

Spring 2021  
Newsletter

# Rockville News



## Mayor

Duane Willenbring 320-293-8732

## Councilors:

Bill Becker 320-253-9352  
Brian Herberg 320-241-8226  
Jerry Tippelt 320-282-4091  
Brian Stanger



## City Hall will be closed:

Memorial Day, Monday, May 31

## City Council Meetings

2nd Wednesday of each month  
Workshop at 5:00 p.m.  
Council meeting at 6:00 p.m.

## Last Wednesday of the Month Meetings

Last Wednesday of each month  
at 5:30 p.m.

## Planning & Zoning Meetings

1st Tuesday of each month  
at 6:00 p.m.

All meetings are held at City Hall.  
Please refer to the city's website  
for any changes.

## A Message from the Mayor

Hello Rockville; I hope this newsletter finds you in great spirits as we continue through the spring season. If you are reviewing this newsletter, congratulations, you survived 2020. This past year has been unlike anything I have ever experienced (or wanted to experience), and I am sure many of you probably feel the same way. Although this past year has been unprecedented in so many ways, it also provides for reflection, a new outlook, and an opportunity to serve our fellow residents even better. I would be remised if I didn't also take this opportunity to thank you, as residents of our community, for your tenacity, strength, and grit during these challenging times.

As we move forward into this year, I thought, in my continued quest to be transparent, I would let you know of a few of the items that will become, or continue to be, a major focus for the City Council during 2021. Some of the priorities include the following:

**Citizen Outreach:** Re-create the Park and Rec. Standing Committee and once completed, assist in the creation of the scope of work, duties, reports and requests advanced to City Administrator for his day to day operations of the city. I would envision quarterly meetings (or as needed) to promote public interest in City Parks, Programs, and Seasonal Activities etc. i.e. Rockfest, Music in the Park, Holiday Decorating, and many additional visions/goals to numerous to mention. I would also like to implement a Random Act of Kindness Observed Certificate, to be presented at future Council Meetings, to worthy Rockville citizens, businesses, and/or volunteer organizations.

**Roads and Proposed Public Works Building:** Roads, Trails and Utilities Committee (RTU) has recently convened and reported their findings. After many years of citizen concerns about the condition of our roads, years of discussion by council as to when and how to proceed with the maintenance, repair and reconstruction, along with our engineer's recommendations, the majority of the Council agrees that it is time to act. Your Council gave the directive to Administrator Bode, along with City Engineer to do a cost analysis (engineer estimates) to determine the cost to fix all the roads in the city that are rated at 3, 4 and 5 per the approved rating system. If approved and it is deemed worthy to proceed this would undoubtedly trigger a revenue shortfall (short term cash flow challenge) and require approval to move forward for bonding, and of course public hearing for citizen input, to cover these anticipated expenditures. This might also then be an appropriate time to research the feasibility of adding the cost of the proposed future Public Works Building/s and spread that cost out over an abundance of years.

I extend my sincere thanks to Councilor Don Simon for the legacy he left to our city through his many years of service. Congratulations to Brian Stanger, our newest Council Member. We have a strong council team with a combined experience of over 40 years of experience in public service. I am looking forward to working together to keep it the Great City of Rockville. I want to assure you that this Mayor, the City Council, Administrator, Clerical Staff as well as the Dept. Heads and their subordinates are working diligently, in concert with neighboring communities, County, and State Agencies to always have you stay healthy, stay safe and stay strong.

In closing; it is an honor to serve the citizens and businesses of the Great City of Rockville.  
Mayor, Duane W.



# Rockville Lions Club

## We SERVE.

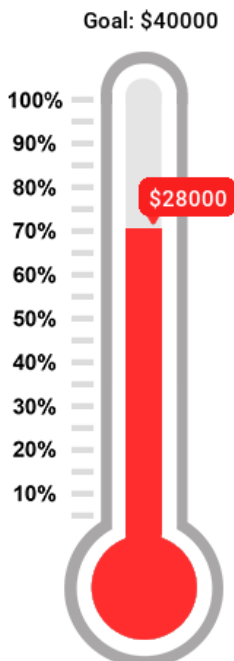
### What have the Rockville Lions been up to?

