



# Message

Issue 235  
February 2006

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**The deadline for submissions  
for the Message is the 20<sup>th</sup>  
of each month.**

[www.mountrainiermd.org](http://www.mountrainiermd.org)

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## Register Now for Our Summer Programs!

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Summer Program registration for all Montgomery Parks summer camps and programs is now open. Visit [www.mcsummerprograms.com](http://www.mcsummerprograms.com) for more information!

Montgomery Parks offers a wide variety of fun and educational summer programs for children of all ages. Choose a program from our Lifestyle & Learning, Nature, Science or Sports categories, or try out our new Week in the Park program. We're sure to have a program to interest any child. And with morning, afternoon, and full- or multiple-day offerings, we're sure to fit your schedule as well.

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## Recycling News

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We ask all residents to **PLEASE RECYCLE**

- Please ***rinse all*** glass, plastic ***bottles*** and ***cans*** and place in yellow bins or recycle tubs
- Place all ***newspapers*** and ***magazines*** in cardboard boxes or paper bags
- Contaminated boxes (e.g. used pizza boxes) should be placed in with regular trash
- Absolutely no Styrofoam

### City Ordinance Section 11-112

Recyclables will be collected every Friday. Recyclables must be set out for pickup no sooner than 7:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled collection day and no later than 7:00 a.m. the day of the scheduled pickup. If a collection day falls on a holiday or if weather is such to prohibit collection, the next recyclable collection **will be the next Friday.**

Residents can get recycle bins by calling 301-985 6583. Please note that the first bin is free and the second costs \$7.50 which ***must*** be paid for at City Hall.

Public Works thanks you for your cooperation

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## A Career Day and Job Fair

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### Employers and prospective employees

Come and meet a variety of private and governmental agencies, as well as a number of jobseekers on Thursday, April 27, 2006 between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Mount Rainier, 3103 Shepherd Street, Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712. For more information, call 301-927-5565 or fax to 301 927-5202 .

**Job seekers: Bring copies of your resume and dress professionally.**

Some of the companies, agencies, and organizations expected include: Prince George's County, Office of Human Resources Management.

**For Employers' registration contact:** 301-927-5565 Church office phone, 301-927-5202 fax. Charles B. Kirkland, Pastor of Mission and Community Outreach and Marcus N. Tillman, Senior Pastor. Online registration with Daniel Joya: [danjoya@aol.com](mailto:danjoya@aol.com).

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## Mayor's Report

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### City on the Move

Our "City on the Move" is definitely moving forward. Let us take a brief moment to applaud ourselves for all our accomplishments in 2005. And we have hit the ground running for 2006, and the year has just begun. The Mayor and Council have made development, revitalization, and maintaining the architectural character of our community a top priority. We hear your concerns, we are listening, and we are taking action.

### Panel Discussion on Architectural Standards and Historic Preservation

On Tuesday, January 24, 2006, Council Member Knedler, Council Member Briones, and I hosted a panel of experts in the area of zoning and historic preservation. Our expert panelists were Dineene O'Connor, Park and Planning Development Review and Zoning; Howard Berger, Park and Planning Historic Preservation Commission, Linda Perlman, City Attorney; and Vicki Onderdonk, Design Review Board. The presentation was well attended by residents, property owners, and several local business/ property owners. Your Mayor and Council are taking an active role in the current development and future development of the City. In the coming months, additional workshops and meetings will be held to discuss issues related to development standards, zoning, and historic preservation in Mount Rainier.

### Neighborhood Watch Program Meeting

Our Neighborhood Watch Program held a meeting on Monday, January 23, 2006 in the Mount Rainier Police Station Community Room. Committee President Ophelia Baxter commented that the meeting was very well attended. The City was well represented at the meeting: City Manager Jeannelle Wallace, Assistant City Manager James Booth, Acting Chief Mike Scott,

Acting Lieutenant James Stoots, and CSAFE Coordinator Donald Bell. There were many new faces at the meeting. Ms. Baxter stressed that it is important that residents become more involved in their community. She reminded residents that they are the eyes and ears of our Police Department. In the November 2005 *Message*, I urged residents to get involved and make the Neighborhood Watch Program a fully functional committee in order to qualify for renewed funding. Once again, I am asking residents to join the Program and become active members. The Neighborhood Watch Program is an important part our City's multi-faceted approach to continue reducing crime and improving the quality of life in Mount Rainier. We have to return to the days of yesterday when neighbors were actively involved in community and block watch. We are not asking residents to wear orange vest and walk the block as auxillary police officers. We are asking neighbors to keep their eyes and ears open for any suspicious activities. City Manager Jeannelle Wallace has suggested that the Neighborhood Watch Program can maintain a list or database of residents who are home during the day or evening who are willing to call Mount Rainier Police or their neighbors if they notice any things suspicious or out of the ordinary. This is similar to the process that our Emergency Preparedness Commission is developing for residents that need special assistance due to medical conditions and limited mobility. A stronger community starts and ends with each and every resident taking an active role in community safety.

Let's join together in making Mount Rainier a safer place and a true livable community. For further information regarding the Neighborhood Watch Program, please contact Ms. Ophelia Baxter at [orbaxter@comcast.net](mailto:orbaxter@comcast.net).

### Committees Seeking Members

Our many committees need you. Several of our committees are in need of members. I am sure there is a committee that is of interest to you and their meeting schedules fit into your schedule. Please contact James Booth, Assistant City Manager at City Hall at 301-985-6585 to find out more about the following committees:

- Tool Shed Committee
- Beautification Committee
- Neighborhood Watch Program
- Parking Task Force Committee
- Tree Commission
- Cable Commission
- Emergency Preparedness Commission
- Mount Rainier Business Association

### Mayor and Council Meeting

At the January 3, 2006 Council meeting, the Mayor and Council passed Resolution 32-2005 to establish the Youth Program and Recreation Committee. The Committee will begin seeking members, setting meeting dates and times, and actively addressing the programmatic needs and activities for our youth.

The next regularly scheduled Mayor and Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 7, 2006 starting at 7 p.m. I would like to thank all our residents that have taken the time to attend our meetings and for those of you who are active in the community. This is your City, my City, Our City. Let's continue to make Mount Rainier the "Gateway" City to the County and a "City on the Move."

### Final Note

One final note, the *Message* is your newsletter. Let us know about the important events and activities that are occurring throughout the City that we can share with all our residents.

## City Manager's Report

**City Bridges.** The PG County Department of Public Works conducts an inspection of City bridges every two years. Most of what they have recommended are repairs of hairline cracks in the surfaces of the sidewalk, and asphalt. In some cases they have noticed debris and erosion and have recommended the necessary repairs. All of the bridges are of course over the tributary to the Northwest Branch, 29th Street, 30th Street, Arundel Road and Chillum Road. In each report, the areas were classified as either in good, satisfactory or fair condition. These repairs however, totaling \$117,000 are to ensure the continued good working condition and to avoid more serious problems down the road. I have forwarded these reports to Luther Smith, Acting Director of Public Works and have instructed that he and Paul Messersmith include these costs in their Capital Improvement Program budget submission for Fiscal-Year 2007.

In response to Council concerns about the recent assault and robbery on Shepherd Street, and other complaints received by Council member Briones, the neighbors were invited to attend and participate in the Neighborhood Watch Meeting at the MRPD that was held Monday, January 23, 2006. Several citizens did attend the Neighborhood Watch meeting and there will be future meetings scheduled as the program develops. For further information please contact Chairperson Ophelia Baxter at [orbaxter@comcast.net](mailto:orbaxter@comcast.net), or Donald Bell, CSAFE Coordinator at [dbell@mountrainiermd.org](mailto:dbell@mountrainiermd.org).

