



Rockville Downtown News

June 2008

Vol. 8 No. 24



Rockville Downtown Association's 'July In The Sky' set for July 1!

Rockville, CT~ The Rockville Downtown Association (RDA) will once again bring excitement, music and activities to the heart of historic downtown Rockville for the July In The Sky event planned for **July 1, 2008**. In association with the Vernon Parks and Recreation Department, whose activities and fireworks take place at Henry Coe Park and the Fox Hill Tower, the downtown festival put on by RDA begins at **6:00pm** and continues to **10:00pm**.

Downtown will once again be the site for the **Push, Pull & Peddle Patriotic Parade** with children and adults decorating anything that can move down the street in a parade showcasing any kind of patriotic display they can create. Entries must have RED, WHITE and BLUE decorations, clothing, etc. to participate. Participants will receive ribbons and there will be prizes for first, second and third place in a variety of age categories. The categories include: under 6; 6-8; 9-12; 13-adult; special categories 'family group' and 'business'. Setup will take place from 6:30pm to 7:00pm with pre-parade decorating assistance provided by RDA and volunteers in the parking lot at Bank of America. Judging of entries will take place at 7:15pm and the parade will begin at 7:30pm sharp! No pre-registration is required and walk-ins the night of the event will be accepted prior to 7:00pm.

With a great view of the fireworks, visitors coming to the downtown area will also be entertained by **The Blues Deluxe Band** beginning around

7:00pm, followed by the 85-piece **Windham Concert Band** at approximately 8:30pm. Both have prepared special repertoires for the downtown festivities including the inspiring 1812 Overture just before the fireworks display takes place.

Downtown merchants will welcome you and RDA has arranged for a host of food vendors to satisfy every appetite. Expect to find fried dough, kettle corn, ice cream, milkshakes, hot dogs, roast beef, hamburgers, lemonade, soda, Italian ice and much more. Portable toilets and handwashing sinks will be available next to the Vernon Senior Center and adjacent to Vincent's Pharmacy.

More than 2,500 people found out last year how great it was to come downtown to view the fireworks. There is plenty of **FREE parking** with easy access in and out. You are encouraged to bring lawn or sport chairs with ample space in the downtown streets and sidewalks to accommodate everyone. Donations will be collected by volunteers at various access points to the downtown with proceeds to benefit next year's festivities, but there is no charge to come on down to the historic downtown venue.

Rain date for July In The Sky fireworks and festival has been established for **July 2 and July 3**. For additional general information for the downtown festival site, please call the RDA at 875-7439. Mark your calendar to attend this year's July In The Sky where there will be plenty of entertainment, family fun and great fireworks to be displayed overhead!

A Welcome Choice



Swathantra Kumar Melekote, MD
MRCPC, FAAP



ECHN Pediatrics 860-872-5152 After-hours & weekend appointments available!
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CHILDREN'S DOCTOR

ECHN welcomes Swathantra Kumar Melekote, MD, to its active medical staff. Board certified in pediatrics, Dr. Melekote is experienced in children's primary and preventive health care, neonatology, and pediatric asthma, allergy and immunology. He

provides newborn care at Rockville and Manchester hospitals. Dr. Melekote completed his residency in Pediatrics at NY Methodist Hospital in Brooklyn, NY and is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at UConn School of Medicine, John Dempsey Hospital. He welcomes new patients up to age 21.



**New Businesses to Visit
in Historic Downtown Rockville!**

The Rockville Downtown Association is pleased to welcome two new businesses into the downtown area . . .

Magic Intent

46 Union Street
Rockville

Shoe Explosion

27 West Main Street
Rockville

All of our downtown businesses rely upon you, so give them a visit as soon as you can!

Upcoming RDA Events!



Mark your calendars . . .

July 1

July In The Sky

downtown historic Rockville

6pm - 10pm

schedule:

7pm - Blues Deluxe Band

7:30pm - Push, Pull, Pedal Patriotic Parade

8:45 - Windham Concert Band

9:30-9:40 approx. - fireworks display

(in cooperation with

the Vernon Park & Recreation Department)

July 10

2nd Thursday Summer Music Concert

H.U.S.H.H.

