

The new code exempts aggregated and anonymous monthly rental reports and tools used to set rent or income limits under a government affordable housing program. Landlords who own only one rental unit in the city are also exempt.

The broader rewrite modernizes the city's rental housing law. It was built around several goals: providing clarity on existing code, aligning Rockville's rules

with those of surrounding jurisdictions and Maryland state law, improving housing stability and opportunities for tenant agency, requiring greater transparency for tenants, and incorporating local and national best practices. Along with the algorithmic pricing ban, the new code:

- Limits and clarifies fees landlords may charge tenants, including new restrictions on payment-processing and administrative fees.
- Expands relocation assistance for tenants displaced by code violations or unfit housing conditions.
- Increases transparency requirements around lease terms, utility costs and mandatory fees.
- Strengthens the enforcement tools available to the city, consistent with Maryland law.

Housing is one of the Mayor and Council's five focus areas. The code update followed more than a year of public work sessions, beginning in 2024 and continuing through 2026, focused on rental transparency, licensing and inspections, fees, tenant protections, and algorithmic rent pricing.

In coming months, city staff will create educational resources so that landlords and tenants fully understand their rights and responsibilities, as well as services the city provides.

For more information and to see project materials, visit engagerockville.com/landlord-tenant-code-rewrite. Direct questions about the revised code to the City of Rockville Landlord-Tenant Affairs Program at latinfo@rockvillemd.gov.



RESOURCES FOR FEDERAL WORKERS ... Visit rockvillemd.gov/federalworkers for a list of resources for federal employees and other workers impacted by the federal government transition.

National Recovery Month *continued from pg. 1*

Additional information can be found at rockvillemd.gov/rockvillegoespurple.

The Rockville City Police Department will hold a hands-on community naloxone training, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 11, at the Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave. Residents will learn to recognize the signs of an overdose and safely administer nal-

oxone, a nasal spray sold under the brand name Narcan that reverses opioid overdoses.

Rockville provides outreach, awareness and education year-round to support substance misuse prevention and early intervention, with support from the city's portion of the state's Opioid Litigation Settlement Fund Abatement Plan.

Statewide, the trend

is improving. Maryland recorded 1,315 overdose deaths in 2025, a 26% decrease from the previous year and the lowest total in a decade, according to the Maryland Department of Health. From July 2025 through June 2026, the state reported 1,263 overdose deaths, 951 of them opioid-related. Montgomery County reported 82 overdose deaths during that period.

Those seeking help can call or text 988, the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, or reach Montgomery County's 24/7 crisis center at 240-777-4000.

For accommodations or more information, contact Nik Sushka, DHCD's collective impact manager, at nsushka@rockvillemd.gov. Learn more, connect to resources and register for events at rockvillemd.gov/rockvillegoespurple.

Mayor & Council

mayorcouncil@rockvillemd.gov



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Councilmember Izola (Zola) Shaw
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Councilmember Adam Van Grack
240-314-8292 • avangrack@rockvillemd.gov

Mayor to Discuss State of the City

Mayor Monique Ashton will discuss the state of the city on Tuesday, Sept. 29. The program includes a continental breakfast from 8:30-9 a.m., followed by the mayor's remarks and a moderated discussion from 9-11 a.m. The event will be hosted by the Greater Rockville Chamber of Commerce at Glenview Mansion, 603 Edmonston Drive.



Chamber public policy chair Brian Barkley will moderate. Questions may be submitted in advance to marji@rockvillechamber.org.



IF YOU GO

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

WHEN: 8:30-11 a.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 29.
(Continental breakfast from 8:30-9 a.m.)

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

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mayor and Council Adopt Zoning Ordinance Rewrite and Map Amendment

Rockville's Mayor and Council voted unanimously in June to adopt the city's zoning ordinance rewrite and comprehensive map amendment.

The new zoning ordinance took effect Saturday, Aug. 1. The vote marks the completion of a multiyear effort to modernize city regulations to meet the changing living, working and recreational trends of the community in the 21st century.

The rewrite follows the adoption of Rockville 2040, the city's comprehensive plan, and is intended to implement the plan's land use and zoning recommendations. The accompanying map amendment updates the zoning map to reflect those recommendations, including changes tied to Rockville 2040 and the adopted Town Center Master Plan.

The project began in 2023 and included review by the Mayor and Council and Planning Commission through work sessions, public hearings, comments from community members – including city boards and commissions, and broad community outreach.

The adopted ordinance makes zoning rules clearer, easier to use and better aligned with current planning practices. It improves the development review and permitting process, supports a broader range of housing options, and incorporates equity, resilience and sustainability throughout.

For more information, including a look at the process leading to adoption, project materials and text of the new zoning ordinance, visit engagerockville.com/zoningrewrite.

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

Meetings Schedule:

Monday, Sept. 14, beginning at 5:30 p.m., and Sept. 28, at 6:30 p.m. Visit rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter for details. A drop-in session from 5:15-6:15 p.m. with Mayor Monique Ashton and Councilmember Adam Van Grack will precede the Sept. 28 meeting.

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

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

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

Get Involved with the City

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

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

- **Sept. 9 and 23.** Planning Commission 7 p.m.
(To participate, visit rockvillemd.gov/agendacenter.)