**Improper Water Drainage.** In terms of the water drainage problems in the City, there are several properties that are in violation of the City Code, Chapter 3, Section 3-114 pertaining to water drainage. Code Enforcement Officers will be issuing Notices of Violations to those residents who need to abate the condition on their property. Water cannot be drained onto joining property or in public areas.

**Kaywood Apartments.** There was a tentative meeting scheduled for next week with PEPCO contact person Ernest Baker, Gary Herrod (Regional Manager of Kaywood Apartments), the Mayor and myself to discuss solutions pertaining to the light outages in the apartment complex. Mr. Baker has had some difficulty in confirming his representatives as well as Mr. Herrod has a scheduling conflict. We are currently attempting to reschedule the meeting for Friday, January 27, 2006 or the following week. The City's electrical contractor (Northeast Electric) is used when there are problems with the bulb or power source above the ground. If the power source problem is below the light pole (i.e., underground) then it is a PEPCO responsibility to repair. This is one area that will be explored at the meeting. Additionally, Gary Herrod has secured vendors to install flood-lights in areas that are dark and need additional illumination.

In response to a letter sent to the attention of Mayor Miles from a resident who claimed she had not had heat in her apartment for 15 years, CE Brown scheduled an inspection of the unit, but the resident never showed. CE Brown contacted the management and they consented to scheduling a vendor to inspect and make necessary repairs. CE Brown followed-up with the resident who indicated that there had been some improvement. Public Works has verified that all lights are in working order at present.

**Illegal Sheds.** Several property owners were either cited for non-completion of the shed or for lack of a City permit. Code Enforcement Nicol has inspected these properties and a Notice of Violation was issued.

**Red Light Camera Agreement.** The Mayor and Council at the last work session reached a consensus to move

forward with the Red Light Camera Agreement as long as the City receives comparable revenue and the overall contract is similar to the one signed with other neighboring jurisdictions. The City Manager contacted the American Traffic Solutions and a revised contract should be submitted before the next scheduled Mayor and Council meeting on February 7, 2006.

**Bond Bill Request.** The City has requested support of a Bond Bill to finance construction of a community center/library at the 3409 Rhode Island Avenue property in the amount of \$500,000-\$700,000. Senator Gwendolyn Britt will sponsor the bill.

**FY 07 Budget Instructions.** Budget instructions were issued to each City department and community groups January 13, 2006.

**City Code.** The City Code of Ordinances has been updated with the exception of Chapter 12C (a new chapter that was created by Ordinance) and the latest revision to Chapter 3, Building Code.

**Trash Can Notices.** As you know the City Manager prepared a notice to all residents concerning the trash can requirements. This notice has been translated into Spanish and has been copied on both sides and distributed to the remaining 152 property owners who are still in violation. Notices have been submitted to the cable station, website and in *The Message*.

**Property Liens.** The City Manager completed a list of properties and submitted to the State today requesting a \$16,000 in property liens. An additional property lien request was submitted in the amount of \$1,450.

**Vacant Property.** A letter to the Department of Environmental Resources was  
**City Manager Report, continued on page 8**

# Police Chief's Report

## How To Reach Us

For police service calls  
(24 hours a day) 301-985-6565/66  
Administrative Offices ONLY  
(M-F, 9A-5P) 301-985-6580  
[www.mountrainiermd.org/government/mrpd/index.html](http://www.mountrainiermd.org/government/mrpd/index.html)  
Please cut and place on or by your phone

## Sex Offender Holiday Visits

On Christmas Day, officers of the Mount Rainier Police Department conducted residence verification checks of the four registered sex offenders who live in the City. The officers were able to confirm three of the four, and received information that the fourth individual had moved out of the City and left no forwarding address. The Prince George's County Police Sex Offender Unit was advised that one of our offenders was not in compliance with registration requirements. An investigation ensued, and the Sex Offender Unit was able to locate the individual who had moved and not properly notified authorities of his new address. The MRPD will continue to conduct periodic, unannounced checks of sex offenders who register their address in Mount Rainier. Although we are not the primary agency responsible for these checks, it is imperative to the safety and well being of our residents that we take the lead in ensuring that these individuals comply with the conditions placed upon them by the justice system.

## Auto Theft

The crime of auto theft continues to be our number one problem in the City accounting for 40 percent of our reported part I crimes. Do not forget to lock your car! Please follow these steps.

### LOCK YOUR CAR AND TAKE THE KEYS, and

- Do not leave valuables in the car, or
- Packages in plain sight, and
- Park your car in a well lighted area, and
- Use an anti-theft device, and
- Use your trunk to conceal gifts.

To learn more about auto theft prevention go on line to [www.mdautotbeft.org](http://www.mdautotbeft.org) or

contact the Department at 301-985-6565/66 and ask an officer to visit you for further information.

## Criminals Love Apartments!

Apartments provide increased, concentrated opportunity for a variety of crimes including burglary, auto theft, car break-ins and vandalisms, personal assault, and robbery.

A much higher ratio of crime occurs in apartment complexes than in residential neighborhoods. This is due to many factors, including population density, a high concentration of cars parked together, unfamiliarity with neighbors and anonymity of residents, the transient nature of apartment populations, and numerous dark corners on the property.

What apartment residents can do:

- Promptly report safety hazards to management (lights out, missing or broken, gaps in fences, overgrown bushes, bad door locks, etc.);
- Keep porch lights *on*;
- Lock deadbolts, window latches, and sliding doors;
- Request and use peepholes in doors;
- Get to know neighbors by name, and recognize their vehicles;
- Resolve to report suspicious people and activity to police and apartment management immediately;
- Lock cars, and *never* leave them running;
- Remove *all* valuables from parked cars (including CDs, purses, cell-phones, change, clothing, etc.);
- Take removable faces off car stereo equipment;
- Secure vehicles with “*The Club*” or similar device;
- Secure firearms in safes or with gun locks (available *free* from MRPD);
- Pay attention when walking in public and walk with a friend, neighbor or relative whenever possible;
- Be more suspicious of strangers.

## Selected Crimes – December 2005

Date	Offense	Location
12/1/2005	Assault	3700 block 34th St.
12/4/2005	Assault	3700 block 34th St.

