



# The Message

Issue 253

December 2007/January 2008 Edition

\*\*\*HAPPY HOLIDAYS\*\*\*



## Mount Rainier Mayor Takes Calls on Cable Show

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On November 17<sup>th</sup>, Mount Rainier Mayor Malinda Miles opened her live television broadcast of "On Air with the Mayor" in hopes of sparking a discussion. Mayor Miles is looking for ways to keep the city's young black men active and out of trouble

The purpose of the call-in show, which is sometimes featured on the city's cable access channel, was to have an open dialogue with residents on what they think the city can do to address issues facing young people in Mount Rainier. In her show, Mayor Miles addressed the need for recreational activities in the city to keep young black men from participating in criminal activities and, in some cases, dying as a result of violence.

The show featured panel discussions and calls from residents with comments and questions for the mayor. While the show, which began earlier this year, is not a regular feature, the mayor would like to make it such.

## **From the Desk of the Mayor**

### **November 27, 2007**

Happy Holidays! This year as we enter the holiday season, I hope that we will all practice good health, safety, the spirit of the season, and making a smaller footprint on our environment. We have had a good year in Mount Rainier. Our finances are in order. Our police department has its largest complement of officers ever. City Hall is well on the way to full staffing and better services to our residents, and Public Works has once again kept our City clean with its very small overworked staff.

As a City we are on the move. Mayor and Council are working daily to revitalize the down town area. Our merchants are working hard to provide goods and services that meet the demands of our residents. Volunteers and community groups are working hard to provide needed help and services to our community. Together, we have made visible progress in our City. Below are a few highlights from the past year:

1. This has been another full year of work for your Mayor and Council who developed and approved a balanced budget for the City.
2. The City Manager hired Chief Michael Scott to lead and direct our police department and to handle public safety.
3. We transitioned into a new Council in the middle of our budget season, and continued to provide a variety of services to our residents.
4. We negotiated a new collective bargaining agreement with our police department.
5. Mount Rainier Day—another great success story with more than 500 participants from all over the County.
6. National Night Out jointly sponsored by Mount Rainier and Brentwood at Thomas Stone Elementary School.
7. We joined the nation's capital in placing our officers on segways to patrol our down town area.
8. We added new police cars to our fleet and purchased a new trash truck.
9. Mount Rainier's employees were provided a much improved pension and health plan.
10. Competitive salaries were given to all levels of employees.
11. A new assistant city manager was hired to help facilitate the work city hall.
12. We upgraded our office furniture in city hall and the police station through the donation of used furniture from one of our federal government facilities
13. We negotiated and signed a new cable contract with Verizon to give our residents an alternative to Comcast Cable Television.
14. Channel 71 programming was improved to provide more user-friendly information about activities in the City and to broaden the use of our cable casting.
15. We became full partners with Brentwood in providing police coverage across our two borders.
16. We took major steps to address our parking issues and to move our redevelopment activities forward by partnering with Landmark Development Corporation to develop not only the south side of Rhode Island Avenue, but other properties in the down town area.
17. We initiated and completed street, curb and gutter work on several of our streets, with plans to continue this process until all of our streets, curbs and gutters are repaired, replaced are made new.
18. The Mayor and Council hosted at least one of its monthly meetings in Ward 1 at Rainier Manor with a promise to move the meeting to that location at least quarterly.
19. New sources of revenue were identified and brought to the City, and other sources continue to be sought.

Your Mayor and Council continue to move forward with an agenda to revitalize the City of Mount Rainier through the use of art.

Parking tickets are a source of revenue in the City and has been for many years. This year, under our new Chief of Police delinquent parking tickets were turned over to a collection agency and resulted in numerous tickets being paid. This new collection process led to a major change in the City's ordinance

and a reduction in future fines. The new law goes into effect January 1, 2008. Residents and others are encouraged to pay parking tickets when they are received. By their very nature, parking tickets are a punitive method for getting people to obey parking regulations. Additional fines are added for the cost and resources involved in following up. Residents should also know that the City will be issuing flags for tickets that go unpaid. Flags are placed on a persons' motor vehicle information and affect the person's ability to renew their licenses, tags, titles, and registrations. This is cumbersome and time consuming. Please pay tickets within the time allotted or challenge the ticket and go to court so that other negative impacts may be avoided.

Speeding continues to be an issue throughout the City. Several residents on Perry Street petitioned the Mayor and Council to have speed calming devices placed on their streets. The City's ordinance requires that a petition be circulated and that 60% of the residents in the block sign the petition; that the petition be presented to the City; that a hearing be held before such action can be taken. If you are interested in having speed calming devices considered for your street, please contact City Hall for a petition and instructions for getting signatures on the petition.