Vacancies

- Board of Appeals (1)
- Community Policing Advisory Board (2)
- Cultural Arts Comm. (3)
- Education Comm. (1)
- Environment Comm. (1)
- Ethics Comm. (1)
- Financial Advisory Board (1)
- Historic District Comm. (1)
- Human Rights Comm. (1)
- Human Services Advisory Comm. (2)
- Landlord-Tenant Affairs Comm. (3)
- Planning Comm. (1)
- Transportation and Mobility Commission (1)

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



ROCKVILLE STEPS OUT FOR SAFER STREETS ...
Residents gathered for National Night Out in August. Neighborhoods across Rockville hosted block parties with the Rockville City Police Department. Visit Rockville 11 at youtube.com/cityofrockville to see a recap.



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 rockvillemd.gov/mayorcouncil. Staff reports with background information are included with the agendas, which are posted several days before each meeting.

Fall Tree Giveaway Opens Sept. 1

Rockville's annual Fall Tree Giveaway opens for online registration at 7 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 1.

To register, visit rockvillemd.gov/treegiveaway. Registrants will be able to pick up their trees from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, at the Taft Center, 6 Taft Court.

- Trees will be available to Rockville residents only.
- Preregistration is required.
- Limit of one tree per household.

Six species are expected to be available:

- Allegheny serviceberry (*Amelanchier laevis*)
- American hornbeam (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
- Carolina rose (*Rosa carolina*)
- Common ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)
- Eastern redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)
- Red chokeberry (*Photinia pyrifolia*)

This list is subject to change based on nursery availability. Species preferences cannot be guaranteed.

Interested in planting more trees? The Rockville RainScapes Rebate program 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 rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes.

Rockville Green Home Open House

Curious about how to upgrade a home to be more sustainable?

Tour a Rockville home that features solar panels, an advanced electric vehicle charging system and other green features. Meet the homeowner, see the technology in action and discover practical ideas for making homes more sustainable.

Attendees are welcome to drop in anytime from 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27. The address will be shared with registered attendees. Registration is required and space is limited.

Register at rockvillemd.gov/calendar/events/rockville-green-home-tour.

City Seeks Applicants for Board of Supervisors of Elections

Rockville is seeking applicants to fill two vacancies on its Board of Supervisors of Elections.

The board conducts city elections, registers voters, promotes voter participation and maintains election records. Each of the five members is appointed by the Mayor and Council to a four-year term. Appointees to the vacancies will serve until June 1, 2030.

The board oversees the nomination process for candidates, verifies eligibility, reviews and certifies nominating petitions, and reviews campaign finance reports. It also publicizes elections, oversees the collection and tabulation of ballots, and certifies election results.

Applicants can complete an Expression of Interest form at rockvillemd.gov/services/join-a-board-or-commission. Learn more about the election board at bit.ly/rkvelections.

Help Shape What's Next for Rockville's Flood Resiliency Plan



The Rockville Flood Resiliency Master Plan is moving into its next phase and the city will be sharing what it's learned.

Through flood modeling and community input, the city has identified key flood risks and is beginning to develop strategies to make Rockville more resilient.

Review findings, learn about potential actions and help shape recommendations that will guide the

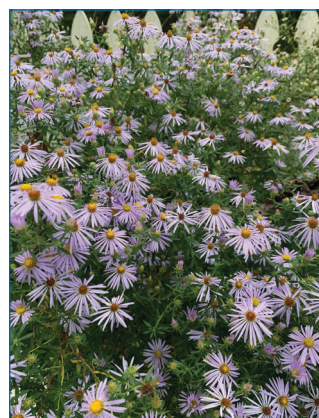
final plan.

A virtual info session will be held 7-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 22, and an in-person workshop from 1-3 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 14 at Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

Visit engagerockville.com/floodplan to register, learn about the project and stay involved as the plan moves forward. Email floodplan@rockvillemd.gov for more information.



Get Up to \$5,000 Back on Fall Landscaping Projects



Planning a landscaping project this fall? Rockville's RainScapes Rebate program can help participants save.

Eligible Rockville residents and nonprofits can receive rebates of up to \$5,000 after completing qualifying projects that include:

- Native gardens and tree plantings
- Rain gardens and green roofs

- Rain barrels and cisterns
- Permeable pavers and pavement removal

These projects can enhance the beauty of a home's yard while helping reduce stormwater runoff.

Learn more about eligibility and apply at rockvillemd.gov/rainscapes.

Refresh Patios or Balconies This Fall With Native Plants

Not planning a landscaping project or don't have a yard?

Many native plants thrive in containers and add vibrant color to patios, decks and balconies while providing food for butterflies, bees and hummingbirds.

Find native plant ideas and container gardening tips at rockvillemd.gov/backyardhabitats.

Rockville Creates Path for Curbside Electric Vehicle Charging

Rockville is home to the first U.S. installation of a residential electric-vehicle charging cable channel in a public right of way. With it comes a new option for residents who rely on curbside parking.

This specially designed channel allows a charging cord to run from a charger on private property through a narrow, covered opening cut across the sidewalk. The charger is set away from the roadway on private property. The cover sits flush with the sidewalk, so pedestrians and those using mobility devices can pass easily.

The new standards follow the Mayor and Council's adoption of Rockville's Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan in March 2025, and are part of many other efforts to increase equitable access to EV charging. These options apply to residents of single-family homes, townhomes and duplexes along city streets

who do not have access to a garage, driveway or parking pad.