12/4/2005	Assault	4100 block 29th St.
12/15/2005	Assault	2900 block Arundel Rd.
12/16/2005	Assault	3200 block Rhode Is. Ave.
12/25/2005	Assault	4200 block Eastern Ave.
12/8/2005	Burglary	3200 block Chillum Rd.
12/13/2005	Burglary	3100 block Queens Ch. Rd.
12/26/2005	Burglary	3300 block Chillum Rd.
12/27/2005	Burglary	4500 block 34th St.
12/13/2005	Burglary	2200 block Varnum St.
12/25/2005	Burglary	4000 block 34th St.
12/4/2005	Robbery	3800 block 31st St.
12/5/2005	Robbery	3700 block 35th St.
12/7/2005	Robbery	4600 block 27th St.
12/21/2005	Robbery	4700 block 30th St.
12/22/2005	Robbery	3100 block Queens Ch. Rd.
12/24/2005	Robbery	4400 block 34th St.
12/28/2005	Robbery	3300 block Buchanan St.
12/3/2005	Stolen Auto	3100 block Queens Ch. Rd.
12/4/2005	Stolen Auto	3200 block Upshur St.
12/5/2005	Stolen Auto	2900 block Upshur St.
12/5/2005	Stolen Auto	3200 block Upshur St.
12/6/2005	Stolen Auto	7000 block 29th St.
12/6/2005	Stolen Auto	4300 block Kaywood Dr.
12/7/2005	Stolen Auto	4300 block Russell Pl.
12/8/2005	Stolen Auto	3100 block Queens Ch. Rd.
12/11/2005	Stolen Auto	4200 block 29th St.
12/11/2005	Stolen Auto	4000 block 34th St.
12/13/2005	Stolen Auto	4300 block Russell Ave.
12/16/2005	Stolen Auto	4600 block 25th St.
12/18/2005	Stolen Auto	4200 block 34th St.
12/18/2005	Stolen Auto	4200 block 32nd St.
12/20/2005	Stolen Auto	4000 block 35th St.
12/21/2005	Stolen Auto	2900 block Taylor St.
12/22/2005	Stolen Auto	4000 block 37th St.
12/23/2005	Stolen Auto	3100 block Webster St.
12/24/2005	Stolen Auto	3100 block Taylor St.
12/27/2005	Stolen Auto	2500 block Arundel Rd.
12/30/2005	Stolen Auto	4400 block 28th Pl.
12/9/2005	Theft - From Auto	4200 block 28th St.
12/9/2005	Theft - From Auto	4200 block Kaywood Dr.
12/9/2005	Theft - From Auto	4300 block Russell Ave.
12/10/2005	Theft - From Auto	4200 block 28th St.
12/16/2005	Theft - From Auto	4000 block 29th St.
12/16/2005	Theft - From Auto	4200 block Russell Ave.
12/18/2005	Theft - From Auto	4400 block 30th St.
12/4/2005	Theft - Vehicle Tags	4600 block Russell Ave.
12/8/2005	Theft - Vehicle Tags	4300 block Russell Ave.
12/21/2005	Theft - Vehicle Tags	3500 block Rhode Is. Ave.
12/1/2005	Theft Under \$500	2300 block Varnum St.
12/21/2005	Theft Under \$500	3100 block Queens Ch. Rd.
12/31/2005	Theft Under \$500	3100 block Queens Ch. Rd.
12/7/2005	Vandalism	4000 block 34th St.
12/7/2005	Vandalism	3200 block Otis St.
12/16/2005	Vandalism	3300 block Chillum Rd.
12/21/2005	Vandalism	4200 block 34th St.
12/9/2005	Vandalism - Auto	3700 block Rhode Is. Ave.
12/10/2005	Vandalism - Auto	3100 block Queens Ch. Rd.
12/19/2005	Vandalism - Auto	4300 block Kaywood Dr.
12/28/2005	Vandalism - Auto	3300 block Bunker Hill Rd.
12/28/2005	Vandalism - Auto	4100 block 31st St.
12/29/2005	Vandalism - Auto	3300 block Bunker Hill Rd.

## Council Highlights

December 6, 2005 – Mayor and Council meeting

- Maryanne Anthony, facilitator of the Intergovernmental Network presented to the Mayor and Council a summary of the revised By-laws that will essentially allow Prince George's County to use this system to share information among participating municipalities, public school system, colleges and universities, and police departments.
- Luther Smith – Public Works Department – briefed the council on recycling in the City.

Legislation –

- Resolution 31-2005 to adopt the amended I-Net Committee By-laws (first reading)  
Resolution 29-2005 requesting that the City opt out of specified development standards applicable to the City's Traditional Residential Neighborhood (TRN) character area approved as part of the Sector Plan and Sectional Map Amendment (SMA) for the Prince George's County Gateway Arts District. (A fair summary of this resolution was provided in the December/January edition of the *Message*). Second reading, the resolution passed 4-0.
- Ordinance 9-2005 to revise the building permit provisions of Chapter 3, Building Code of the City's Code of Ordinances. Second reading, ordinance passed 4-0. (Fair summary provided in the December/January edition of the *Message*).
- Council adjourned to go into closed session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations.

December 13, 2005 – Mayor and Council Work Session

- Assistant City Manager James Booth presented to the Council options concerning the variable tax rate.
- Mayor and Council discussed employee Christmas bonuses

Resolution 32-2005 Establishing a Youth Program Committee reviewed.

- Council recessed to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

Resolution 30-2005

- Council reconvened into the public session to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement and memorandum with the Fraternal Order of Police, Mount Rainier Police Lodge 85 (FOP 85). Resolution passed.

January 3, 2006 – Mayor and Council Meeting

*Unfinished Business*

Legislation

- Resolution 31-2005 Adopting the amended I-Net Committee By-laws – second reading - resolution passed 4-0.
- Resolution 32-2005 – Establishing a Youth Program and Recreation Committee first reading
- Ordinance 10-2005 Allowing the use of blinking lights in commercial areas (MUTC) ordinance passed

*New Business*

- Resolution 1-2006 – Fiscal-Year 2007 Budget Calendar – first reading/vote. Resolution passed.
- Resolution 2-2006 – Eliminating Employee Contracts – first reading.
- Ordinance 1-2006 – to amend Chapter 12 of the City Code and increase penalty for illegal deposit of trash - moved to discuss at January 13, 2006 work session.
- Ordinance 2-2006 – Amending Chapter 1A of the City Code to remove police officers at or above the rank of sergeant from the police bargaining unit – first reading.
- Ordinance 3-2006 – Amending Chapter 12-101 of the City Code to require that the finished side of a fence shall face the public street or abutting property – first reading.

January 17, 2006 – Mayor and Council work session

Discussion items –

- Zip Car Presentation Dan Ruddy presented a summary to the Council concerning the cost and other significant components of this car sharing program. Currently, the program exists in Maryland, DC and Virginia. Competitive program is the Flex Car program.
- Red Light Camera agreement – council is ready to adopt provided that the agreement is similar to the one signed with University Park. City Manager was directed to obtain contract and contact the company.
- Variable Tax Rate – Assistant City Manager Booth and Acting Chief Scott presented facts concerning the option for commercial properties.
- Parking Restrictions - Council discussed the options of a parking district for commercial and recreational vehicles. Ordinance 1-2006 – council discussed recommendations for amending this draft ordinance increasing penalty for illegal dumping and placing Illegal Dumping Signs in all City alleys. First reading will occur in February.
- Council adjourned to closed session to discuss a personnel matter – City Manager evaluation; a special tax levy and taxing district, and WAMATA response letter with City attorney.

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## Regional Area Gang Enforcement (R.A.G.E.)

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PARENTS, Talk to your kids about gangs, BEFORE we have to! Your Child may be involved with a gang if they exhibit any or all of the following warning signs...

- Admits to gang involvement
- Has frequent unexplained or unexcused absences/early dismissals from school
- Has a drastic change in their daily routine or schedule
- Withdraws from family with an accompanying change in demeanor
- Associates with undesirable friends and breaks parental rules consistently
- Becomes very secretive about their friends or activities
- Develops an unusual desire for privacy and secrecy and may completely rearrange living quarters to create privacy
- Has a drastic change in friends
- Uses hand signs while with friends and practices them at home
- Is obsessed with one particular color of clothing or refuses to wear one particular color of clothing
- Is obsessed with one specific brand of clothing or refuses to wear a specific brand of clothing
- Is obsessed with a particular logo on their clothing or refuses to wear a specific logo on their clothing
- Is obsessed with or wears clothing with a certain number(s) or letter(s) on them or refuses to wear clothing with a certain number(s) or letter(s) on them
- Wears excessive jewelry with distinctive designs and may wear it only on either the right or left side of the body
- Is obsessed with gangster-influenced music, videos and movies to the point of imitation
- Develops an unusual desire for privacy and secrecy and may completely rearrange living quarters to create privacy
- Uses hand signs while with friends and practices them at home
- Develops unexplained physical injuries, scars or marks (such as being beaten)
- Peculiar drawings or language on school books, notebooks or other property

- Has a desire for or has gotten tattoos or brands
- Unexplained cash or goods, such as clothing or jewelry or other property
- Possible use of alcohol and drugs with attitude change

### TELL YOUR CHILDREN THEY SHOULD NOT:

- Associate with any gang members or “wannabe/gonnabe” gang members
- Identify or communicate with gangs
- Hang out near or where gangs congregate
- Approach strangers in cars who appear to want information or directions
- Wear gang related clothing where gangs are known to gather or traverse
- Wear initialed clothing such as BK – British Knights – a/k/a “Blood Killer” in high crime areas
- Use words like “crab” or “slob” (localized lingo may develop) anywhere gangs may be; i.e. malls, sporting events, etc.
- Attend any party or social event sponsored by gangs or their associates
- Take part in any graffiti activity or hang around where graffiti is present
- Use any kind of finger or sign language in a public place.

