



# *The Message*

Issue 283

November 2010

## PROPOSED MOUNT RAINIER CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC HEARING NOVEMBER 16, 2010, 7 PM at CITY HALL



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On Nov. 16, the Mount Rainier City Council will hear public opinion about the proposed civic center that would combine the current City Hall with the recently purchased Star-Potts Hall (3405 Rhode Island Ave.) and a proposed new building to replace the former city hall/police station/library (3409 Rhode Island Ave.). The proposal would create a new library space (operated by the Prince George's County Memorial Library System) with a multi-purpose room on the second floor (including a kitchen), move the city council chambers to the second floor of the Star-Potts Hall, and reconfigure the current City Hall to create more office space. A new entrance to the complex would be created facing the Municipal Plaza. The current entry to City Hall (steps and ramp) would be removed once the new entry is built. The ultimate costs to the proposal will run between \$5 and \$6 million (according to estimates made at this point). If the decision is

made to move forward, the City has some funding on hand to finance the construction document phase. County, state,

and federal funds will be pursued to make the project possible.

More information and drawings are available on the City's website ([www.mountrainiermd.org](http://www.mountrainiermd.org)).

**\*\*PUBLIC HEARING \*\***

**Purchase of Property at 3411 Perry Street  
NOVEMBER 16, 2010  
7 PM at CITY HALL**

The City has identified an unimproved lot located at 3411 Perry Avenue, Mount Rainier, Maryland, as suitable for purchase and development as public parking. The Purchase of the property will be funded by an approved FTA grant which includes up to \$144,497.00 for property acquisition for the Mount Rainier Intermodal Pedestrian Project ("Project"), consisting of federal funds of \$115,997.00 and a City "local match" of \$29,000.00. Therefore, the FTA grant funds awarded to the City will be used to acquire the unimproved lot at 3411 Perry Avenue, Mount Rainier, Maryland, for the Project, with the City's required local match used to pay the rest of the City's acquisition costs for the lot.

**Councilmember Tarlau's Ward Report**

Park at 34th and Upshur to Get Major Make-over – Representatives from County Park and Planning made a presentation to the City Council regarding their plans to completely renovate the small pocket park on 34th and Upshur (on the border of Brentwood). The plans call for new playground equipment and new landscaping to beautify the park. The Council urged the County to plant native plants and complained that the community was not given a chance to give some input on the design of the park. (They've already started construction.) It still will be a major improvement over what was there before. (I'm attaching the plans that were presented to us.)

County Passes New Mixed Use Town Center Guidelines - The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) approved the proposed updated guidelines for our downtown area. The guidelines were developed over a year and included a number of community outreach meetings and meetings with the Mayor and Council. We had concerns about the first draft of the revised guidelines. There were too many restrictions (too many shalls and not enough shoulds) in the

guidelines that we felt might hinder development in our downtown area. The Park and Planning staff revised their guidelines and we supported the revised guidelines at the Commission meeting. We hope the new guidelines and vision statement can be used as a marketing tool to help attract development into our downtown area.

Mount Rainier Holiday Soiree Set for Saturday December 4th (8 PM to Midnight) at Joe's Movement Emporium – Save the date. We're closing our Centennial Year Celebration with a Grand Soiree. We will have a full buffet dinner and music by Tamara Wellens. Tickets are \$20 and are on sale at City Hall and on-line at [www.joesmovement.org](http://www.joesmovement.org). Come celebrate the holiday season with your Mount Rainier community!!

Mount Rainier Home and Building Tour A Great Success - For those of you who were not able to join the Mount Rainier Home and Building Tour, it was a great success. We had close to 150 people to come on our home and building tour. Two-thirds of the participants were Mount Rainier residents. The

beautiful weather helped make it a great day for walking around and looking at houses

I want to thank all the home owners, the Home Tour Committee, and the volunteers who helped with visitors at people's houses. I also want to thank the City's Graciela Carbonell who drove the Call-A-Bus around and around and around. The full tour was exhausting and many people needed the bus to transport them from house to house. Most people are hoping that we do a tour next year. It was a lot of work but rewarding. It's nice to show off our city. We'll be looking for volunteers to help.

I am continually impressed about how these community events: the Farmers Market, the Free Flicks, the Centennial Event, Mount Rainier Historical Tour, the Gateway Arts Center events, the Historical Tour, and the upcoming Holiday Soiree make people feel good about the community we live in even when development issues get delayed in these difficult economic times. If anybody would like a copy of our Home Tour Brochure (designed by Sandy Smirolido) please let me know and I will put one in the mail to you.