The new guidance brings the requirements together in one document and replaces the former case-by-case approval process.

The process is detailed and approval is not automatic. Each proposed location must meet safety, accessibility, parking and infrastructure requirements. Homeowners are responsible for installing, operating and maintaining the equipment.

The standards also allow a second option: a curbside pedestal charger placed in the public right of way, with an underground conduit connecting it to the home's electrical service.

For more information, visit bit.ly/RKVpermits, then click on "Residential Curbside EV Charging Equipment in City Rights-of-Way Standards and Procedures."

Walktober to Feature Walk and Roll and Candlelight Vigil



Join the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee, city staff and elected officials for a neighborhood walk and roll and candlelight vigil at 6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 15, as part of Walktober.

Learn about pedestrian initiatives, city projects and the city's Vision Zero initiative to eliminate traffic-related deaths and serious injuries, and take part in a

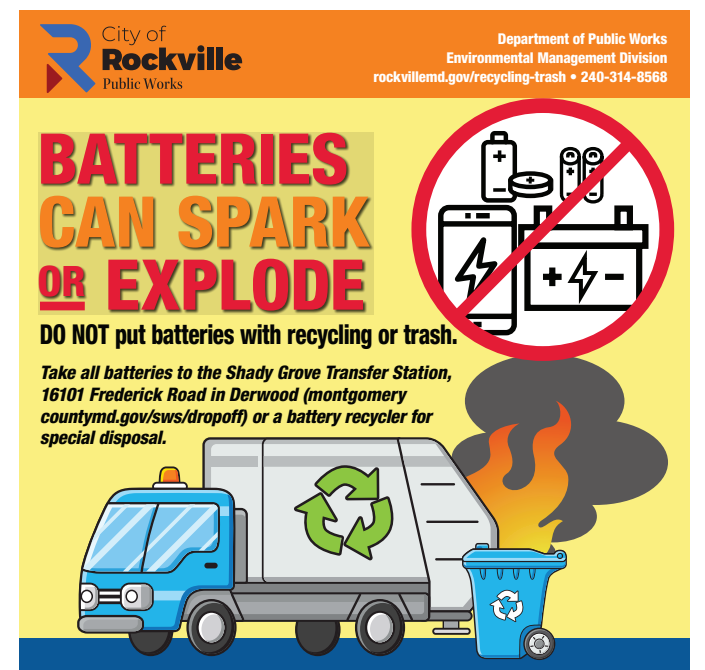
candlelit vigil to remember those impacted by traffic crashes.

The walk and roll will begin and end at the Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

For details, check the city's calendar at rockvillemd.gov or email principal transportation planner Bryan Barnett-Woods at bbwoods@rockvillemd.gov.



Take the survey at surveyMonkey.com/r/RockvilleAppSurvey



Help Rockville Budget and Build

Community Input Needed on Budget and Capital Projects

The Rockville community has two opportunities, through Thursday, Oct. 1, to help shape the city's future: proposing capital projects for their neighborhoods and sharing priorities through the city's budget survey.

Each year, the city develops a budget that includes funding for facilities, infrastructure, services and long-term improvements. Large-scale investments in city facilities and infrastructure are known as capital improvement projects and are included in the city's Capital Improvements Program.

Community members can submit ideas for capital projects that could be considered as part of the Fiscal Year 2028 budget process.

To be considered, proposed projects should fall into one or more eligible categories: acquisition of property for a public purpose; design and construction of a new city facility or infrastructure; major addition to or extension of an existing facility or in-

frastructure; significant rehabilitation, repair or improvement of an existing facility or infrastructure; or one-time investments in new or upgraded technology systems.

Proposals cannot serve a private purpose or be located on private property. They should provide an equal, accessible benefit to community members. Neighborhood groups submitting a proposal are encouraged to discuss and agree on the project before submitting it.

Community members are also invited to complete the budget priorities survey, which helps the city understand residents' priorities for programs, services and community needs. The survey will be available through Thursday, Oct. 1.

Find more information on the budget and Capital Improvements Program, and links to the budget survey, at rockvillemd.gov/budget.

Tobias Wolff to be Honored with F. Scott Fitzgerald Award

The 30th annual F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival on Saturday, Oct. 24, will honor Tobias Wolff with the F. Scott Fitzgerald Award for Outstanding Achievement in American Literature.

Author Richard Bausch will be the festival's special guest.

The festival will take place from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at Montgomery College in Rockville and will feature a full day of events celebrating literature and Fitzgerald's legacy.

In addition to the main festival day, several events will take place throughout September and October.

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, Montgomery College and the Rockville Rotary Foundation Inc.

Festival details and registration information are available at fitzgeraldfestival.com.

Changes to Multifamily Housing Inspections and Licensing

Rockville implemented several changes to its multifamily rental inspection and licensing program in January, including new mold response timelines, a larger inspection sample and an enhanced inspection option tied to inspection results.

The updates will be administered by the City of Rockville Code Enforcement team within the Department of Community Planning and Development Services' Inspection Services Division.

One change aligns the city's process with the Maryland Tenant Mold Protection Act. Landlords are required to conduct a mold assessment within 15 days after receiving written notice regarding suspected mold from a tenant, building occupant or the applicable local agency that enforces housing and livability codes. If the assessment determines mold remediation is required, it must be completed within 45 days after the assessment is completed, or within a reasonable amount of time if 45 days is not feasible.