Central Park, historic downtown Rockville

7pm - 8:30pm

September 13

RDA Car Show

Central Park, historic downtown Rockville

9am - 3pm



More than 2,500 people are expected for July In The Sky on Tuesday, July 1.
RDA member volunteers are needed.
Call the RDA office at 875-7439 if you can help out anytime from 6pm to 10pm!



RDA Community Member Services Directory



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Join RDA and advertise your services or products here!

There are many benefits to be derived from being a member of the Rockville Downtown Association!

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Meet Your Board of Directors & Staff



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Rockville Bank
- Vice President** Philip Pietras
Small & Pietras Funeral Home
- Treasurer** Debbie Ratti
Crystal Blueprint & Stationery
- Secretary** Donna Roy
ECHN/Rockville General Hospital

Committee Chairs

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- Economic Restructuring Committee Dan Waskiewicz
- Organization Committee Andrew Beck
- Promotions Committee Phil Pietras/Mark Nadeau

Board Directors

- Andrew Beck ECHN/Rockville General Hospital
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- Stephen C. Marcham Vincent's Pharmacy
- Sandra Lee Marella Journal Inquirer
- Liz Stevenson Citizen Member
- Richard Tariff Vernon Regional Adult Education
- Daniel Waskiewicz Crystal Blueprint & Stationery

Staff – Randy Anagnostis, FSMP - Chief Executive Officer ~ Doreen DiRamio - Office Assistant

Sustainability: How Historic Preservation Can Help the Environment

(article courtesy of the National Trust for Historic Preservation)

We can't build our way out of our environmental problems, but we can – and must – make better, wiser use of what we've already built. That's what sustainability is all about.

Our Position

Historic preservation can – and should – be an important component of any effort to promote sustainable development. The conservation and improvement of our existing built resources, including re-use of historic and older buildings, greening the existing building stock, and reinvestment in older and historic communities, is crucial to combating climate change.

We're challenged to find a way of living that will ensure the longevity and health of our environmental, economic, and social resources. Addressing that challenge is the goal of the National Trust's Sustainability Initiative, which aims to help people better understand preservation's value in fostering development that is environmentally, economically and socially sustainable.

Environmental Sustainability

Historic preservation is an effective tool for valuing and protecting our environmental resources, including those that have already been expended as well as those not yet used. Because it encourages us to reuse sound older buildings instead of abandoning or demolishing them, and to revitalize existing neighborhoods instead of building sprawling new subdivisions, preservation is "recycling" on a grand scale.

Economic Sustainability

An economic system is not sustainable unless it respects the limits of the ecosystems on which it depends. By advocating wise stewardship of existing resources and judicious development and use of new ones, historic preservation advances this goal. In addition, preservation supports economic sustainability by encouraging reinvestment in existing communities and local economic bases.

Social Sustainability

Historic preservation protects and celebrates the social and cultural resources that define and unite us as Americans, and ensures that they will survive to enrich our communities and our lives for generations to come.

The environmental, economic and social benefits of preservation can be further enhanced by improving the energy efficiency of historic buildings. More and more projects are demonstrating that older buildings can "go green" – and our Sustainability Initiative will serve as a "best practices" resource for employing green technology in the reuse and rehabilitation of historic structures.

In Case You Missed This . . .



Russ Styles receives his Best of Show award at the Gallery at Rockville General Hospital

Gallery at Rockville General Hospital Artist Awards Presented

The fifth quarterly art exhibit at the Gallery at Rockville General Hospital coordinated by the Rockville Downtown Association recently kicked off with an Artist Reception and Awards night. Congratulations to the following winning artists:

Best of Show: Russ Styles

First Place Oil: Veronique Fournier

First Place Watercolor: Adrianna Young

First Place Photography: Tom Lynch

First Place Acrylic: Adrianna Young

Artists interested in submitting work for the next exhibit may contact the RDA at rda@rdact.com.



Tom Lynch accepts his award from Andrew Beck, VP Communications and Public Relations, ECHN



update: Downtown Revitalization Plan

Letters of Interest Being Solicited from Private Developers for RDA Downtown Revitalization Plan

The RDA is moving forward with its efforts to find development partners for the Town with regard to the proposed Downtown Revitalization Plan submitted by RDA and endorsed by the Town Council. Full page advertisements will appear in June and July in area publications seeking Letters of Interest from private developers who may wish to work with the RDA and the Town to accomplish the plans developed during the past two years. Responses have been requested by July 31 at which time the RDA will review and report back to the Town Council with results of the promotional program.