Several new businesses have come to town, and are beginning to make a difference in the down town area while many of our older businesses are taking on a new look. These improvements have more clearly identified the need for parking. Over the past year a lot of discussions have been held on ways to increase parking, and to relieve some of the stress on our business owners. One action taken by the Mayor and Council changed the hours on the parking meters from 3:00am to 12:00 midnight. In addition, some meters were changed from one hour parking to two hour parking. As new businesses come to town, I am sure there will be other changes, so when parking down town, please check the meters.

New lighting has been installed along 34<sup>th</sup> Street to improve public safety. A new partnership with Kaywood Garden Apartments is being formed to improve the viability of our apartments while improving the safety in those areas.

In the past year, Cable television, Channel 71 has grown by leaps and bounds. The once silent TV channel has come alive with infomercials, background music, news you can use and special programming such as "On Air with the Mayor." Residents are invited to provide suggestions to the Cable Director, Graciella Carbonell (301-985-6585), and are encouraged to become a part of the Cable Commission to help develop programming for Channel 71.

Recreation continues for the 14 to 19 year olds continue to be an issue in our City. This issue has become critical, and Mayor and Council as well as residents are seeking long-term solutions to this issue. During the past year, Mayor and Council voted to reinstitute the basketball courts at 30<sup>th</sup> and Arundel and to build a skate park at Otis and Wells Avenue. These recreational facilities are expected to bring needed outlets for our youth. We also understand that they will also bring other problems to the neighborhood, so we are taking needed precautions to make them safe, keep down the noise, and otherwise ensure public safety. Look for more information on these developments in 2008.

Rhode Island Avenue Development continues to be the talk of the town. Residents are concerned with the blight that continues to plague our down town area. Mayor and Council continue to work diligently to bring to the table the resources necessary to rebuild down town Mount Rainier. Although there has been a lot of debate on which developer should do it, and a lot of dialogue on who is right and who is wrong, it is my belief that all residents want the best for the City of Mount Rainier. As a result, Mayor and Council are staying the course on its decision to work with Landmark Atlantic Holdings, LLC. PLEASE keep in mind that working with Landmark, does NOT limit the City's options. Landmark has been directed to work with the current owners, future owners, etc. to get the property developed! We have also told Landmark that the Mayor and Council and residents will have a voice in what is eventually developed and built in our down town area. In addition, Mayor and Council are concerned that development in

the past has been sporadic at best – a building here, a building there, etc. Our down town area needs a full picture. Several properties in the City including the funeral home, Bass property, Thrifty Car rental, the Singer building, 3409 Rhode Island Avenue (library and old police station) require serious attention in order to restore our down town area. We have asked Landmark to take a look at the big picture (including the old Amoco station in the District) as they seek to work with the City in its redevelopment efforts. We believe strongly that they are the partners that will help to move the City forward with its redevelopment efforts.

The struggle continues with the port-a-potties, however, the good has outweighed the bad. As you may remember the City received a grant from the federal government to develop parking in the down town area. This grant requires that the development project be tied to mass transportation. Therefore, the City is looking at developing more permanent comfort stations for persons using mass transportation. We believe that this will help with many of the problems associated with the port-a-potties. We still need your help in keeping misuse or illegal activity at the port-a-potties to a minimum. So should you witness any misuse or illegal activity, please report it to the Mount Rainier Police Department by calling 301-985-6590.

As Mount Rainier continues on its path of leading the County in preserving our environment, the Mayor and Council approved the request of the Mount Rainier Corn Cooperative to have a 20-foot tall corn bin silo installed at 3601 Bunker Hill Road. The corn bin will provide corn for residents seeking to use an environment friendly source of energy to heat their homes. For more information on become a member of the Corn Coop contact Jodi-Beth McCain ([jbmccain@verizon.net](mailto:jbmccain@verizon.net)).

Each PGCMA and the 47<sup>th</sup> District Delegation hosts an Annapolis reception for residents, constituents and legislators. This year the receptions are set for Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 p.m. PGCMA's Legislative Reception will be held in Conference Room 1-West, Miller Senate Office Building; the 47<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Reception will be held in the same building Conference rooms A and B. If you have never gone to Annapolis during a legislative session to visit your delegation, here is an opportunity to hobnob with them and to see where their offices are in Annapolis. You will need photo identification to get in. For more information or directions, call 301-858-3326.

Thinking GREEN is becoming increasingly important in our world. In the past several months, many of our neighbors started taking steps to help save our planets. Many have installed solar lights and heating units; others have been busy planting trees, and helping to solve soil run off problems. Over the years, Mount Rainier has taken giant steps to save energy (City Hall); to reuse materials (Police Station); and to recycle paper, plastic and glass products. In the next year, we are seeking your help with making Mount Rainier become green. You probably already know about the "three Rs"--reading, 'riting, and 'rithmetic. But there are three more Rs you should know to help Mount Rainier become a Green Consumer:

**Refuse** to buy things that are excessively packaged, that are made of plastics or other materials that are not fully recyclable, that are wasteful in other ways, or that you don't really need.