### TIPS FOR PARENTS

- Impress upon your child the importance of school and good grades
- Spend quality time with your children
- Get involved in your child’s school activities
- Establish rules, set limits and be consistent, firm and fair in punishment
- Encourage good study habits
- Respect your child’s feelings and attitudes and help them develop self-esteem
- Watch closely for negative influences

### TIPS FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

- Help children develop self control

- Help children deal appropriately with problems
- Get involved in community oriented prevention and intervention programs
- Urge others to become involved
- Volunteer at your child’s school
- Gangs are a community problem and their influence does not stop at any particular boundary.
- Listen to your children. Communicate with them about their concerns and fears.

*Distributed by the Regional Area Gang Enforcement Task Force (R.A.G.E.), Sgt. G. Norris #1614, Prince George’s County Police Dept. 301-699-2628*

## Enforzamiento del Area Regional Anti-Pandillas

Padres, hablen con sus hijos/as con relación a las pandillas, **Antes** de que lo agamos nosotros! Su hijo puede que este involucrado con las pandillas si exhibe una o todas las senales de aviso que a continuación se describiran...

- Admite que pertenece a las pandillas
- Se ausenta con frecuencia y sin excusas, sale siempre por cierre temprano
- Ha tenido cambios drásticos en su rutina u horario
- Se retrae de la familia sin motivos ajenos
- Rompe las reglas puestas por los padres constantemente y se junta con amigos indeseables
- Siempre tiene secretos sobre sus amigos o actividades
- Ha desarrollado un deseo por su privacidad y secretismo y ha arreglado de manera de crear privacidad
- Ha tenido cambios drásticos de amistades
- Usa señales de manos con sus amigos y las practicas en casa
- Esta obsesionado con un color particular de ropas o se reusa usar una marcas especificas de ropas
- Esta obsesionado con una marca especifica de ropa o se reusa usar una marca especifica de ropa

- Esta obsesionado con un logotipo particular en las ropas o se reusa usar logotipo específico en su ropas
- Esta obsesionado con letras o numeros específico en su ropas y se reusa usar numeros o letras específicas en su ropas
- Usa demasiadas joyas y con diseños distintivo, y las usa solamante de un lado izquierdo o derecho del cuerpo
- Esta obsesionado con musica rapeo (ganster) y películas hasta el extremo de imitar
- Aparece con heridas en el cuerpo, cicatriz o marcas y no tiene explicación de cómo las recibió
- Dibujos peculiares o lenguaje raros escritos en los cuadernos de la escuela o en sus libretas o en otras pertenencias
- Tiene deseos de tatuarse o tiene tatuajes o marcas quemadas como de herrar?
- Dinero o articulos de extraña procedencia, como ropas caras, joyas u otras propiedades que no puede explicar como las consiguió
- Cambio de actitud, posible uso de bebida alcoholicas y drogas

Digale a su niño/a que no:

- No tenga amistad con pandilleros, “que quieren ser o aparentan ser” miembros de pandillas o personas que estén de acuerdo o se comunican con los pandilleros
- Que este o junte con sus amigos cerca o donde los pandilleros se congregan
- Se acerque a extraños en automóviles preguntando por información o dirección
- Use ropa que usan los pandilleros en los lugares que frecuentan o caminan los pandilleros
- Use ropas con las iniciales como BK – British Knights – a/k/a “Blood Killer” en areas que sea de muchos robos, crímenes y drogas
- Use palabras como “crab” o “slob”(pues se ha desarrollado una jerga local) en lugares donde estén los pandilleros como: los malls, eventos deportivos, ect.

- Asista a fiestas o eventos sociales patrocinados por pandillas o asociados
- Que no participe en pintar con graffiti las paredes o que se junte con amigos en lugares donde hay pinturas graffiti
- Use ninguna clase de señales con los dedos o lenguaje de señas en lugares publico

Recomendaciones para padres

- Haga que su niño/a conozca la importancia de los estudios y buenas calificaciones
- Pase tiempo de calidad con sus hijos
- Tome parte en las actividades de la escuela de sus hijos
- Establezca reglas, ponga límites y sea consistente
- Anime a sus hijos a tender Buenos hábitos en los estudios
- Respete los sentimientos y actitudes de sus hijos y ayúdeles a desarrollar su auto estima
- Este al tanto de las influencias negativas
- Mejore su auto estima, de manera que sus hijos puedan copiar del mejor modelo – Usted

Concejos para padres y maestros

- Ayude a los niños a desarrollar auto control
- Ayude a los niños a resolver apropiadamente los problemas
- Involúcrese en los programas de prevención e intervención de orientación comunitaria
- Invite a otros a involucrarse también
- Sea voluntario en la escuela de su hijos
- Las pandillas del área son problema de la comunidad y su influencias no se detienen en ningún límite
- Preste atención a su hijo escuche! Tenga comunicación abierta con sus hijos relacionada con sus preocupaciones y temores

*Distribuido por la fuerza de enforzamiento anti-pandilla del area regional (R.A.G.E.) Sgt. G. Norris #1614, Dep. De Policia del condado de Prince George Tel. #301-699-2628*

## Taxes and Peace

We all pay taxes: federal taxes, state taxes and local taxes. And yet many services and programs that we care about, like education, health care and programs for youth, are not funded to meet the needs of Mount Rainier citizens. Meanwhile more than 50 percent of our federal tax dollars are spent to fund past and present wars. How can we let our lawmakers know that we want them to prioritize health, education, housing and other services?

Mount Rainier also has citizens who, based on their ethical, moral or religious convictions, object to participation in war. They feel drafted into support of military violence through their federal tax dollars, in violation of their conscience and convictions. Their only options for living by their conscience is to live below the federally taxable wage level or to withhold federal taxes and face fines or even prison terms.

The First Amendment which ensures free exercise of religion, and conscientious objection to military service based on religious, moral and ethical beliefs has been recognized under federal law for decades. Religious Freedom Peace Tax Fund legislation (H.R. 2037) has been introduced in congress to allow conscientious objectors to avoid participation in war by paying their federal taxes into the “Peace Tax Fund” earmarked for non-military spending only.

Neighbors United for Justice and Peace invites you to learn more about the Peace Tax Fund legislation at a community forum: March 10 at 7 p.m. at City Hall. We have also developed a resolution for our City Council calling upon congress to pass Peace Tax Fund legislation and to accurately report to our citizens the proportion of our federal tax dollars spent on the military versus social services. For a copy of the resolution that we plan to submit to our Mount Rainier City Council, please write to [jbmccain@verizon.net](mailto:jbmccain@verizon.net).

*Submitted by Neighbors United for Justice and Peace*

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**City Manager Report**, *continued from page 3*

drafted and submitted requesting that vacant property in the City be placed in receivership. If successful, many of the properties that have been vacant for many years will be placed in receivership and given to the City to dispose of through sale, development, etc. County Bill (CB) 105-1998 authorizes this process.

**Police Station.** Once the Treasurer and City Manager receives confirmation on the proposals to abate the conditions identified in the correction orders issued by DER, and both have reviewed the payments made by the City on the construction project, the remaining funds can be drawn to complete the project.

**WMATA.** City attorney Perlman has issued the City's response to WMATA to prepare an agreement to purchase the property with no interest payments over a ten-year period.