## Council Highlights

### **October 1, 2010- Regular Meeting**

**Ordinance 5-2010** Amending Chapter 3B of the City Code to include a penalty for failure to register properties as vacant (First Reading)

**Ordinance 6-2010** An ordinance establishing and approving a City Debt Policy (First Reading)

**Resoultion-11 2010** – A resolution supporting the request of HIP Services to obtain Community Investment Tax Credits for Hippest Kids Project (First Reading/Vote-approved 5-0)

### **October 19, 2010 – Work Session Meeting**

**Ordinance 5-2010** Amending Code to establish penalty for vacant property

Reminder: Joe's Movement Emporium's 15th Anniversary Gala Event- Celebrate the 15th Year Anniversary of Joe's Movement Emporium - October 30th - 7 to 10 PM Performances - Open Bar - Live Sculptures - Great Food \$60 for main event and after party To purchase tickets go to: <http://joesat15gala.eventbrite.com> or go to Nisey's Boutique (4007 34th St..) and get your tax free ticket for \$50. A savings of \$10 for getting your ticket from Nisey's.

2010 Open Studio Tour at Red Dirt Studio – Sunday November 14th from 1 to 5 PM - One of Mount Rainier's prize possessions are the 'studio on the tracks' on Otis and Wells Street (across from the skate board park). Margaret Boozer ([www.margaretboozer.com](http://www.margaretboozer.com)), the director of Red Dirt Studio, is one of the most celebrated artists in the whole Washington area. You should not miss the studio tour. I plan to be there.

Dunkin' Donuts Coming to Queens Chapel Shopping Center – Just noticed that there will soon be a Dunkin' Donuts stop coming to the Queens Chapel Road shopping center. It will be right behind the Checkers Hamburger Drive-In.

registration (Second Reading/Vote-approved 4-0)

**Ordinance 6-2010** City's Debt Policy (Second Reading/Vote- moved to 11/03/10 council meeting)

**Resolution- 12- 2010** authorizing City Manager to enter into contract with owners of former Blue Bird Cab Lot (First Reading/Vote-approved 4-0)

### **October 26, 2010 – Special Meeting Called by the Mayor**

Presentation by the architectural firm, Schick and Goldstein, presenting its plans for the Mount Rainier Civic Complex to the City Council



Mount Rainier Television  
Comcast Channel 71 Verizon Channel 21

**What you need to know...What you want to know... Watch *MRTV* for the latest in City News, Information, and Updates!**

***MRTV* now provides a 24/7 programming schedule. Watch for the daily Program Guide for a list shows and times. This month watch for the following:**

-  **On Air with the Mayor** - hosted by **Mayor Malinda Miles**.
-  **CitiScope** – hosted by **City Manager Jeannelle Wallace**, City Department Updates from **City Hall, the Police Department, Public Works** and more.
-  **LIVE Programs** – 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, **City Council Meetings** and **Work Sessions** – 7pm

**Monthly City Council Meetings and Work Sessions are available on the City's website:**  
[www.mountrainiermd.org](http://www.mountrainiermd.org)

**For *MRTV* comments, suggestions and show ideas:** [mrtvchannel71@yahoo.com](mailto:mrtvchannel71@yahoo.com)  
or call 301-985-6585

## **CITY SEEKS COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS**

Our committees need you! Several of our committees are in need of members. I am sure that there is a committee in our City that maybe of interest to you and their meeting schedules are sure to fit your schedule. If you are interested in becoming a member of a committee in our city please feel free to contact Michael Jackson, assistant city manager at City Hall at 301-985-6585, to find out more information about the following committees:

- Tool Shed Committee
- Tree Commission
- Youth and Recreation Council
- Environmental Protection Board



Thursday, November 4, 7:00-9:00pm

Movie Night at the 39th Street Gallery

*A new film every First Thursday of the Month  
A free event. Refreshments provided.*

Elizabeth Gilbert on nurturing creativity

Elizabeth Gilbert, author of *Eat, Pray, Love*, muses on the impossible things we expect from artists and geniuses -- and shares the radical idea that, instead of the rare person "being" a genius, all of us "have" a genius. It's a funny, personal and surprisingly moving talk.

This 20 minute talk will be shown every half hour between 7:00 and 9:00pm during the Brentwood

Arts Exchange "All Mixed Up" opening reception. Come upstairs and get inspired!

39th Street Gallery and Project Space  
*entrance on 39th Street*

Thursday, November 11, 7:00-9:00pm

**Reading Blaxploitation:  
An Exploration of Words and Sounds**

Join us as we explore the images and sounds of the Blaxploitation era through poetry and music.

Gallery 110 @ The Gateway Arts Center

Gallery Hours:  
Tuesday through Saturday: 10am - 6pm  
Thursdays: 10am - 7pm

Opening Reception: Saturday,  
November 13, 5:00-8:00pm

**Compressed Narratives:  
Peter Gordon, Aniko Makranczy  
and Juan Rojo Acebes**

*Exhibition continues through December 30*

Curated by Aneta Georgievska-Shine, the three artists presented in this show make for an unlikely company, given their different

backgrounds, life stories, and career paths. Peter Gordon creates exuberant abstractions that seem to stretch time and process through webs of lines and energetic brushstrokes. Aniko Makranczy's richly textured "books" and "boxes" speak of the containment of human experience that leads, as if by an inner necessity, towards little more than a crucial trace of itself. Juan Rojo discovers stories in displaced images, and recasts them in lush mixed-media compositions. What this project highlights is one of the most important qualities they share - their ability to address large themes with economy of means: whether in terms of media, technique, or physical space.