The Rockville Lions Club is a major sponsor and have been participating in the following events:

- The Lion's Club rebuilt a billboard located at the edge of downtown Rockville to advertise for the Lion's Club. The current advertisement is for the Music in the Park at Lion's Park by Pleasant Lake.
- As a service project, the Lion's Club plans to redo the roofing and siding on the storage shed at Lion's Park by Pleasant Lake.
- We finished packing food for **Kids Fighting Hunger**. The food packed will feed those in need right here in our community or may be shipped around the world.
- **Let the Sun Shine Run/Walk**: We are a major sponsor and will be walking for this event. 11th Annual event for Mental Health Awareness held on April 24th—9:00 a.m. at St. Boniface Catholic Church in Cold Spring. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation.
- **Blood Drive**: June 8th we will be having a **Red Cross Blood Drive** at the Parish Center in Rockville. Mark your calendar to save the date. When it gets closer call Mike to make your appointment at 320-203-0803.
- If you would like to **join the Lions Club** whose motto is "We Serve" you may contact President Brian Herberg at 320-241-8226 or Membership Chair Dale Borgmann at 320-250-7117.



### Rockville Area AED's



Have you contributed? The Rockville Fire Department, Rockville Lions, Area Lake Associations and City of Rockville are working with the non-profit Advocates for Health to raise monies to install outdoor AED SaveStations in the Rockville area. They need monies from the community to make it happen. So far over \$25,000 has been donated. The goal is \$40,000+ to install eight stations around our area. The cost of each unit is \$5,000.

Please consider contributing to this cause. The life it saves could be your own!

For more information about this project contact Rodney at 320-293-4334 or Daryl at 320-309-8964.

Payable checks can be written to:

**Advocates For Health**  
P.O. Box 185  
Rockville MN 56369

(Please include "Rockville AED" in the memo area.)



## Do I need a burning permit?

A burning permit grants the individual holder the right to burn small amounts of dry leaves, plant clippings, brush, and clean untreated-unpainted wood as long as weather conditions do not pose a fire hazard.

A permit is **not** needed:

- for a "campfire"—a fire set for cooking, warming, or ceremonial purposes, which is not more than 3 feet in diameter by 3 feet high, and has had the ground 5 feet from the base of the fire cleared of all combustible material
- for a fire contained in a charcoal grill, camp stove, or other device designed for cooking or heating for a fire in an approved burner and there is no combustible material within 5 feet of the base of the burner, and it is in use between the 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

You can pick up your burning permit at City Hall (free of charge) or purchase an annual burning permit online at the Minnesota DNR website [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us) (\$5.00 annual fee).

Requests to burn other materials or all daytime or running fire permits for more than 1 acre must be issued by a forester. Homeowners should contact the Area Forestry Office at 320-616-2450 ext. 626. Permits may be restricted on a day to day basis. Daily burning regulations are posted on the DNR website.



### *A Gift of Remembrance*

Have you considered giving the gift that will honor someone forever? Applications are being accepted for names to be added to the Rockville Veterans Monument and are available on the city's website at: [www.rockvillecity.org](http://www.rockvillecity.org).

Applications received by July 4, 2021 will be engraved by September 11, 2021.

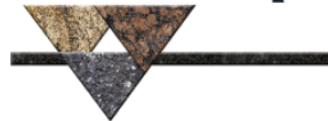
## Pleasant Lake MUSIC IN THE PARK Events

JUNE 6 ■ Pickin' Grinners ■ from 2-5pm



**Sponsored By:**

**Granite-Tops**



Come enjoy some Bluegrass, Folk/Americana tunes from the Native to Pleasant Lake, Kiley Hughes and his buddies Jon Soenneker, Eric Pederson and Matt Murphy. Guaranteed to have a great time!

JUNE 20 ■ MoeDeLL ■ from 2-5pm

**Sponsored By:**

**MASELTER CABINETS, INC.**

**Lesters  
Water Works**



MoeDeLL is a singer-songwriter that consists of his guitar, creative lyrics and unique voice. His foot stomping down home melodies and rolling rhythms make everyone want to get up on their feet and dance.



**Pleasant Lake  
Area  
Homeowners'  
Association**

**Annual Garage Sales**

**Thursday April 29th • 8 am - 5 pm**

**Friday April 30th • 8 am - 5 pm**

**Saturday May 1st • 8 am - 5 pm**

Come on out and score some deals!

Rockville Area Sportsman's Club and Rockville Lions will be teaming up to sell rolls & coffee, hamburgers/brats at the Pleasant Lake Lions Park pavilion.

Stop by for a bite to eat!

Would you like to have your newsletter emailed to you rather than mailed? We can do that!

Send your email address to [cityhall@rockvillecity.org](mailto:cityhall@rockvillecity.org) to sign up.