**Rainier Manor Apartments.** The City Manager has been attempted to schedule a meeting with management for over two months at the request of Mayor Miles concerning complaints from the residents about how they are treated unfairly in addition to other code concerns. A letter was sent to Eva Gibson, Manager of Humphrey Management who did finally call the City Manager to state that she would get back to her with some dates and times as to when the meeting would occur. To date, the meeting has not been scheduled.

**K&R Management.** The follow-up inspection conducted by Code Enforcement has resulted in non-compliance once again. Citations have been issued for the conditions which are still outstanding.

**34th Street and Tool Shed/Community Center.** Mr. Booth has completed quarterly reports for these programs in order to comply with the reporting requirements for the Legacy Grant. Management has

obtained the light fixture quotes and Mr. Booth and the City Manager are awaiting the return of Jan Townshend, Program Manager of the Neighborhood Design Center to go over the design for the streetscape on 34th Street so that can bids can be solicited for this project. Expenditures for the Legacy Grant will be made during this quarter.

**Storm Drain Issues.** Mr. Booth is working on scheduling a meeting with City Engineer John Levermore and Will Campos along with neighboring cities to discuss problems with County management of the City and surrounding storm drains. In addition, discussion will focus on critical areas where additional storm drains are needed in the City, the fence by the County storm drain behind the PW garage, and the condition of the City's bridges.

**3409 Rhode Island Avenue.** We have a potential multi-media expert who is interested in leasing the upper level of this facility. This person has the capability to renovate the area and will probably want to lease the space rent free for 4-6 months in exchange for renovation at no cost to the City. Once a confirmation has been received from this individual, recommendations will be forwarded to the Council.

**Other Matters.** Community groups have expressed interest in providing youth recreational programming and are planning to submit proposals for the youth funding. This item will probably need to be discussed at the next work session. MJ Park has expressed interest in serving on this committee.

We have contacted NZI Construction concerning the re-stripping of 34th Street. Mr. Nazario, President will contact his subcontractors and get back to the City next week or so.

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## Youth Recreation Programs

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### Hyattsville-Mount Rainier-Brentwood Boys & Girls Club

The PG County Boys & Girls Club offers boys & girls ages 5–18 opportunities to participate in baseball, basketball, cheerleading, football, soccer, softball, and track.

- 301-864-1112; Carrol McLaurin, 301-422-3141; Basketball: Jeffrey Lindsey, 301-559-0602

- [www.pgparcs.com/things/pgcbgc/contacts.html](http://www.pgparcs.com/things/pgcbgc/contacts.html)

### Boys Scouts Troop 224

Meets in St. Jerome's Church, Hyattsville

- Thursday evenings, 7:30–9 p.m.
- 6th grade through high school
- [users.erols.com/wtbomas/troop224.html](http://users.erols.com/wtbomas/troop224.html)

### Cub Scouts Pack 224

Meets in St. Jerome's Church, Hyattsville

- Tuesday evenings, 7–8 p.m.
- 1st grade through 5th grade
- Ages 6th grade through high school
- [users.erols.com/wtbomas/troop224.html](http://users.erols.com/wtbomas/troop224.html)

### Girl Scouts

- Mount Rainier E.S., Tues., 2 p.m.
- Thomas Stone E.S., Tues., 2 p.m.
- Hyattsville Middle Sch., Fri., 6 p.m.
- Tiffany Lathan, 301-449-5690

### Boys and Girls Club, Northwestern H.S.

- 301-985-1423
- M-F, 3:30 to 8 p.m.

### Joe's Movement Emporium

- After-School Programs
- 3802 34th St., 301-699-1819
- [www.worldartsfocus.org/youth.html](http://www.worldartsfocus.org/youth.html)

### Mount Rainier Nature Center

- 31st and Arundel Rd.
- 301-927-2163; TTY 301-699-2544
- [www.pgparcs.com/places/nature/rainier.html](http://www.pgparcs.com/places/nature/rainier.html)

The Nature/Recreation Center is a unique facility which operates as both a nature center and a recreation center.

### Nature Club for Kids

Bladensburg Waterfront Park, 4601 Annapolis Road, Bladensburg. Kids, learn about nature and ecology through games, crafts, stories, and other nature-themed activities. The club meets the first Sat. of each month.

- 301-779-0371; TTY 301-699-2544
- Ages 6–12
- Fee: \$1, Non-Resident \$2

## Notice to City Residents

On January 11, 2006, A City of Mount Rainier department of Public Work Violation Notice was issued to City residents for violation of the City's trash code, Chapter 11, **City of Mount Rainier Code of Ordinances**. Due to the violations, trash was not picked up at property where trash was not in water tight and rodent proof containers with a lid.

On January 18, 2006, trash was picked up at those properties even though the violations still existed. A second violation notice will be issued to all residents who did not comply with the **City Code**.

On January 25, 2006, the next scheduled trash pick up day, those residents who continue to be in violation of the **City Code**, Chapter 11, Refuse Collection, will be issued a Municipal Citation (fine) in the amount of \$25. Each day that the violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense and will result in additional fines. The requirements for regular trash collection from single family residential dwellings (Section 11-105) of the **City Code** is as follows:

- Must be placed in water tight and rodent-proof containers (with lids) that are commonly used for residential trash collection,
- Must not exceed five (5) cans, each thirty-three (33) gallons or thirty-five (35) pounds each collection day,
- Must not be mixed with bulk trash, hazardous household waste, recyclables, remodeling and building waste, special bulk trash, or biodegradable yard waste,
- Must also be in a bag in the container if it includes poison ivy, poison oak, or poison sumac, and
- Must be set out for pick-up no sooner than 7:00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled trash pick-up and no later than 7:00 a.m. the day of the scheduled pick up. The empty container must be removed no later than 7:00 p.m. of the day of the scheduled trash pick-up.

Fees are charged and must be paid in advance of pick-up at City Hall and prior arrangements must be made by calling

Public Works 301-986-6583 for bulk trash special pick-up for the following:

- Special bulk trash (cost based on the City's cost per ton, \$50 minimum fee)
- Refrigerator, freezer (\$25 each)
- Air conditioner (\$25)
- Tires (\$5 per tire)
- Yard waste in excess of 3 cubic yards (cost based on City's cost, \$50 minimum)
- Remodeling/building waste (\$50 minimum charge)

For further clarification about yard waste collection, biodegradable yard waste, and special bulk trash, please contact the Public Works Department at 301-985-6583.

Hazardous waste (oil, pesticides, paint, paint thinner, cleaner fluids, toxic chemicals, etc.) must be disposed of by contacting Prince George's County at 301-883-5045.

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El alcalde y el consejo de nuestra ciudad de Mount Rainier han pedido que los empleados de la ciudad hagan cumplir las reglas y las regulaciones sobre las tapas de botes de basura (trashcan lids). Todos los botes de basura se deben cubrir con una tapa cuando se recoge la basura en el encintado el miércoles.

Hace dos semanas era la primera semana de la aplicación terminante de estas reglas y regulaciones. Muchas casas tenían botes de basura sin tapas y en bolsos plásticos de la basura. La basura en esas casas no fue recogida y un aviso fue dejado en la puerta. Un examen demostró que más de 250 residentes tenían botes de basura sin tapas.

Los avisos de la violación fueron publicados, pero no había multas. Comenzando esta semana, le multaran para esta violación del código.

Cada casa se permite poner hasta cinco botes en el encintado cada semana. Para las familias grandes y las ocasiones especiales, esto todavía puede no resolver sus necesidades. El alcalde y el consejo buscarán las soluciones para esa situación. Hasta entonces, cerciórese de que usted coloque basura en un envase cubierto incluso si no es un bote de basura regular. Además, reciclables no se debe colocar con la basura o en la basura. La cartulina y el papel se deben fijar en el encintado el viernes con sus reciclables plásticos y de cristal en envases separados. Si usted necesita un envase adicional, llame por favor los trabajos públicos de la ciudad y solicite un segundo envase.

