

In Gaithersburg We Live, Learn & Play Together

The City of Gaithersburg is hosting and sponsoring a variety of activities to celebrate CHARACTER COUNTS! month in October. Some are open to the public, others are open to select audiences. All of them embrace the Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

Throughout the Year: Nominate an individual or business for a Character award.

Throughout the Fall:

Community and family outreach events for apartment communities coordinated by the City of Gaithersburg Police, Community Services and Youth Services divisions.

Distribution of CHARACTER COUNTS! information along with dictionaries to area 3rd graders courtesy of the Gaithersburg Rotary Club.

September 28: Character-themed poster and essay contest submission deadline for elementary and middle school students.

October 5: Proclamation of CHARACTER COUNTS! Month by the Mayor and City Council.

October 10: "Restore the Joy" Domestic Violence Empowerment Luncheon. An inspiring keynote address, resource fair and performances at Crowne Plaza Rockville, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. (\$) 301-963-8588

October 11: Pumpkin painting at Oktoberfest at the Kentlands, noon - 5 p.m. Proceeds benefit youth programs and the CHARACTER COUNTS! Scholarship Fund. (\$)

October 16: Youth & Law Enforcement Summit. High school students and law enforcement officers participate in dialogue circles followed by a picnic and field day, 9 - 4 p.m., Gaithersburg High School and Bohrer Park.

October 17: Gaithersburg Shreds: A free paper shredding and select electronics disposal event, Activity Center at Bohrer Park, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

October 19 – 23: Gaithersburg Youth Club Members participate in service projects, team building games and the release of a character-themed podcast.

October 21: Diversity Program Discussion at the Benjamin Gaither Center, 11:15 a.m. "What the pillars of character mean to you and how they have improved your life in the United States or abroad."

October 24 & 28: CHARACTER COUNTS! and Community Service information at Mall-o-ween at Lakeforest Mall (Oct. 24 – Noon to 3 p.m.) and Spooky Tots at RIO Washingtonian Center (Oct. 28 – 10 a.m.)

October 27: Character-themed reading for toddlers at StoryTime Station, Gaithersburg Community Museum, 11 a.m. (\$) 301-258-6160

Donation & Volunteer Opportunities

CHARACTER COUNTS! Scholarship Program: Helping high school seniors pursue secondary education. Donations gratefully accepted.

Holiday Giving: An annual program helping families in our community in November and December. Participate by volunteering for distribution events, adopting a family, running a book drive, or making a financial contribution.

Volunteer: Help others during Montgomery County Community Service Week, October 16 - 25. Explore opportunities at www.MontgomeryServes.org

For more information on CHARACTER COUNTS! in Gaithersburg visit gaithersburgmd.gov or call the City of Gaithersburg Community Services Division at 301-258-6395.