Beginning with the 2026 renewal cycle, the city will increase the required inspection sample for multifamily rental license renewals from 20% to 25% of units.

Rockville is also incorporating an enhanced inspection program as an additional layer of compliance. Depending on the inspection results and thresholds established by the chief of Inspection Services, the city may require additional units to be inspected before an annual rental license is renewed. The expanded inspection may include as much as 50% of a property's units.

Initial and renewal applications for multifamily rental licenses are now available through MGO Connect, Rockville's online portal for permits, planning and development applications.

For more information about CPDS and its services, visit rockvillemd.gov/cpds.



Rockville Upgrades to New Online Rental License Application System

Single-family rental licenses can now be completed on the web through the **My Government Online portal**.

The new portal will go live **Sunday, Nov. 1**.

What's New

- Apply online.**
- Secure Electronic Payment:** Pay fees directly in the portal.
- Faster Processing:** Applications move through the system automatically.
- Inspector Assignment:** Inspectors contact applicants following payment to schedule inspections.

rockvillemd.gov/mgoconnect
rentalapplications@rockvillemd.gov
240-314-8330

Don't Sit This One Out. Register to Vote

Rockville will host National Voter Registration Day with a voter registration drive on Tuesday, Sept. 15. Staff from the City Clerk's Office/Director of Council Operations and members of the Board of Supervisors of Elections will be in front of the stage from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at The Square in Rockville Town Center to sign up new voters and assist residents with updating their voter registration.

More than 6 million Americans have registered to vote or updated their registration on National Voter Registration Day since the civic holiday launched in 2012. The one-day, nonpartisan drive enlists thousands of partners, from libraries and schools to major tech companies and nonprofits, to boost voter rolls and ensure eligible voters don't miss deadlines or fall through the cracks of the registration process.

This year's drive comes ahead of a November general election that will decide Maryland's governor, other statewide offices and the state's congressional delegation. Marylanders may register at age 16 but must be 18 by Election Day to cast a ballot.

Learn about National Voter Registration Day at nationalvoterregistrationday.org and find out more about Rockville's elections and how to register to vote at rockvillemd.gov/election.

Explore Rockville's Finances With New Transparency Portal

Residents can now more easily follow the money through Rockville's new online financial transparency portal.

The interactive portal provides high-level summaries of the city's revenues, expenditures and debt, with options to explore the figures in greater detail. Users can compare financial data across multiple years, filter information by fund and department, switch between chart formats, and download data.

Users can drill down to examine individual revenue sources and departmental spending, review historical trends, and see per-capita figures. By entering a home value, users can also view an estimate of how their property taxes contribute to different spending categories.

The portal also provides demographic information and explanations of the city's fund balance policies, Capital Improvements Program and approach to debt management.

Find the portal at rockvillemd.gov/financial-transparency-portal.

The portal follows the launch of Rockville's first digital budget book and is part of the city's continuing effort to make financial information more accessible, understandable and useful. The digital budget offers interactive charts and graphs, supports translation, and is designed for accessibility.

Community members can also help shape the Fiscal Year 2028 budget by completing the community budget priorities survey or proposing a capital improvement project. Both opportunities remain open through Thursday, Oct. 1. For more details, see the article on this page.

Find a link to the portal, the survey, the project proposal form and other budget information at rockvillemd.gov/budget.

NO BOLLARDS CAN STOP THIS SCOUT ...

Eagle Scout candidate Andrew Shih of Troop 3 completed his service project at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. Andrew and 29 volunteers contributed more than 150 hours to removing and replacing aging parking bollards, enhancing the appearance of the parking lot and improving the functionality of the two chain gates.

LEARN MORE ON ROCKVILLE 11

youtube.com/cityofrockville

Connect with us on Social Media.

Shape a New Artwork and Tour the City's Public Art

Rockville's community can help shape "Shared Passage," an 18-by-25-foot sculpture planned for David Scull Park, and explore artwork already on display in The Square in Rockville Town Center during workshops and walking tours in October.

CJRDesign will host two workshops focused on the final design elements of "Shared Passage." Community feedback will help guide details such as the arrangement of the sculpture's colorful acrylic panels and arches, and a solar lighting option. The 4.1-acre park is located at 1133 First St. The sculpture will be installed at the entrance of the park to welcome and engage visitors.

The workshops are open to the public:

- 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7 at Rockville Housing Enterprises, 1201 First St.
- 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 8 at the Pump House, 401 S. Horners Lane.

Pizza and beverages will be provided. Registration is required for the Oct. 8 workshop as space at the Pump House is limited.

For more information on improvements planned at David Scull Park, visit rockvillemd.gov/projects/david-scul-park-improvements.

Tour The Square's Public Art

Arts and culture program staff will lead walking tours of the city's public art collection in The Square in Rockville Town Center.

Tours will be offered at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturdays, Oct. 3 and 10.

Each tour will last about an hour and follow sidewalks through The Square.

Space on each tour is limited and registration is required. See the city's online calendar to find registration information under the Oct. 3 and 10 tour listings.

Learn more about Rockville's public art at rockvillemd.gov/aipp.

Rockville's Car Show Roars Back in October

The Rockville Antique and Classic Car Show, a city tradition for more than six decades, rolls into Rockville Civic Center Park on Saturday, Oct. 17.