**Reuse** whatever you can. And buy products made of or packaged in reused (recycled) material.

**Recycle** as much as you can. This allows us to get the most use of out of our precious resources, and when the City recycle we get a little something back.

All and all it has been a very good year for the City of Mount Rainier and its residents. We are encouraged by our progress and we know that there is still much to be done. Mayor and Council invite all of our residents to become active contributors to the growth and development of our City. Mount

Rainier is "A City on the Move." And, it is moving because of the contributions being made by each and everyone of you!

## Single-Stream Recycling In Mount Rainier

(Jimmy Tarlau)

We now have a single stream recyclable system and residents can now put paper, cardboard, glass and plastics in one container. This is a result of a newly renovated recycling facility in Prince Georges County that uses the latest technology to enable single stream recycling

Joe Robbins, who is a member of the newly formed Mt. Rainier Environmental Protection Board, and I visited the new Single-Stream Recycling Facility in Capitol Heights, MD. It was a fascinating visit. Joe & I learned a lot about the process of recycling in Prince Georges County.

The new facility takes all the plastics, cans, papers, cardboard, etc. and separates them in a series of steps. One process separates the cardboard from the paper. Big magnets and deflectors take the aluminum and steel cans out and put them in another section. Workers remove some of the non-recyclables such as plastic bags. Finally there are separate piles of paper, cardboard, plastics and glass that are shipped to manufacturers that re-use all the material. Aluminum cans go to Annheuser-Busch to make beer cans and plastic materials go to a Waste Management manufacturing facility that uses the material to produce its own sets of products. We were shown a t-shirt that was made out of the recyclable plastics.

The 65,000 square foot facility is owned by Prince Georges County but is operated by Waste Management Inc., a multi-management company with a market value of over \$15 billion and over 400 facilities. The facility gets over 11,000 tons of recycling material a month of which 20 tons come from Mt. Rainier. 70% of the recyclables are paper products and 30% are glass and plastics.

Recycling should be a big priority for Mt. Rainier residents. Trash that is not re-cycled goes to the Browns Station Road land-fill in Upper Marlboro; PG County charges us \$50 a ton to send them our trash. On the other hand, the town receives \$10 a ton for the recyclable material we send to the Capitol Heights facility.

We spend over \$80,000 a year by sending over 1,600 tons of trash to the land fill and we receive a measly \$2,000 a year by sending only 200 tons of recyclable material to the Capitol Heights facility. If we could double our recyclables, we would not only help make for a greener planet but we would save \$12,000.

Furthermore, we were told that the Browns Station land fill has only seven more years until it completely fills up. The number of active landfills in Maryland has decreased from 75 to 31. After Browns Station fills up we will have to send our trash to a transfer station that will transport the material to Southern Virginia or other more open areas at a considerably more cost to all of us.

### **Recycling makes a lot of sense.**

Here is a list of what can be recycled:

**Metals:** cans (aluminum and steel); Aluminum pie pans

**Mixed Paper/Corrugated cardboard:** newspaper, magazines, catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts and junk mail, colored paper, computer paper, paper grocery bags, envelopes, white office paper, wrapping paper, paper board, corrugated cardboard, books.

**Glass:** Jars and beverage containers, with out lids.

**Plastic:** #1 and #2 plastics containers; milk and water jugs, beverage containers and bleach bottles; no caps or lids.

**Here is a list of what cannot be recycled:**

Unacceptable items: margarine tubs, yogurt containers, styrofoam packing peanuts; bubble wrap; plastic wrap and bags; plastic utensils; light bulbs; broken glass, windowpanes & mirrors; motor oil & antifreeze containers, auto parts; medical waste; hazardous waste

Lids and caps of bottles and jars are trash, not recyclable

Please be careful to avoid unacceptable items. The facility allows for about 5% error, but we were told that if the percentage of non-recyclables in a load of recycling gets too high, the town will be *charged* instead of receiving money for the load that has been received. We saw a lawn mower and a battery that had been mistakenly sent to the facility.

Although the facility does not recycle batteries and compact fluorescent bulbs, they contain materials such as mercury that should also not go into landfill; you can drop them off at Ikea for recycling.

**Riding Along with the Mt. Rainier Police**

The Mt. Rainier police dept. has a program where residents can ride along with a police officer on a given shift. I participated in the program and spent three hours on a Friday evening driving with Sgt. Williams and Corporal Kenworthy (assigned to Brentwood). It was an extremely interesting evening. I witnessed a drug arrest on Eastern and Rhode Island Ave., a resolution of a family dispute in Queenstown, and a chase and re-possession of a stolen (from Hyattsville) vehicle.

We visited every hot spot (high crime area) more than once and drove up and down every street in Mt. Rainier. Sgt. Williams tells me that on a given 12-hour shift, he'll try and drive through the whole town at least three times as well as responding to calls and keeping an eye on the high crime areas in the city.