¿Por qué estamos haciendo esto? Si mantenemos nuestros botes de basura cubiertos, podemos prevenir la dispersion de la basura que hace nuestra ciudad sucia y podemos evitar que las ratas y otros animales se rasguen en la basura.

Si usted tiene sugerencias sobre nuestro proceso de la colección de la basura, entre en contacto con por favor al alcalde o a su representante del consejo de ciudad.

Gracias por su ayuda.

# The Rap and Act Group!

The "Rap and Act" young people's group meets at the Queenstown Apartments Community Center. The group is coordinated by Mt. Rainier resident Julie Barnet of *Actively Building Community/Activamente Buscando Comunidad*, a local initiative to promote solidarity, dialogue and active participation among the diverse sectors of our community.

This month we include their comments and artwork on the question: What is something you like

Rodnika Campbell, 9:

- ✧ The school (Thomas Stone). I like the classes, p.e. and recess.
- ✧ Me gusta mi escuela. Me gustan las materias, y educación física y el recreo.

Cristian Molina, 10

- ✧ I just like the buildings and the schools. This area is so calm.
- ✧ A mi me gustan los edificios y las escuelas. Esta area es muy calmada.

Allison Landon, 10:

- ✧ I like the Nature Center, the Giant, and the beauty supply stores.
- ✧ Me gusta el Nature Center, el Giant, y las tiendas de productos de belleza.

Raúl Urbáez  
Age 10



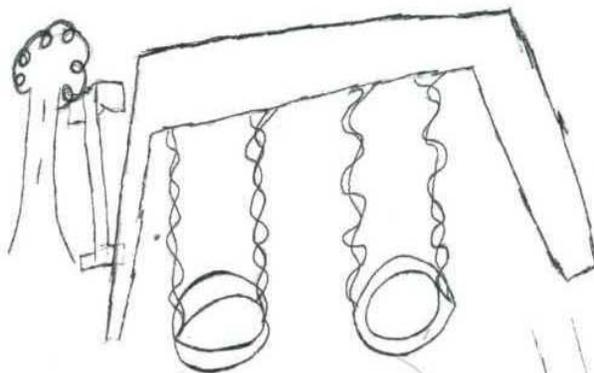
Raúl Urbáez, 10

El grupo de jóvenes "Rap and Act" se reúne en el centro comunitario de los Apartamentos de Queenstown. El grupo es coordinado por la residente de Mt. Rainier, Julie Barnet, de *Actively Building Community/Activamente Buscando Comunidad*, una iniciativa local para promover la solidaridad, el diálogo, y la participación activa de los diversos sectores de nuestra comunidad.

Este mes incluimos sus comentarios y dibujos sobre la pregunta ¿Qué te gusta de nuestra comunidad de Mt. Rainier?

Jennifer Ruiz, 10

- ✧ I have my friends and it's very pretty. I like the park. And my family is with me in Mt. Rainier.
- ✧ Tengo mis amistades, y es muy bonito aquí. Me gusta el parque. Y mi familia está conmigo en Mt. Rainier.



Nature Center Playground, Lamarr Turner, 10

Knakia Francis, 11:

- ✧ I like the Nature Center, because of the animals. I used to help take care of them. There are nice people in Mt. Rainier.
- ✧ Me gusta el Nature Center, por los animales. Antes, yo ayudaba a cuidarlos. Hay gente buena en Mt. Rainier.

Erik Melgar, 10

✧ My school (Thomas Stone), because it has a lot of stuff, plus a library. It's big and has a lot of parts and gets bigger and bigger.

✧ Me gusta mi escuela, porque tiene muchas cosas, incluso una biblioteca. Es grande y tiene muchas partes, y cada vez crece más.

Lamarr Turner, 10

✧ I like that they have a community center (Queenstown), and that at the school they accept all kinds of children, white, black, Hispanic, Asian and more.

✧ Me gusta que tengan un centro comunitario (Queenstown), y que en la escuela (Thomas Stone) acepten a todo tipo de niños, blancos, negros, hispanos, asiáticos, y más.

Nancy Vargas, 16

✧ I like Mt. Rainier Elementary School, and its dedicated principal (Mr. Catania, who was principal when she was there) and dedicated teachers.

✧ Me gusta la escuela Mt. Rainier Elementary, por la dedicación de su director (el Sr. Catania, quien encabezaba la escuela cuando ella fue alumna) y de sus maestras y maestros.

Raúl Urbáez, 10

✧ I like Queenstown apartments. It's homely and a fun place to be. And also my school.

✧ Me gustan los apartamentos de Queenstown. Aquí me siento como en mi casa, y me divierto. Y también me gusta mi escuela.



### Cuando conocí a mi mejor amiga

Jennifer Estela Ruiz Montes, 10

Un día yo estaba en mi clase y llegó una niña muy especial. Yo no le hablaba cuando recién llegó a la escuela, pero en unos meses yo le hablé y me dí cuenta que en mi camino tenía a una amiga muy especial. Hemos pasado mucho tiempo juntas. Ella es quien sabe todos mis secretos y todos mis sentimientos.

Comenzando quinto grado nosotras conocimos a una amiga llamada Jasmine. Ella es una buena amiga pero no es como Lourdes. Yo siempre dije en mi mente que en la Escuela Thomas S. Stone yo iba a tener muchas amigas y hoy, el 12 de enero del 06, escribí esta historia y todavía ella sigue siendo mi super duper mejor amiga.

### When I met my best friend

One day I was in my classroom and a very special girl came in. I didn't talk to her when she first came to the school, but in a few months I began talking with her, and I realized that in my path I had found a very special friend. We have passed a lot of time together. She knows all my secrets and all my feelings.

Beginning in the fifth grade we met another friend, named Jasmine. She is a good friend, but not like Lourdes. I had always told myself that at Thomas Stone Elementary School I would have a lot of friends, and today, January 12, 2006, I wrote this story, and she (Lourdes) continues to be my super duper best friend.

Introduced Read and Adopted January 3, 2006  
Posted Jan. 5 to June 30, 2006

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## City of Mount Rainier Resolution 01-2006

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(Drafted by City Manager)  
Introduced by Mayor Miles

A Resolution setting the calendar of events for preparation of the Fiscal Year 2007 budget.

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council are responsible for adopting a FY 2007 budget for City revenues and expenditures; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many competing demands upon the City's budget and priorities must be set; and

**WHEREAS** the deadline for final adoption of the City budget is June 30, 2006, but the County's administrative deadline for preparing tax bills is approximately June 13; and

**WHEREAS** the budget process is a lengthy one; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to inform the public about the proposed budget and allow for citizen review and comment before the deadline.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL** that the following calendar of events is adopted for the preparation and adoption of the FY 2007 budget.