# What's Happening with the ROCORI Trail

## An Update from the ROCORI Trail Construction Board

First, a bit of background information regarding the ROCORI Trail endeavor. Since the beginning of this cooperative effort in 2004, great strides have been made towards the construction of a paved, off-road pedestrian and bicycle trail linking the three cities together. The ROCORI Trail, named for the three cities through which it will eventually run (**R**ockville, **C**old Spring, and **R**ichmond) is owned, operated and maintained by the ROCORI Trail Construction Board (RTCB). A Joint Powers Board was officially established in 2010, comprised of two representatives from each of the three cities. The representatives serve without compensation and the Chairperson of the Board will/shall rotate annually among each City in alphabetical order (Cold Spring, Richmond and Rockville). The City Administrators serve as non-voting representatives.



Thus far, the RTCB Board has secured a large amount of local donations, state and federal funding with very limited amounts coming from the three cities via tax money for the first two phases. Although we've had great success in securing funding in the past, we do not have enough funds to complete phase 3 at this time. We have secured \$812,270 of federal Transportation Alternative Program (TAP) funds for this phase. The estimated project cost is \$1,800,000. The distance is approximately 2.4 miles which generally runs east-west on the former Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad corridor, between 235<sup>th</sup> street (westerly end of Rockville) to terminus point of phase 1 (easterly side of Cold Spring). A funding request has again been requested from the Legislative Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) group. The function of LCCMR is to make funding recommendations to the state legislature for specific projects. These funded projects help maintain and enhance Minnesota's environment and natural resources. During the 2020 session the LCCMR group had selected 88 projects totaling \$70,881,000 to recommend to the 2021 MN Legislature for funding. ROCORI phase 3 project made the cut and is in that final list of projects that will hopefully be funded in this session.

The RTCB Board recently gave the directive to have Short Elliott Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH) project engineer, to continue with the Plans, Specifications, Environmental Impacts, i.e. federal and state threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, etc., as well as right of way certifications, project containment, wetlands, wild and scenic river requirements, noise and air impact studies and permits too numerous to mention.

What is the projected time frame schedule? This is a question that has been posed many times in the past years. As of February 2021, if funding is secured during this legislative session the Plans, Specifications, and estimate will be completed by September 2021 with bid opening happening in late fall of 2021 with a desired construction start of May 2022.

In closing for now, current RTCB Chair, Duane Willenbring



compost

### Compost Sites

Looking to dispose of your leaves, grass clippings, brush, tree branches, and additional clean yard waste? The city has two local farmers that are willing to take compost (free of charge) for the residents of the City of Rockville. They can be reached at 320-255-9394 or 320-685-3953.

### Streetlight Outages

Have you noticed a streetlight that's burned out, broken, flickering or not working properly? Streetlights are being paid for whether they are working or not so please report the outage as soon as possible to your local provider:

- ◆ **Xcel Energy:** [www.xcelenergy.com](http://www.xcelenergy.com) or call 800-960-6235
- ◆ **Stearns Electric:** [www.stearnsselectric.org](http://www.stearnsselectric.org) or call 800-962-0655



## ***A Message from Rockville Emergency Management Department***

Spring is here and with spring and summer comes warmer weather and storms. The first Severe Thunderstorm warning of the season was issued on April 5, 2021 at 9:28 p.m. after a day of 85+ degrees.

Are you prepared for severe weather? Do you have a plan of what to do for severe weather? There are helpful tips on the City of Rockville's website ([rockvillecity.org](http://rockvillecity.org)).

While you are outside enjoying spring and summer, stay Sky Aware and know what the weather is for the day.

Severe weather watches can be issued days ahead of time stating that weather is right to produce severe weather. Warnings are issued when the storm is developed and severe weather is possible.

The sirens for Rockville will sound if there is a:

1. Severe weather warning with golf ball size hail or greater, 70 mph winds or
2. Tornado warning and
3. Storm is 10 miles from Rockville and heading toward Rockville

The sirens are meant for warning people that are outdoors to get indoors to seek cover and check for information. If you are inside warnings can be heard on weather radios, commercial radio, and tv stations. **The sirens will never sound an all clear.** A second sounding of the sirens may be for a second round of storms or development of another tornado.

Stearns County has a system that will notify you on a cell phone or a landline at no charge. If you are interested be sure to check out Stearns County's website (Emergency Management) to sign up. Red Cross and others also have apps that can be used with cell phones and other electronic devices.

My suggestion is to be alert of the weather conditions around you. Be prepared, have a plan, build a kit.

Rockville Emergency Management team;

Mike Hofmann, Emergency Management Director and Bill Becker, Assistant Director.