A lot of people tell me that they never see a police officer driving in their neighborhood, but driving with Sgt. Williams I can tell you that the police officers do patrol the city. I was also impressed with both Sgt. Williams and Corp. Kenworthy's knowledge of the city and those few individuals who are the cause of a lot of the crime and drugs in our community.

I would encourage others to participate in the drive-along program. It really makes it possible to understand what our police force does on a daily basis and to get to know some of our public safety officers. You can pick up the forms (security check, waivers, etc.) at the police station or if you e-mail me at [jtarlau@cwa-union.org](mailto:jtarlau@cwa-union.org) or call me at 301-335-6099, I will get you the forms.

**TOWN CENTER COMMITTEE APPLICANTS SOUGHT**

Are you excited about the redevelopment taking place in downtown Mount Rainier? Do you have artistic and visionary ideas you want to contribute to this process? Would you like to play an important role in the revitalization of the city as part of the Gateway Arts District? If you answer "yes" to any or all of these questions, then consider applying to join the Mount Rainier Town Center Design Review Committee (TCDRC).

City officials are currently seeking applicants to join the committee, which is a six-person group that reviews and make recommendations on all proposals for new development and exterior renovation (especially signage) in the city's Mixed-Use Town Center Zone (MUTCZ).

This zone extends along Rhode Island Avenue from the city limits into the 3400 block, along 34<sup>th</sup> Street from the 3700 block into the 4000 block, along parts of Bunker Hill Road, Curtis Street, and Perry Street.

Members attend monthly meetings held on the second or third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

The committee consists of two members each from the residential, business, and municipal community. The Committee's findings are advisory to the Prince George's County Planning Board. The Board, as part of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), will select and appoint committee members from a pool of applicants provided by Mount Rainier officials.

Business applicants must own/operate a business anywhere in Mount Rainier and/or hold a management position in a business located in the MUTCZ.

A municipal representative must have served or currently serves on a recognized municipal body in the city (council, board, committee, task force, etc.).

The Council is currently seeking applicants for business, municipal, and residential representatives. Please send a letter of interest and explain your qualifications by March 15, 2008, to Ms. Jeannelle Wallace, Mount Rainier City Hall, One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier MD 20712.

## **Message from Michael E. Scott, Chief of Police**

### ***Safe Shopping Tips***

Crime peaks during the holiday season, so it's important that you learn how to keep yourselves and your loved ones out of harm's way. Criminals look for the easiest opportunity when deciding where and when to commit a crime. Shoppers, particularly women, can be vulnerable to crimes such as theft, robbery and assault. The following crime prevention tips and recommendations will help you make your holiday shopping a safe and happy experience.

- Be alert and aware of your surroundings at all times. Knowing what is around you can keep you from being surprised, and it also allows you time to react if something appears suspicious.
- Display confidence. Criminals tend to choose a victim who looks like an easy target. That choice is partially based on their perception about your ability to react to an attack. If you walk with purpose, scan the area around you, and make casual eye contact with others around you, you are displaying confidence.
- Trust your instincts. Your body will tell you when someone or some thing is suspicious. If you have an intuitive feeling that something is wrong, do not second-guess yourself. React immediately and take action to reduce your risk.
- Keep a close eye on your children while shopping. Teach your children to go to a store clerk or security guard if they ever get separated from you in a store or mall. Make sure they know their first and last name so they can tell someone who they are. It's best to keep children under four in a stroller. Children in shopping carts should be properly belted and seated in the child carrier area at all times —never let your child stand in or push a shopping cart. If possible, leave your children with a baby-sitter while you are shopping. For holiday shopping, consider making arrangements with family or friends/neighbors, and take turns baby-sitting.

- Carry only what you need. Extra cash, credit cards, checks, jewelry and other items should be left at home. If it is necessary to carry a purse, keep it in front of you and close to your body. Men should keep wallets out of back pockets where they can be easily stolen. Carry wallets in a front coat or pants pocket, or use a money clip as an alternative.
- Don't be overburdened with packages. Carrying several shopping bags makes you look vulnerable. Request a store to hold your merchandise until you're finished shopping. If the store does not offer that service, put excess packages in the trunk of your car before you continue shopping.
- Shop with others. The chance of being victimized drops off dramatically when with you are with a companion. If there are three or more people together, the chance of being targeted for crime is 90% less than when you are alone.
- Ask for an escort. Most retailers and shopping malls have private security personnel on duty, especially during the holidays. Ask them for an escort to your vehicle if you are uncomfortable venturing into the parking lot alone.
- Be prepared. Have your keys in hand when walking to your vehicle. The keys can be used as a defensive weapon and you will not waste time trying to find them while standing outside your vehicle. Carry a whistle or a personal alarm. These devices can alert security personnel and other persons around you that something is wrong.
- Plan ahead. Choose parking areas where lighting is good and activity is high. Keep valuables inside your car out of view, preferably in the trunk or other secure compartment. Make sure you lock your car, and use a Club or other anti-theft device. Most thefts from auto occur on cars that are left unlocked.