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 more than 30 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 and live music by The Rock-A-Sonics. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

While admission is free, there is a fee to display a vehicle.

Participants must preregister. The early bird registration fee through Friday, Sept. 11 is \$15. Registration is \$25 from Saturday, Sept. 12. There will be no registration on the day of the show.

The early bird fee to reserve a flea market space is \$35 through Friday, Sept. 11 and \$45 thereafter.

To show or reserve a flea market space, or learn more, visit 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.

Operetta, Mysteries and Musical Tributes Take the Stage in September and October

Restoration-era romance, a Broadway whodunit, musical virtuosity and the sounds of the Four Seasons are among performances coming to the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre this month and next.

The Victorian Lyric Opera Company presents "Haddon Hall"

8 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4, and Saturday, Sept. 5, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 6.

Set against the political upheaval of 1660 in Derbyshire, England, this semi-staged performance of Arthur Sullivan's rarely performed light opera unfolds as a rehearsal within the historic estate itself. At the center of the story is Dorothy Vernon, who risks everything for love in a world shaped by shifting allegiances, social expectations and the performance of power.

Tickets cost \$30 for adults, \$28 for ages 65 and older, and \$26 for students. Season subscriptions and group pricing are available by calling the box office. Friday's performance will feature American Sign Language interpretation.

For tickets and details, visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/HaddonHall.

ArmEvents Presents "An Evening of Elegance and Virtuosity"

7 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 12.

Internationally acclaimed musicians Serouj Kradjian and Samvel Yervinyan perform with a full live band, blending classical crossover, contemporary arrangements, jazz influences and instrumental performances.

Kradjian is a Grammy-nominated, two-time Juno Award-winning pianist and composer. Yervinyan is an internationally known violinist recognized for his performances with Yanni.

Tiered tickets range from \$65-\$120. Visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/ArmEvents.

The Jersey Four: A Tribute to Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons, Featuring Original Member Gerry Polci

3 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13.

The Jersey Four trace the musical history of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons through hits from the group's early success, Valli's solo career and the Four Seasons' 1970s revival, including "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Rag Doll," "Walk Like a Man" and "Who Loves You."

The performance will also feature Gerry Polci, who sang lead on the Four Seasons' hit "December 1963 (Oh, What a Night)." Polci will play drums on songs he recorded with Valli and the group, including "Grease," "Swearin' to God," "Who Loves You" and "December 1963."

Tier 1 tickets cost \$55, \$50 for ages 62 and older and military members. Tier 2 tickets cost \$45, \$40 for ages 62 and older and military members.

For tickets, visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/4SeasonsTribute.

Rockville Little Theatre Presents "The Game's Afoot"

8 p.m. Sept. 25 and 26 and Oct. 2 and 3. Matinees will be held at 2 p.m. Sept. 27 and Oct. 4.

Ken Ludwig's mystery comedy play follows a Broadway star known for portraying Sherlock Holmes. When a murder occurs during a holiday party at his mansion, he assumes the role of detective in real life.

Twists, turns and laughs abound as the theatrical detective attempts to solve the crime. Directed by Laura W. Andruski.

Tickets cost \$24 for adults and \$22 for students and seniors. Group pricing is available by calling the box office. For tickets, visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/TheGame.

continued on pg. 7

Age Well With the Rockville Senior Center in September

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

Register with the course number at rockvillemd.gov/registration.

Learn about 60-plus programs, courses, activities and services at rockvillemd.gov/seniorcenter or by calling 240-314-8800. For more information, see the "Adults 60+" recreation guide at rockvillemd.gov/life.

Age Well, Live Well

Explore practical ways to remain safe, independent and confident with aging. Learn about fall prevention, preparing homes for aging and resources that can help participants continue living where they feel most at home. This course will be presented by HomeSAFE Scan.

Register with course #42378. 10-11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 14. Free.

Aging in Place 101: Expert Knowledge, Tips and Resources

Learn the differences between hourly and live-in home care, how to access respite and dementia care funds, when geriatric care management may be helpful, and more. Presented by Erin Pickrell, a director at Griswold.

Register with course #42312. 10-11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16. Free.

Seniors Get Moving with Free Travel Training Workshop

Build confidence using public transit in Montgomery County through hands-on experience riding a Ride On bus and a Metro train.

Participants will receive a fare card to keep and funds to load onto it.

The workshop includes a classroom introduction and an opportunity to meet other older adults. Whether participants are new to local transit or need a refresher, the training can help with using transit for shopping, recreation, entertainment and education. Presented by JSSA.

Register with course #41343. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 17. Free.

Never Too Early to Sign Up and Help Neighbors

Volunteer to help neighbors with snow removal this winter. Many seniors and individuals with disabilities depend on the help of volunteers to get through the winter weather.

Request assistance or volunteer online at bit.ly/rkvsnowvol or contact Jerry Jones at gjones@rockvillemd.gov or 240-314-8819.

For more information, call the Rockville Senior Center Support Services office at 240-314-8810 or email seniorcenter@rockvillemd.gov.

Celebrate Montgomery County at 250

The Glenview Mansion and Peerless Rockville Speaker Series will mark Montgomery County's 250th anniversary with a retrospective at 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 10.