## **Rockville 2021 Summer Ball Program is in FULL SWING**



### **The Rockville Summer Ball Program registration is now OPEN!**

**T-Ball:** ages 4-6 (work on developing game skills)

Tuesday evenings

**Pitch Ball:** ages 6-7 (work on developing game strategy)

Tuesday evenings

**Minor League Softball:** ages 8-10

Monday & Wednesday evenings

The Ball Program is looking for volunteers to coach and coordinate the program. Please consider and apply on the registration form or contact City Hall for more information. The ball program needs YOU to make this a fun and successful season.

The season typically starts the first week after the school year ends. The team coach will contact players with the season schedule.

Registration forms can be found on the city's website or picked up at Rockville City Hall.

City of Rockville  
229 Broadway Street East  
P.O. Box 93  
Rockville MN 56369

Address Service Requested

Pleasant Lake Lion's Park • near 400 club • Bring a chair, cooler & your neighbor!

# MUSIC IN THE PARK

**Select Sunday Afternoons From 2:00- 5:00**

June 8 • **Pickin' Grinners** • Granite Tops

June 20 • **MoDeall** • Lester's Water Works & Maselter Cabinets  
(Rodney Schaefer & Mark Natch)

July 4 • **Ring of Kerry** • Herberg Construction &  
All State Traffic Control, Inc.

July 18 • **Concertina Canoodlers** • Rockville Lion's Club

August 1 • **ElementX** • Herberg Construction

August 15 • **Broken Fiddle** • Gus Miller with

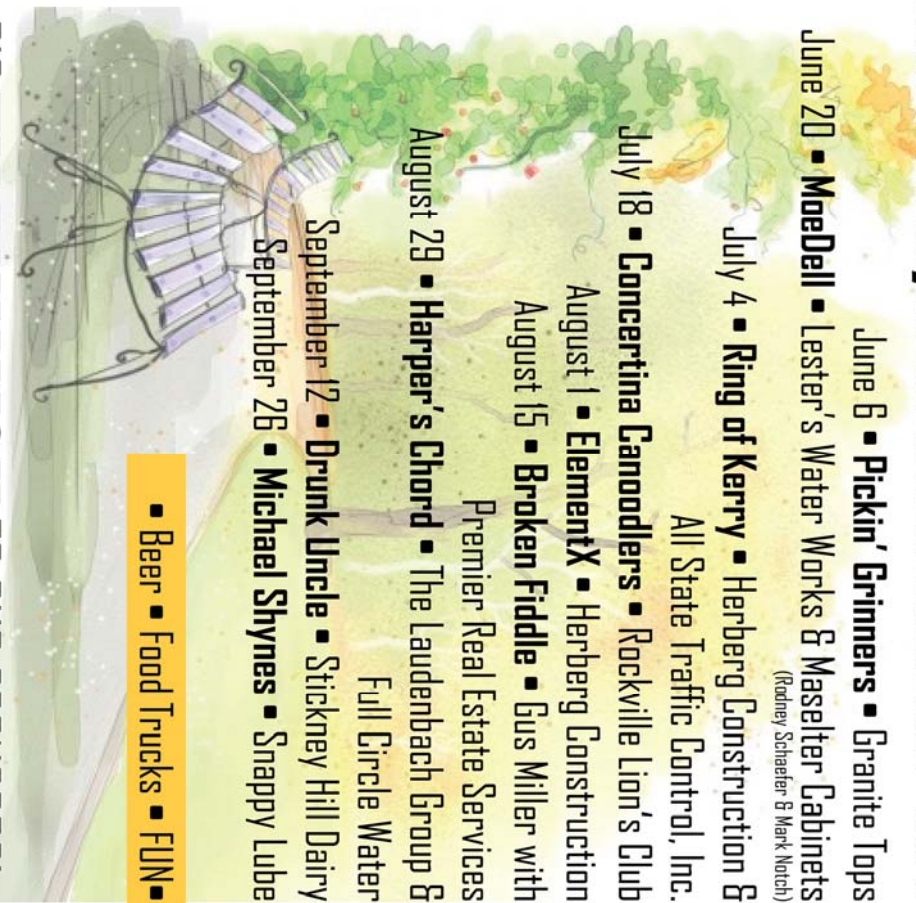
Premier Real Estate Services  
August 29 • **Harper's Chord** • The Laudenbach Group &

Full Circle Water

September 12 • **Drunk Uncle** • Stickney Hill Dairy

September 26 • **Michael Shynes** • Snappy Lube

• Beer • Food Trucks • FUN •



**BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!**