## Holiday Safety Tips

### Christmas Trees

When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant." Although this label is not a guarantee that the tree won't catch fire, it does indicate that the tree will resist burning and should extinguish quickly.

When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches when bent between your fingers, and needles do not break. The cut base of the tree's trunk is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the fresh tree should not lose many needles. Wholesale Christmas tree growers generally harvest their mass-market trees in mid to late October. If you buy a tree from your local garden center (Lowe's, Home Depot), nursery store, high volume discount store or from a lot operated by a service club, you are most likely getting a tree that can be as much as two months old before it gets to your home. You should ask the seller when his/her trees were cut and shop around for the freshest cut tree possible. Older cut trees are dryer and are more susceptible to catching fire than a fresh cut tree. They will also leave fewer needles in your carpet to be vacuumed up after the holidays!

When setting up a tree at home, place it at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, heating vents and other sources of heat. Be sure to keep the stand filled with water. Make sure your tree stand holds at least 1 gallon of water. As a general rule, stands should provide 1 quart of water per inch of stem diameter. The average 6-foot tree has a 4-inch diameter trunk and can consume as much as 4 quarts or 1 gallon of water per day. Clean water is all that is needed to keep the tree fresh. Do not use additives in the water, such as floral preservatives, molasses, sugar, bleach, soft drinks, and aspirin. When selecting a location for the tree, try to avoid heavy traffic areas and do not block doorways. HINT: before bringing the tree into the house, cut ½" to 1" off the bottom of the trunk before putting it in its stand, then use *hot* water when to fill the stand for the first time. The hot water will help dissolve any sealing pitch open up restrictions so the tree can better "drink" water and transpire that water to its leaves.

## Decorative Lighting

Indoors or outdoors, use only those lights that have been tested for safety and are UL approved. Check each set of lights, old or new, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or loose connections, and throw out damaged sets.

Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord. Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights and a person could be electrocuted by touching a branch.

Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house walls, or other firm supports. Do not use staples or nails to hang strings of lights. Use hooks or clips designed for hanging light strings.

Turn off lights when you leave the house or go to bed.

For added electric shock protection, plug outdoor electric lights and decorations to a protected ground fault circuit (GFCIs). Portable outdoor GFCIs can be purchased where electrical supplies are sold.

*Never* use lighted candles on a tree or near evergreens. Always place candles where they will not be knocked down or where small children can reach them.

## Decorations

If you have small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are breakable. Keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of pets and small children to prevent them from swallowing or inhaling them. Avoid tree trimmings that resemble food that may tempt a child or your pets.

Use only non-combustible or flame resistant materials to trim a tree. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or non-leaded metals. Leaded materials are hazardous if ingested.

Follow container directions carefully when using snow sprays to avoid lung irritation.

Wear gloves to avoid eye and skin irritation while decorating with spun glass.

Do not burn wrapping papers in the fireplace. A flash fire could result as wrapping paper burns suddenly and intensely. If you plan to hang stockings over your fireplace, do not use the fireplace for fires.

## OCTOBER 2007 SELECTED OFFENSES BY TEAM POLICING AREA

Date	Offense	Location			TPA
20-Oct-07	Aggravated Assault	BL	QUEENS CHAPEL	RD	1A
23-Oct-07	B & E - Residential	4200 BL	RUSSELL	AV	1A
08-Oct-07	B & E - Residential	3100 BL	QUEENS CHAPEL	RD	1A
22-Oct-07	Robbery - Citizen	4200 BL	RUSSELL	AV	1A
17-Oct-07	Theft - From Auto	3200 BL	QUEENS CHAPEL	RD	1A
14-Oct-07	Theft < 500	2400 BL	ARUNDEL	RD	1A
19-Oct-07	Vandalism to Auto	3300 BL	BUCHANAN	ST	1A