Montgomery County was established Sept. 6, 1776, two months after the nation declared its independence. Since then, the county has evolved from a predominantly rural and agricultural community to an increasingly suburban and urbanized jurisdiction.

The presentation will tell the county's story

through 25 snapshots in time, summarizing major historical themes, events and developments over the past two and a half centuries. It will also examine the county's southern orientation before the Civil War and the significant role slavery played in its history.

The program is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided. Register at rockvillemd.gov/registration with course #41187. For more information about Peerless, visit peerlessrockville.org.

52nd ANNUAL

ROCKVILLE 10K/5K

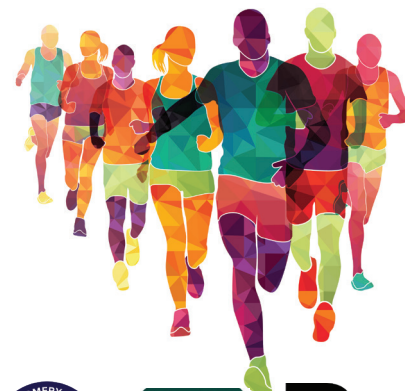
Save the Date

Sunday, Nov. 1 at 8:30 a.m.

King Farm Village Center

403 Redland Blvd., Rockville

Register online at rockville10k5k.com



SIGN UP FOR WEEKLY NEWS!
rockvillemd.gov/newsletters

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
H Hybrid: Offering both Virtual and In Person
6 Facebook Live Event

1 MINDFUL MOMENTS: RELAX AND RECHARGE, A DAY OF WELLNESS Explore local vendors, experience live wellness demonstrations, and discover simple ways to nurture your mind, body and spirit through all five senses. Register with course #41250. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Free. **SR**

4, 5, 6 VICTORIAN LYRIC OPERA COMPANY PRESENTS “HADDON HALL”
See article on page 6. **FSF**

5, 12, 19, 26 FARMERS MARKET *See article on page 8.* 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Jury parking lot at East Jefferson (MD 28) and Monroe Streets.

7 LABOR DAY City Hall closed. *See article on page 1.*

9 NONPROFIT LUNCH AND LEARN *See article on page 1.* Noon-1:30 p.m.

10 GLENVIEW MANSION AND PEERLESS ROCKVILLE SPEAKER SERIES: MONTGOMERY COUNTY’S 250TH BIRTHDAY *See article on page 6.* Register with course #41187. 7 p.m. Free. **GM**

11 SEPT. 11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY *See article on page 8.* Free. 9-10 a.m. Courthouse Square Park.

11 COMMUNITY NALOXONE TRAINING: ROCKVILLE GOES PURPLE *See article on page 1.* 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. **LP**

12 ARMEVENTS PRESENTS “AN EVENING OF ELEGANCE AND VIRTUOSITY”
See article on page 6. **FSF**

13 THE JERSEY FOUR: A TRIBUTE TO FRANKIE VALLI AND THE FOUR SEASONS, FEATURING ORIGINAL MEMBER GERRY POLCI *See article on page 6.* **FSF**

14 AGE WELL, LIVE WELL *See article on page 6.* Register with course #42378. 10-11 a.m. **SR**

15 NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY *See article on page 5.* Free. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The Square in Rockville Town Center.

16 AGING IN PLACE 101: EXPERT KNOWLEDGE, TIPS AND RESOURCES *See article on page 6.* Register with course #42312. 10-11:30 a.m. **SR**

17 SENIORS GET MOVING WITH FREE TRAVEL TRAINING WORKSHOP *See article on page 6.* Register with course #41343. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **SR**

17 LITTLE SPROUTS Introduce children to nature through circle time, sensory activities and free play. Children and caregivers explore together at a relaxed pace. Ages 18 months-3 years. Register with course #41555. \$10 R/\$12 NR. 10-10:45 a.m. **CC**

19 ROCKVILLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE *See article on page 1.* Free. 11 a.m.-2 p.m. RCPD Station, 2 W. Montgomery Ave.

19 TAIWAN BUBBLE TEA FESTIVAL *See ad on page 3.* Free. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Square in Rockville Town Center.

19 GENTLE EXPLORERS Designed for young children and their caregivers, this nature program encourages slowing down and experiencing the outdoors together. Explore nature in a calm and supportive setting. Ages 2-5. Register with course #41571. \$10 R/\$12 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

19 GETTING STARTED WITH BEEKEEPING Curious about starting a honeybee hive at home? This introductory program covers the basics of backyard beekeeping. Ages 16-plus. Register with course #41569. \$12 R/\$15 NR. 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. **CC**

23 SIGNING FOR SENIORS: AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE BASICS Learn the basics of American Sign Language to help communicate with someone deaf or hard of hearing. Pick up basic words and phrases, appropriate greetings and discover various cultural and historical aspects of ASL. Register with course #42147. 1-2:30 p.m. Free. **SR**

24 SEEING CLEARLY: PROTECTING YOUR VISION AS YOU AGE Learn about common age-related eye conditions, warning signs, the importance of routine eye exams and healthy habits for lifelong vision. Register with course #42139. 1-2 p.m. Free. **V**

25 LINCOLN PARK COMMUNITY CENTER REDEDICATION *See article on page 8.* 11 a.m. **LP**

25, 26, 27 ROCKVILLE LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS “THE GAME’S AFOOT”
See article on page 6. **FSF**

26 CIVIC CENTER PARK PUPPET SHOW PRESENTS “RUFUS: A STORY OF ACCEPTANCE AND INCLUSION” *See article on this page.* **FSF**

26 ROCKTOBIERFEST *See article on page 8.* 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. The Square in Rockville Town Center.