RDA seeking Portable Signage modifications to support Downtown Merchants

RDA's Economic Restructuring Committee has been through a review process with the Town Council, Building Department, Zoning Enforcement Officer, Town Planner, Design Commission, and Historic Properties Commission seeking modifications to the existing signage regulations in the downtown historic district. The ER Committee developed recommendations which would allow retailers in the downtown district to use regulated portable signage to assist in their own marketing and promotion efforts to the general public. Many other downtown communities currently allow regulated portable signs and the RDA has supported requests to incorporate this into Vernon's signage regulations. The various commissions have added their comments and suggestions to the proposed regulations and it is hopeful these will be presented for final review by the Town Council in the very near future.

The Rockville Downtown Association, Inc. Membership Pledge Form

(simply return this form and RDA will contact you or enclose a check)

Name(s): _____
Business Name: _____
Address: _____
City/State: _____
Zip: _____
Phone: (day) _____
(eve) _____
Fax: _____
E-mail: _____

• Community Partner Membership:

- Platinum Sponsor \$4,000 per year _____
- Diamond Sponsor \$2,500 per year _____
- Gold Sponsor \$1,000 per year _____
- Silver Sponsor \$ 500 per year _____
- Bronze Sponsor \$ 250 per year _____
- Friend of the RDA \$ 150 per year _____

(above sponsorships may include recognition packages)

• Business Membership:

- No. of Employees: 1-5 = \$ 50.00 _____
- 6-10= \$ 75.00 _____
- 11-20= \$125.00 _____
- 20+= \$200.00 _____

Exact # of employees at your location: _____

• Supporting Individual Membership:

- Individual \$ 25.00 _____
- Seniors/Students \$ 15.00 _____

Questions? Call our office at **860-875-7439**

Additional Donations welcomed for:

- () Greenspace Program \$ _____
- () Cultural Arts Event \$ _____
- () Downtown Events, Concerts & Festivals \$ _____
- () Other - please specify \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:

Rockville Downtown Association, Inc.
30 Park Place, PO Box 865
Rockville, CT 06066



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30 Park Place, PO Box 865
Rockville, CT 06066

Phone/Fax: 860-875-7439
E-mail: rda@rdact.com
Web: www.rdact.com

Chief Executive Officer: Randy Anagnostis

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The RDA Mission Statement:

The RDA is a grassroots, non-profit organization whose mission is to *Preserve, Promote and Enhance* Rockville's Historic Downtown and to create partnerships that stimulate economic activity and action for a renewed sense of pride and community.

The RDA recognizes the following businesses, individuals and organizations for their continued generosity and financial support . . .

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Rockville Public Library
Sovereign Bank - Vernon
Springville Mill Development
Liz & Malcolm Stevenson
Superior Energy, LLC
Vernon Regional Adult Education

RDA Annual Membership Meeting Announces Community Service Awards and Approves 2008-2009 Board of Directors

The May 21 RDA Annual Membership Meeting was held at the Rockville Public Library and was highlighted by presentations for community service awards and the acceptance of a proposed slate of officers and board members for 2008/2009.

RDA presented the **Volunteer Board Member of the Year award to Bill Breslau** of the law firm of Kahan, Kerensky & Capossela. The **Community Service award was presented to Robert Kleinhans** of Center Road Mortgage. Both individuals served the past year on the RDA Board of Directors and will continue in that capacity in the year ahead.

Two new RDA Board members were announced – Adam Bonneville of Bank of America, and Donna Roy of ECHN/Rockville General Hospital – and will join the Board in the year ahead.

Officers for 2008/2009 were approved as follows:

President
Gene Skladnowski, Rockville Bank
Vice President
Phil Pietras, Small-Pietras Funeral Home
Treasurer
Debbie Ratti, Crystal Blueprint & Stationery
Secretary
Donna Roy, ECHN/Rockville General Hospital
Our congratulations are extended to all!