04-Oct-07	Vandalism to Auto	2900 BL	ALLISON	ST	1A
30-Oct-07	B & E - Commercial	3500 BL	37TH	ST	1B
30-Oct-07	B & E - Residential	3700 BL	WELLS	AV	1B
04-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	4200 BL	34TH	ST	1B
14-Oct-07	Theft < 500	3300 BL	OTIS	ST	1B
12-Oct-07	Theft -Vehicle Tags	3700 BL	RHODE ISLAND	AV	1B
24-Oct-07	Vandalism to Auto	3500 BL	NEWTON	PL	1B
02-Oct-07	Vandalism to Auto	4000 BL	35TH	ST	1B
02-Oct-07	B & E - Residential	3200 BL	TAYLOR	ST	2A
29-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	4600 BL	29TH	ST	2A
22-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	4100 BL	31ST	ST	2A
20-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	2700 BL	WEBSTER	ST	2A
16-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	4200 BL	RUSSELL	AV	2A
16-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	2700 BL	UPSHUR	ST	2A
10-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	2700 BL	UPSHUR	ST	2A
08-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	2700 BL	UPSHUR	ST	2A
02-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	4200 BL	28TH	PL	2A
17-Oct-07	Theft - From Auto	4500 BL	EASTERN	AV	2A
15-Oct-07	Theft - From Auto	2900 BL	ARUNDEL	RD	2A
14-Oct-07	Theft - From Auto	3100 BL	QUEENS CHAPEL	RD	2A
12-Oct-07	Theft - From Auto	BL	UPSHUR	ST	2A
30-Oct-07	Theft < 500	2300 BL	VARNUM	ST	2A
19-Oct-07	Theft < 500	2300 BL	VARNUM	ST	2A
08-Oct-07	Theft < 500	BL	RUSSELL	AV	2A
15-Oct-07	Theft > 500	2300 BL	VARNUM	ST	2A
05-Oct-07	Theft > 500	2700 BL	WEBSTER	ST	2A
20-Oct-07	Theft -Vehicle Tags	2900 BL	ARUNDEL	RD	2A
20-Oct-07	Theft -Vehicle Tags	2900 BL	ARUNDEL	RD	2A
16-Oct-07	Vandalism to Auto	4300 BL	RUSSELL	AV	2A
02-Oct-07	Vandalism to Auto	4200 BL	RUSSELL	AV	2A
02-Oct-07	Vandalism to Auto	4600 BL	25TH	ST	2A
02-Oct-07	Vandalism to Auto	BL	28TH	ST	2A
07-Oct-07	Aggravated Assault	3200 BL	OTIS	ST	2B
06-Oct-07	Animal Bite	BL	33RD	ST	2B
24-Oct-07	B & E - Residential	3800 BL	33RD	ST	2B
24-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	4000 BL	29TH	ST	2B
22-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	3800 BL	30TH	ST	2B
17-Oct-07	Stolen Vehicle	3800 BL	34TH	ST	2B
27-Oct-07	Theft - From Auto	2900 BL	BUNKER HILL	RD	2B
24-Oct-07	Theft - From Auto	2700 BL	ALLISON	ST	2B
05-Oct-07	Theft - From Auto	3200 BL	PERRY	ST	2B
08-Oct-07	Theft -Vehicle Tags	3200 BL	RHODE ISLAND	AV	2B
09-Oct-07	Vandalism	3200 BL	PERRY	ST	2B

**MRTV Channel 71**  
**Mount Rainier Cable Television**  
**Program Schedule**

Monday – Friday, 4pm, (see Channel 71 Bulletin Program Schedule Guide)  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month, 7pm Live cablecast of City Council Meetings  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month, 7pm-Live cablecast of City Council Work Sessions  
Program schedule and shows subject to change without notice

**Holiday spirit along Route One Corridor:**

December 1 the Town of North Brentwood will have its annual Christmas tree lighting at

On December 4, Brentwood will have its tree lighting at 6:30pm just before its Council meeting.

On December 8 from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm Party Time Liquors will be hosting a wine tasting for residents of the City of Mount Rainier featuring Italian Wines. Participants must be 21 years of age or older to participate. Please come out and participate, and bring your friends and neighbors. There will be special pricing on all wines carried by Party Time.

The Ladies Auxilliary of Bunker Hill Fire Station will host its Annual Breakfast with Santa on December 8 at 9:00am. Once again children will meet and greet Santa, have their pictures taken and shop for their families and loved ones.

On Friday, December 21 2007 at 7:00p, Santa Clause will be coming to Mount Rainier. Please come out and welcome Santa Clause. In addition, after Santa's ride through the City, he will come to Mount Rainier's City Hall to give out apple cider, cookies, and candy. All residents are invited to come out and participate. Santa's ride through the City has not been CONFIRMED as this goes to press, but we are almost certain that Santa will say yes.

On December 15 children from all neighborhoods are invited to come out to Bingo with Santa at the Bunker Hill Fire Station. This activity is scheduled for early after noon and additional information will be posted on all of our news media.

On December 29, Mayor and Council will drive-thru the city looking for homes with most impressive lighting display in Mount Rainier. There will be non-monetary prize giveaway for the best homes in the city.

**The Metropolitan Area's Winter Festival of Lights**

Throughout the region the holiday spirit will be celebrated through its tradition of lighting arrangements. Here are a few that have simply gotten better and better over the years:

**[Winter Festival of Lights at Watkins Regional Park](#)**

301 Watkins Park Drive, Upper Marlboro, Maryland. November 23, 2007-January 1, 2008. HOURS: 5-9:30 p.m. daily. \$5 per car; \$15 for mini-buses and limos; \$25 for buses; \$10 for multi-visit passes for cars and vans (good for three visits). The festival is FREE on December 25. You may bring canned food items to donate to local food banks for the holidays. Winter Festival of Lights is Prince George's County, Maryland's spectacular drive-through Christmas light display featuring more than a million twinkling lights

### [Festival of Lights at the Mormon Temple](#)

9900 Stoneybrook Dr., Kensington, Maryland. (301) 587-0144. November 30 through December 30, 2007. Dusk to 10 p.m. nightly. View more than 450,000 lights and a live outdoor Nativity scene each evening from 6 to 9 p.m. Live musical performances begin at 7 and 8 p.m. And for the first time this year there will be light arrangements at the Washington DC Zoo.