26 LITTLE EXPLORERS Discover the wonders of nature with your toddler through hands-on activities, short hikes, crafts and more. Spark curiosity and encourage exploration in young nature lovers. Ages 2-5. Register with course #41552. \$10 R/\$12 NR. 10-11 a.m. **CC**

27 ROCKVILLE GREEN HOME OPEN HOUSE *See article on page 4.* Registration required. 1-3 p.m.

27 PEERLESS ROCKVILLE: BEHIND THE SCENES FOR GLENVIEW’S 100TH *See article on this page.* 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. **GM**

27 MEET THE ARTISTS *See article on this page.* 1:30-3:30 p.m. **GM**

29 VACCINE CLINIC Vaccines provided by Giant pharmacists. High- or regular-dose flu shots, COVID vaccine for 2026-2027, pneumonia, Tdap, RSV, shingles, and hepatitis B available. Bring Medicare or other insurance cards; if uninsured, pay with credit card, check or cash. 9:30 a.m.-noon **SR**

29 STATE OF THE CITY *See the article on page 3.* 8:30-11 a.m. Free. **GM**

30 “LA ESTRELLA” FILM SCREENING AND PANEL DISCUSSION: ROCKVILLE GOES PURPLE *See article on page 1.* Hosted by the city’s Department of Housing and Community Development. 6:30-8:30 p.m. **FSF**

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

FOR MORE INFO AND UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTINGS: [ROCKVILLEMD.GOV/CALENDAR](https://rockvillemd.gov/calendar)

F. Scott Fitzgerald Performances

continued from pg. 6

Blue Sky Puppet Theatre Presents “Rufus: A Story of Acceptance and Inclusion”

11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26.

Rufus, a shy little dog who has lost his owner, is hungry and stranded in the rain when he asks the audience for help. He meets Dr. Tooth, a walrus dentist who believes Rufus looks different.

Through their adventure, Dr. Tooth learns about acceptance and inclusion and discovers that Rufus is special because of his differences.

This Civic Center Park Puppet Show is recommended for ages 3-10 and includes a

craft project. General admission tickets cost \$5 for Rockville residents and \$7 for non-residents. For tickets, visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/Rufus.

The interPLAY Orchestra Presents “Time of Our Lives”
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 7.

This 36-year-old ensemble provides performance opportunities for adult musicians with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities. More than 90 musicians with and without disabilities take part in a concert celebrating collaborative and inclusive music-making.

The program will include works by U2, Olivia Dean, Prince,

Duke Ellington, Antonin Dvorak, Phil Collins, Herbie Hancock, Dolly Parton, Ozzy Osbourne and others.

General admission tickets cost \$20. For tickets, visit fscottfitzgerald.showare.com/TimeofOurLives.

Behind The Scenes for Glenview’s 100th
Peerless Rockville will lead a historical tour of Glenview Mansion and its formal gardens from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27. The iconic Rockville location is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

The tour will explore the neoclassical mansion, its tiered gardens and spaces that rarely open to visitors. Stops will include the

Lyons family safe, attic, private closets, staff offices and crawl spaces.

Visitors can also view historic documents, learn about Glenview’s history, enjoy refreshments and celebrate a century of elegance at the mansion.

The tour is free and open to the public. For more information, visit rockvillemd.gov/Glenview100.

Meet the Artists of the Latest Gallery Exhibition

Works from the Montpelier Printmakers will be exhibited at the Glenview Mansion Gallery Sept. 8-Oct. 2.

“The World As We View It” features

David Brosch, Julie Polt, Sarah Presley, Sharon Sefton and Michael G. Stewart, who present their unique perspectives of the world through a variety of printmaking techniques, paintings and mixed media.

Meet the artists from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 27. The event is free and open to the public.

The gallery, located on the second floor of Glenview Mansion, is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and closed for official city holidays and private events. Admission is free, and the gallery can be accessed by stairs and an elevator.

Economic Development Strategy

continued from pg. 1

development partners held a kickoff meeting on Monday, July 20. The city’s consultant presented its baseline analysis and heard from group members about the issues and opportunities shaping economic development in Rockville. While it is not a decision-making body, feedback from

the working group will help frame and prioritize actions for city leadership to consider and adopt.

The resulting framework will help the city make strategic decisions that support long-term economic vitality and maximize the impact of public investments.

Connect with us on Social Media.



Rockville, Montgomery County to Remember 9/11 With Ceremony

The City of Rockville will partner with Montgomery County to mark the 25th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks and remember county residents who lost their lives.

A ceremony will be held 9 a.m. Friday, 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 city and county leaders.

The 9/11 memorial at Courthouse Square Park remembers the 11 Montgomery County residents who lost their lives on Sept. 11: William E. Caswell, Dr. Gerald P. Fisher, Capt. Lawrence D. Getzfred, Michele M. Heidenberger, Angela M. Houtz, Teddington H. Moy, Lt. Darin H. Pontell, Scott A. Powell, Todd H. 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.

Fall for Farm-Fresh Food at the Rockville Farmers Market

The Rockville Farmers Market offers fall produce and a dollar-for-dollar match, up to \$15, for customers using their federal nutrition benefits.