DATE	EVENT
Friday, January 13, 2006	Budget instructions issued to City Departments and Community groups (including Bunker Hill Fire Department
Tuesday, January 17, 2006	Work session on budget to discuss variable tax rates; Notification of any changes is due to the State February 28, 2006
Friday, January 27, 2006	Deadline for Mount Rainier Volunteer Fire Department to submit FY 2007 budget request to City Manager
Friday, February 10, 2006	Deadline for City departments and community groups to submit FY 2007 budget requests to City Manager
Tuesday, February 21, 2006	Public Hearing on Variable Tax Rate
Tuesday, February 28, 2006	Notification of any proposed changes to Variable Tax Rate due to State
Monday, March 13, 2006	City Manager submits proposed FY 2007 budget to Mayor and Council and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY 2007, 2008, and 2009
Tuesday, March 21, 2006	Work Session on budget and Capital Improvement Plans
Thursday, March 23, 2006	Notice in <i>Port Towns Gazette</i> about budget presentations, April 4, April 11, April 18.
Tuesday, April 4, 2006	Presentation and public comment, proposed FY 2007 budget for all City programs other than police, parking enforcement, public works, and code enforcement. Summary available)
Thursday, April 6, 2006	Notice in <i>Port Towns Gazette</i> about budget presentations April 11, April 18.
Tuesday, April 11, 2006	Special meeting before work session. Presentation and public comment, proposed FY 2007 budget for police department and parking enforcement (Summary available)
Thursday, April 13, 2006	Notice in <i>Port Towns Gazette</i> about budget presentations, April 18, 2006.
Tuesday, April 18, 2006	Presentation and public comment, proposed FY 2007 budget for public works and code enforcement. (Summary available)
Tuesday, April 25, 2006	Work session on budget
Tuesday, May 2, 2006	Work session on budget; decide proposed tax rate
Friday, May 5, 2006	<i>Port Towns Gazette</i> deadline for submission of May 11, 2006 display ad on constant yield tax rate, and variable tax rate; public hearing Tuesday, May 23, 2006.
Tuesday, May 23, 2006	Public hearing on Constant Yield Tax Rate, Variable Tax Rate, and on budget (revised summaries available). First reading of FY 2007 Budget Ordinance
Tuesday, June 6, 2006	Second reading and vote, FY 2007 Budget Ordinance

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## Nature Center Programs

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4701 31st Place (Arundel and 31st)  
301-927-2163  
Center is open Tues. to Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All programs require reservations.  
After School Program, Off the Couch and Off the Hook (ages 8-12)  
Every Thurs. through Dec. 22, 2 to 4 p.m.

### *Mystery Trip and Potluck Lunch*

Weds., Nov. 2  
Washington DC, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (free)

### *Kukuna Dance Workout (ages 16 and up)*

Sat., Nov. 12 to Dec. 17  
10 to 11 a.m. \$20/4 classes

### *Mount Rainier Puppet Theater*

Sat., Nov. 19, "Short Stories"  
11 to 11:45 a.m.

### *Craft-a-Rama*

Sat., Nov. 5 and Sat., Nov. 12, 2 to 4 p.m.  
(\$2 fee)  
Fabric crafts (please bring a T-shirt, bag, etc.) to decorate with paint.

### *Adult Trip to Blackwater Nat'l Wildlife Refuge*

Sat., Nov. 12, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., \$10 fee.

### *Birding Trip to Bombay Hook Nat'l Wildlife Refuge*

Sat., Dec. 10, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., \$10 fee

### *Santa Jam (ages 13 to 15)*

Fri., Dec. 16, 7 to 10 p.m. (\$5 fee)

### *Campfire Event*

Sat., Dec. 17, noon to 1:30 p.m. (\$2 fee)

### *Mount Rainier Puppet Theater*

11 to 11:45 a.m.  
Sat., Dec. 17, "Night Before Christmas"

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## News from Congressman Chris Van Hollen

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*Congressman Chris Van Hollen Hosts Medicare/Prescription Drug Forum Medicare 2006: What You Need to Know About Medicare and the New Prescription Drug Benefit*

Rep. Chris Van Hollen (MD-08) will host a Medicare-Prescription Drug forum on Monday, February 6, 2006 at the Rollingcrest-Chillum Community Center. Experts will discuss the new Medicare Prescription Drug benefit and respond to questions from the audience.

WHEN: Monday, February 6, 2006  
TIME: 9:30–11:00 a.m.  
WHERE: Rollingcrest-Chillum Community Center, 6120 Sargent Road, Chillum, Maryland 20782  
QUESTIONS: Please call 301-424-3501

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## Announcements

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The following web sites may be of interest to you.

Malinda Miles — [www.malindamiles.com](http://www.malindamiles.com)

Historic Mount Rainier Maryland — [www.mountrainiermd.org](http://www.mountrainiermd.org)

Mount Rainier Police Department — [www.mountrainiermd.org/government/mrpd/index.html](http://www.mountrainiermd.org/government/mrpd/index.html)

Bunker Hill Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company — [www.mrvfd.org](http://www.mrvfd.org)

Mount Rainier Elementary School — [www.pgcps.org/~mrainier/](http://www.pgcps.org/~mrainier/)

Thomas Stone Elementary School — [www.pgcps.org/~tstone/index.htm](http://www.pgcps.org/~tstone/index.htm)

Hyattsville Middle School — [www.pgcps.org/~hyattsms/](http://www.pgcps.org/~hyattsms/)

Northwestern High School — [www.pgcps.pg.k12.md.us/~nwst](http://www.pgcps.pg.k12.md.us/~nwst)

Prince George's County Municipal Association [www.mdmunicipal.org/chapterweb/pgcma](http://www.mdmunicipal.org/chapterweb/pgcma)

Maryland Municipal League — [www.mdmunicipal.org](http://www.mdmunicipal.org)

Friends of the Mount Rainier Library (FOL) — [www.mtrainierfol.org/](http://www.mtrainierfol.org/)

Gateway Community Development Corporation [www.gateway-cdc.org](http://www.gateway-cdc.org)

Washington Metro Area Transit Service [www.wmata.com/](http://www.wmata.com/)

Mount Rainier Business Association (MRBA) [www.mrbassociation.org](http://www.mrbassociation.org)

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## Mount Rainier Community Tool Shed Information

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The Mount Rainier Community Tool Shed is located at 3601 Bunker Hill Road. For information, call 301-779-0133. The new hours are Saturdays 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The Tool Shed has a collection of hand and power tools available at no charge for use by residents, businesses, and community groups of Mount Rainier.

An application must be completed prior to borrowing. Call City Hall or download an application at [www.mountrainier.org/community/toolshed](http://www.mountrainier.org/community/toolshed).

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## Mount Rainier Business District Revitalization Association, Inc. (MRBA)

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- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of Every Month
- Regular Scheduled Monthly Meeting
- Mount Rainier Police Department, 3249 Rhode Island Avenue, Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712
- Time: 6:30–9:00 p.m.
- Come and Hear How Your Dollars Are Being Spent
- Look Forward to Seeing You There

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## Preparing for Snow Removal

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Now that we are into the fall season and winter is fast approaching, Public Works attention is now turned to making preparations for snow removal, in the event of a snowstorm.

The Mount Rainier Police Department has an active role during a snowstorm. For example, when an impending snowstorm is predicted for the region, the Police will check the snow emergency routes in Mount Rainier to make sure that all vehicles have been removed. The snow emergency routes in Mount Rainier are currently as follows:

1. 34th Street from Rhode Island Avenue to Arundel Road
2. Chillum Road from Arundel Road to the City boundary at Queens Chapel Road
3. Rainier Avenue from 34th Street to Upshur Street
4. Upshur Street from Rainier Avenue to 28th Place
5. 28th Place from Upshur Street to Russell Avenue
6. Russell Avenue from 28th Place to Arundel Road
7. Varnum Street from Russell Avenue to Eastern Avenue
8. Arundel Road from Russell Avenue to 34th Street.

Violation and Penalties. Every person convicted of a violation of any provision of Chapter 13A of *The Mount Rainier Code* shall be required to pay a fine of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150) in addition to any other costs provided by law.

During a snowstorm, the first streets to be cleared are the snow emergency routes.

In Mount Rainier snow emergency routes are clearly identified by signs. Snow emergency rules are in effect when the District of Columbia declares a snow emergency.