### [Zoo Lights at the National Zoo](#)

Rock Creek Park. Wednesdays–Sundays, November 28–December 30, 2007, 6 to 8:30 p.m. New this year! The National Zoo presents a seasonal display of thousands of sparkling animated lights, winter-themed crafts, ice sculpting demonstrations, choral groups, and storytellers.

### **REMINDER to Businesses in the Down Town Area**

You are invited to string lights outside your building during this holiday season. In an effort to allowing the hanging of Christmas/holiday lights, Mayor and Council passed a resolution that permits these lights from last week of November to first week of January.

### **For SENIORS Only:**

#### **Medicare Part D Enrollment Period**

Don't forget to enroll in the **2008 Medicare part D program** if you are eligible. The enrollment period is November 15 through December 31, 2007. Your new plan will take effect on January 1, 2008. Remember there is a penalty for late enrollment and there are some disadvantages for enrolling in the plan if you already have your own private health coverage from your employer. If you require assistance or help with this program, PLEASE contact me ASAP. You may get more information on the Medicare part D program at <http://www.medicare-partd.com/PartD-Medicare-Part-D-Enrollment-Forms.php>.

### **Senior Environmental Employment (SEE)**

Are you bored sitting at home? Tired of being out of the loop of the working populace? Here is a possible answer and it pays you. The **SEE program links federal, state, and local agencies with professionals 55** and over in administrative and support positions that range from clerical to scientific and field positions. EPA accepts funds through interagency agreements to provide program participants, also known as enrollees, to assist with environmental activities or other government or state agencies. For more information about the SEE program check out this website <http://www.napca.org/Default.aspx?tabid=55>.

### **Legacy Leadership Program, University of Maryland**

Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy, under the umbrella of the University of Maryland's Center on Aging, provides a bridge between the needs of local communities and government in **the state of Maryland and the knowledge, skills, and expertise of Maryland residents age 50+ through internships and volunteer** service. Started six years ago, the Legacy Leadership Institute on Public Policy instructs participants about Maryland government; (state, county, and municipal), in approximately 70 hours of classroom instruction on public policy, government, volunteerism, and leadership. Known as **Legacy Leaders**, participants will then serve as unpaid interns for the Maryland General Assembly. For more information on this program, please contact Jody Kiser or Wesley Queen at the University of Maryland at [wqueen@umd.edu](mailto:wqueen@umd.edu). The contact number at the Office on Aging for Mr. Queen is 301 405-2514. Or you may check out this website [http://www.sph.umd.edu/AGING/lli\\_policy\\_program.cfm](http://www.sph.umd.edu/AGING/lli_policy_program.cfm).

## Mount Rainier South Neighborhood Park

The Mount Rainier Town Council would like to receive community input for the skate park design. On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, a community meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall to discuss concept drawings and renovation of upper playground. There will also be discussion of the tentative timeline for completion.

### Timeline:

Mount Rainier Council Action	February 2008
Prepare Bid Documents	60 days
Advertise Bid	30 days
Contract Prep. & Approval	60 days
Construction	60-120 days
Completion	Fall 2008

## COUNCIL CONSIDERS SPANISH TRANSLATION OF THE MESSAGE

The Mayor and Council is considering a Spanish translation of *The Message* Newsletter in the very near future, perhaps as soon as the December edition. Several options are being considered including compiling a list of residents who feel it would be helpful to have a Spanish translation of *The Message*. The City will work on creating a database of Spanish speaking households, and providing a Spanish translation of *The Message* on the city's website. The City is also researching the cost of mailing the Spanish translation to those who do not have Internet access. If you or your neighbors are interested in receiving a Spanish translation of *The Message*, please contact us at the Mount Rainier Municipal Center at 301-985-6585, or contact the Mayor or your Ward Council representative.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER POSITION AVAILABLE

The City of Mount Rainier (population approximately 9,000) is looking for an ideal candidate to serve as Code Enforcement Officer. The position enforces the provisions of the *Mount Rainier Code*. Salary - \$35,000. Prior municipal code enforcement experience preferred. Please forward resume c/o City Manager, City of Mount Rainier, One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712. or email to [jwallace@mountrainiermd.org](mailto:jwallace@mountrainiermd.org). No phone calls please. Position is open until filled. The City of Mount Rainier is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## MOUNT RAINIER CALL-A-BUS

The Mount Rainier Call-A-Bus offers curb to curb bus service to medical appointments, shopping centers, recreation centers, libraries, and beauty and barber shops. Services are also available for field trips, special outings, and after school special events. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 9: am to 3:30 pm. For reservations and additional information, call 301-985-6586.