The market is open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through Nov. 21, 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, baked goods, local beer and spirits, meat, and coffee.

Now in its 15th 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 \$15 weekly when they shop with SNAP/EBT (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program/Electronic Benefits Transfer) 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 rockvillemd.gov/ farmers, or call 240-314-8620 for more information.

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

Lincoln Park Community Center to Celebrate Renovations at Rededication

Rockville's first municipal solar energy system is among the improvements the city will celebrate during a rededication of the renovated Lincoln Park Community Center at 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 25.

Guided tours of the center and demonstrations will follow the ceremony, which will also recognize the restoration of a historic mural and the addition of a new community mural.

The center reopened July 1 following renovations that improved accessibility, added modern amenities, created a STEM and STEAM lab, and expanded fitness and gathering spaces.

The rooftop solar photovoltaic system is the first installed at a Rockville community center. Its 80 panels can generate more than 43,000 kilowatt-hours of renewable electricity each year. The system is expected to offset about 40% of the facility's electricity use and save an estimated \$8,400 annually.

The solar installation was fully funded through

the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program. The project advances the city's Climate Action Plan.

The renovations also preserved "Untitled," a 1993 mural painted by Lincoln Park neighborhood youth under the direction of artist Margery Albertini. Debora Rodrigues and her team at Past Matters LLC cleaned, repaired and repainted the mural, which celebrates the historic Lincoln Park community's people, places and traditions. Several city employees helped paint the original mural as children.

A new mural, "Color Full Community," was created by Washington, D.C.-based artist Rose Jaffe in collaboration with Lincoln Park residents. Its imagery, including a sun, a deeply rooted tree and baseball equipment, reflects the neighborhood's history, diversity and connections.

Learn more about Lincoln Park Community Center at rockvillemd.gov/lincolnpark.



THREE-HUNDRED-THOUSAND GALLONS OF HISTORIC SUMMER FUN ... Members of the Mayor and Council joined city staff and the Twinbrook Swimming Pool board of directors to unveil a historical marker recognizing the Twinbrook Swimming Pool. The pool, opened in 1955, is a longstanding community anchor. It was funded by and constructed through the efforts of neighborhood residents, primarily World War II veterans, who carved the pool out of the wooded hillside. At 300,000 gallons, it is one of the largest privately owned pools in the region. Learn more about the Twinbrook Pool at twinbrookpool.org and see Rockville 11's coverage of the plaque unveiling at youtube.com/cityofrockville.



City Manager: Jeff Mihelich
Director of Communications and Community Engagement: Katherine Kirk-Dantzer
Asst. Director of Communications and Community Engagement: Sean Sedam
Public Information Specialists: Cliff Cumber, Juan Jovel

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 240-314-8108; TTY 240-314-8137.

Prost! Raise a Stein at Rocktoberfest

Rocktoberfest returns to Rockville Town Center on Saturday, Sept. 26, for a Bavarian-themed bash.

The eighth 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 a merchant shopping area. This popular event attracts nearly 8,000 people each year.

As part of this year's celebrations, the city will bury an America250 time capsule preserving memories, Rockville history and messages for future generations. The time capsule will remain sealed for 50 years and be opened in 2076 as part of the nation's 300th anniversary celebration.

Bavarian bands taking to the stages include D' Potomactaler Stamm, Alt Washingtonia and Rockville German Band.

Featured beverage vendors include 7 Locks Brewing, BabyCat Brewery, Clear Skies Meadery, Crooked Crab Brewing Co., Denizens Brewing Co., Lone Oak Farm Brewing Co., Saints Row Brewing, Silver Branch Brewing Company, Third Hill Brewing Co., Waredaca Brewing Co. and World of Beer.

The festival site is located next to Courthouse Square Park in Rockville Town Center and 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 rockvillemd.gov/rocktoberfest.

Nonprofits, Housing Providers Can Apply for Block Grant Funding

The City of Rockville is accepting applications for Fiscal Year 2028 Community Development Block Grant funding. The federal CDBG program supports housing and community development projects that benefit low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods. Sample projects include:

- Window and storm window replacement
- Bathroom and kitchen renovations
- Water heater replacement
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detector installation

Eligible nonprofit organizations and housing

providers are encouraged to apply. Applicants should review the program guidelines, attend the optional virtual technical assistance session from 10-11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 16 and submit an online application by 5 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 1.

The Mayor and Council will hold a public hearing on community needs for CDBG funding at their Monday, Sept. 14 meeting.

For eligibility requirements, application instructions and access to the online grant portal, visit rockvillemd.gov/cdbg. For questions, contact Chuck Dunn at cdunn@rockvillemd.gov.

Fall Into Fun in Rockville



Registration for fall recreation programs is open.

"Life in Rockville": Find classes, programs and special events for all ages and interests. **"Adults 60+":** A guide especially for the 60-plus community.

Find the guides at rockvillemd.gov/ guide or in print at City Hall, the Taft Center at 6 Taft Court, community centers and libraries.

Web and Digital Manager: Nick Kanary
Graphics and Printing: Lidiya Cochetti, Sylvia England, Eric Ferrell
Rockville 11: Hagop Balekjian, Joshua Joe, Adrian Zlotescu
Social Media and Digital Engagement: Becca Brown