It is illegal to park on snow emergency routes during a storm. The Mount Rainier Police will enforce the City Code as it relates to clearing of snow emergency routes before the snow begins to fall. Residents of Mount Rainier can do their part to help City snow removal crews. During a snowstorm the best policy for residents is to keep off the roads so the snow removal crews can operate unimpeded. If at all possible, residents should wait until the storm has passed and roads are passable. Abandoned vehicles prevent snow plows from clearing streets.

Also, when removing snow from around a parked vehicle, it is better to deposit the snow on tree boxes or grassy areas instead of throwing it out on the street or on the sidewalk.

Finally, residents and business owners are required by City Code to clear the sidewalks of snow directly in front of their property. In that way, most sidewalks in the City will be safely passable and pedestrians will not have to walk in the street.

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## Report From Councilmember Knedler, Ward 2

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Chief Fred Keeney has left our City and is now working as Assistant Chief of Amtrak security and police. It is no exaggeration to say that the Chief was a key figure, one of a handful of leaders, who has helped make the revitalization of Mount Rainier a reality. A professional, well-equipped, and disciplined police force is vital to attracting new investment into an area that has been thought of as crime-ridden and beyond recovery. The overall crime rate has continued to decrease each year and the perception of our police department is much improved since the hiring of Keeney. He managed to do all of this during a time when the city was in a financial crisis. He actively sought grant dollars wherever he could find them to supplement what the city taxpayers could provide.

Since his arrival the lawsuits against the city's police officers dropped to nearly zero. As a result, our insurance rates have dropped and allowed the Council to use those dollars to invest elsewhere in the City budget. The officers have been more professional, better equipped, and better reflected the diversity of our community on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, and sexual orientation.

Keeney was a big help in ending the era of Bass Liquors. Closure of that one business more than any other will allow the revitalization of our Rhode Island Avenue business district.

Keeney has helped put Mount Rainier on the map within the public safety community. Until recently he served as president of the Maryland Chiefs of Police Association, and he was instrumental in forming a mutual aid agreement among five nearby police agencies. This MOU has not only been beneficial to the five towns, but has served as a model example to other local agencies considering such agreements.

I am proud that I was a supporter when he was hired and that I supported his efforts ever since. I did not always agree with him, but have always respected his integrity and experience in making decisions. One of my major goals as mayor from late 2002 to May 2005 was to ensure that we retained key staff, the Chief being one of the most important.

He leaves us with a great police department. One that he— and all of us—can be proud of. It can truly be said that he left us with a better Mount Rainier.

*Council Meetings*

1st and 3rd Tues., 7 p.m., City Hall lower level

*Beautification Committee*—3rd Mon., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

*Cable Commission*—2nd Mon., 6:00 p.m., City Hall

*Friends of Library* (mtrainierfol.org)—Mon., 7:30 p.m., Community Vision, 34th St.

*Gateway Municipalities CDC*—2nd Thurs., 7:00–9:00 p.m., 4102 Webster St.

*MRBA*—2nd Weds., 6:30 p.m., **Mount Rainier Police Station**

*Tool Shed Committee*—2nd Mon., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

*MUTC Town Center Design Review Committee*—2nd Weds., 6:15 p.m., City Hall

*Design Review Board*—3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

*Tree Commission*—2nd Thurs., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

Note: The above Committees are scheduled to meet according to the above schedule. Please check the City’s website or contact City Hall to verify if a meeting is being held on a particular date. Meeting notices are posted at City Hall prior to the scheduled meeting.

## February–March calendar

February 1	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 3	Recyclables Pick Up
February 6	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301-985-6558)
February 8	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 10	Recyclables Pick Up
February 13	Yard Waste Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301-985-6558)
February 15	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 17	Recyclables Pick Up
February 20	Presidents’ Day Holiday (Public Works and City Hall Closed)
February 21	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301-985-6558)
February 22	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 24	Recyclables Pick Up

March 1	Regular Trash Pick Up
March 3	Recyclables Pick Up
March 6	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301-985-6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
March 8	Regular Trash Pick Up
March 10	Recyclables Pick Up
March 13	Yard Waste Pick Up
March 15	Regular Trash Pick Up
March 17	Recyclables Pick Up
March 20	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301-985-6558) Yard Waste Pick up
March 22	Regular Trash Pick Up
March 24	Recyclables Pick Up
March 27	Yard Waste Pick Up
March 29	Regular Trash Pick Up
March 31	Recyclables Pick Up

**Starting March 2006, every Monday will be Yard Waste Pick Up, No appointments necessary. Please have all bulk trash out by 7:00 a.m. on bulk trash day and all appointments made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding pick up day.**

www.mountrainiermd.org

**Mayor**

**Malinda Miles**  
301-699-1378

mayormiles@malindamiles.com

**City Manager**

**Jeannelle B. Wallace**  
301-985-6585, ext. 22

fax: 301-985-6595

jwallace@mountrainiermd.org

**Asst. City Manager**

**James Booth**  
301-985-6585

fax: 301-985-6595

jbooth@mountrainiermd.org

**Councilmembers**

**Ward 1**

**Carol Gandee**  
301-277-6377

gandydncr@aol.com

**Alta Morton**

202-309-5455

altaward1@hotmail.com

**Ward 2**

**Pedro Briones**

301-277-1833

pedroeb@aol.com

**Bryan Knedler**

301-699-3134

bknedler@aol.com

**Message**

**Terry Kelly**

tkelly60@aol.com

## Important Numbers

City Hall open: Mon.–Fri., 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Police Department admin. offices open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Public Works open 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

47th District Reps  
301-858-3745

Sen. Gwendolyn Britt  
301-858-3326

Del. Doyle Niemann

Del. Rosetta Parker

Del. Victor Ramirez

Call-A-Bus 301-985-6586  
(hours M–F, 9 am–2 pm)

City Code Enforcement Office  
301-985-6551

City Hall

301-985-6585; fax: 301-985-6595

**City Police Department**

Acting Chief Lieutenant Michael Scott

301-985-6565 (emergency calls)

301-985-6566 (nonemergency calls)

301-985-6590 (administrative)

City Public Works 301-985-6583,  
Bulk Trash Appts. 301-985-6558

Child Abuse  
and Neglect Hotline  
301-699-8605

Congressman Chris Van Hollen's Mount

Rainier Office Information:

3409 Rhode Island Avenue

301-927-5223 (voice)

301-927-6122 (fax)

Monday–Friday 9:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Consumer Affairs

301-470-7534

County Animal Control

301-499-8301

County Building Permits  
301-883-5784

County Executive

Jack Johnson

301-952-4131

County Councilman

Will Campos

301-952-4436

Energy Assistance

301-422-5110

Family Services

301-699-2680

Fire Department

301-985-5406 (non-emergency)

911 (emergency)

Gateway CDC

4102 Webster Street

301-864-3860

Gazette Circulation

301-670-7350

Health Department

301-386-0300

Library 301-864-8937

Hours: M–W 10-6:30 (closed 2-2:30)

Sat. 10-5

Landlord–Tenant Commission

800-487-6007

Mt. Rainier Nature/Rec Center

4701 31st Place

301-927-2163

M–National Capital

Park and Planning,

Park Permit Office

301-918-8111

North Brentwood Comm. Ctr  
4012 Webster St.

301-864-0756

Office of Handicapped Services

TDD 301-627-3352

Park Police

301-459-3232 (emergency)

301-459-9088 (non-emergency)

Parks and Recreation

301-699-2407

Pepco

Lights Out

1-877-737-2662

(you must give the 10-digit phone number  
or 10-digit account number for location of  
outage)

**Live Wire, Other Emergency**

202-872-3432

Post Office

301-864-5168

Public Defender

301-699-2760

Public Schools

301-952-6000

State's Attorney

301-952-3500

Washington Gas Light

703-750-2500

WSSC

301-206-8000

301-206-4002 (emergency)

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Mount Rainier, MD 20712

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**February 2006 Message  
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