39th Street Gallery and Project Space  
*entrance on 39th Street*

Gallery Hours:  
Thursdays and Fridays: 7pm - 9pm  
Saturdays: 12pm - 4pm

Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.  
11:00am-12:30pm

**Gateway CDC Membership Meeting  
EZ Storage space- 4301 Rhode Island  
Avenue  
Lunch Provided**

Join the Board of Gateway CDC at the Annual membership meeting where the Board will give you an update on what is happening with the CDC and it's next steps. Elections for new Board members will also take place.

**2009 Curbside  
Leaf Schedule**

Area 1

**Rake Leaves Out by Oct.  
31 for Collection Nov. 2-  
11**

3800-4600 30th Street\*  
3800-4500 31st Street

3700 34th Street  
3700 35th Street  
3700 36th Street  
3500-3800 37th Street  
3400-3600 Eastern Ave.  
3500 37th Street

3400-3700 Perry Street  
Wells Avenue  
Newton Street

Oak Lane

4000-4200 28th Street  
4000-4500 29th Street  
2800-3300 Shepherd Street  
2800-3200 Taylor Street

**Area 2**

**Rake Leaves Out by Nov  
14 for Collection Nov. 16-  
23**

3800-4500 32nd Street  
3800-4100 33rd Street

3100-3300 Perry Street  
2900-3300 Bunker Hill  
Road  
Rainier Avenue

2800-3200 Upshur Street  
3100-3200 Varnum Street  
3100 Webster Street  
3100 Windom Road  
3100-3200 Arundel Road  
3800-4500 34th Street

3800-4000 35th Street  
4000 36th Street  
4000 37th Street  
3400-3700 Bunker Hill  
Road  
3400-3700 Shepherd Street  
3400 Taylor Street  
3400 Tilden Street

**2nd Pick Up Schedule**

***Area 1***

***Rake Leaves Out Nov 28  
For Collection Nov 20—Dec 9***

***Area 2***

***Rake Leaves Out Dec 12  
For Collection Dec 14-23***

**Mount Rainier Holiday Soiree**

Save The Date - Saturday December 4th at Joe's Movement Emporium.  
More details to follow.

**MOUNT RAINIER 16TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY CRAFT SALE**

Handcrafted gifts by local artists

Home cooked lunch and baked goods

Saturday December 4, 2010

10 AM TO 4 PM

At Joe's Movement Emporium

3309 BUNKER HILL RD. (CLOSE TO 34TH ST)

**PARKING AVAILABLE**

**THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER HAS PARKING AVAILABLE ON THE BASS LOT LOCATED AT 3208  
RHODE ISLAND AVENUE FOR \$25 PER MONTH FOR RESIDENTS, BUSINESS OWNERS AND  
THEIR EMPLOYEES.**

**PARKING PASSES CAN BE OBTAINED FROM CITY HALL.**

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RECYCLE AND  
TRASH COLLECTION NOTICE**

All recyclables (aluminum cans, bottles, paper and cardboard) can be put in the same yellow recycle bin which will be picked up Friday of each week. These items will be taken to the County recycle plant as they now have the capability to separate the items.

**PUBLIC WORKS CALENDAR**

**November and December 2010 Schedule**

*Listed hereunder is the scheduled pick up dates for trash in the City of Mt. Rainier, for November and December 2010.*

DATE	PARTICULARS	DATE	PARTICULARS
November 1	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) <b>Yard Waste Pick Up</b>	December 1	Regular Trash Pick Up
November 3	Regular Trash Pick Up	December 3	Recyclables Pick Up
November 5	Recyclables Pick Up	December 6	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) <b>Yard Waste Pick Up</b>
November 8	Yard Waste Pick Up	December 8	Regular Trash Pick Up
November 10	Regular Trash Pick Up	December 10	Recyclables Pick Up
November 12	Recyclables Pick Up	December 13	Yard Waste Pick Up
November 15	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) <b>Yard Waste Pick Up</b>	December 15	Regular Trash Pick Up
November 17	Regular Trash Pick Up	December 17	Recyclables Pick Up
November 19	Recyclables Pick Up	December 20	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) <b>Yard Waste Pick Up</b>
November 22	Yard Waste Pick Up	December 22	Regular Trash Pick Up
November 24	Regular Trash Pick Up	December 27	Recyclables Pick Up
November 25	<b>Thanksgiving Day (City Hall and Public Works closed)</b>	December 29	Regular Trash Pick Up
November 26	<b>Employee Appreciation Day(City Hall and Public Works closed)</b>	December 30	Recyclables Pick Up
November 29	Yard Waste Pick Up		