## HAZARDOUS AND BULK WASTE DISPOSAL

County residents can take items to the county landfill for free on Sundays from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. You can take car tires and batteries, household hazardous wastes, old paint, old air conditioners and refrigerators, and old electronics like computers. The city will pick up some of these items for a fee during bulk trash days. The county facility is located at 3500 Brown Station Rd., near Upper Marlboro. Landfill entrance is located on White House Road near intersection of MD 202. (301) 883-5045.

## 2007 Leaf Schedule

Leaf vacuuming is scheduled to start Tuesday November 27 and conclude December 13, 2007. The schedule below will be followed weather permitting. In order to have your leaves vacuumed, please follow the schedule and rake your leaves to the curb. Here are a few reminders.

- Rake your leaves at least 24 hours before the crew is expected to begin on your block.
- Rake your leaves to the curb without blocking the roadway.
- Please keep rocks, bricks, branches, brush, metal, or any other objects away from raked leaves.
- If leaves are in bags, they will *not* be vacuumed.

The Public Works Department will make an effort to stay on schedule, and you can help us by following the reminders above.

LA LIMPIEZA DE LAS HOJAS EN OTONO COMENZARA EL LUNES 25, DE OCTUBRE. El plan por abajo se va a seguir dependiente an el tiempo, Para que se limpian sus hojas, sigan al plan y rastrillen las hojas al encintado 24 horas antes de la llegada de los trabajadores.

November 27, 2007

3800 block of 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
3800 block of 36<sup>th</sup> Street  
3800 block of 37<sup>th</sup> Street

November 29, 2007

3400 – 3700 block of Bunker Hill Road  
3400 – 3700 block of Shepherd Street

December 4, 2007

3100 – 3600 block of Perry Street  
2900 – 3300 block of Bunker Hill  
2800 – 3300 block of Shepherd Street  
2800 – 3200 Block of Taylor Street  
3100 – 3200 block of Varnum Street

December 6, 2007

3100 block of Webster Street  
2800 - 3200 block of Upshur Street  
3100 block of Windom Road  
3100 – 3200 block of Arundel  
4100 – 4200 block of Rainier Avenue

November 28, 2007

4000 block of 35<sup>th</sup> Street  
4000 block of 36<sup>th</sup> Street  
4000 block of 37<sup>th</sup> Street

Newton Street  
Otis Street

December 11, 2007

4600 block of 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
4100 – 4200 block of 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
4000 – 4500 block of 29<sup>th</sup> Street

December 13, 2007

4000 – 4500 block of 30<sup>th</sup> Street  
3800 – 4500 block of 31<sup>st</sup> Street  
3800 – 4500 block of 32<sup>nd</sup> Street  
3800 – 4100 block 33<sup>rd</sup> Street

# Bulk Trash

Bulk Trash is collected the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month, if there is a holiday observed on the Monday the Pick will be done the next working day. All requests must be made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding the scheduled pick up day. The bulk request numbers is 301 985 6558 and select option 1

If you have questions you may call 301 985 6583, ***PLEASE do not leave messages for bulk trash pick up on this line.***

You are allowed 3 cubic yard per pick up, refrigerators, freezers and A/c's are \$25.00 each and tires are \$5.00 with out rim and \$6.00 with rim.

# Yard Waste Removal Reminder

Beginning December, yard waste will be collected on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month and it will be by appointments only, this will continue for January and February. Please call 301 985 6558 and select option 2 to be placed on the list.

*Listed hereunder is the scheduled pick up dates for trash in the City of Mt. Rainier, for December 2007 and January 2008*

DATE	PARTICULARS	DATE	PARTICULARS
December 3	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)	January 2	Regular Trash Pick Up
December 5	Regular Trash Pick Up	January 4	Recyclables Pick Up
December 7	Recyclables Pick Up	January 7	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
December 10	Yard Waste Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)	January 9	Regular Trash Pick Up
December 12	Regular Trash Pick Up	January 11	Recyclables Pick Up
December 14	Recyclables Pick Up	January 14	Yard Waste Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
December 17	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)	January 15	<b><i>Martin Luther King Birthday (City Hall and Public Works Closed)</i></b>
December 19	Regular Trash Pick Up	January 16	Regular Trash Pick Up
December 21	Recyclables Pick Up	January 18	Recyclables Pick Up
December 26	Regular Trash Pick Up	January 21	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
December 28	Recyclables Pick Up	January 23	Regular Trash Pick Up
		January 25	Recyclables Pick Up
		January 30	Regular Trash Pick Up

<b>Starting December Yard Waste will be collected on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and by appointments only</b>
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***Please have all bulk trash and yard waste out by 7:00 am on the respective pick up day and all bulk trash and Yard Waste appointments made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding pick up day***