



The Message

Issue 280

July/August 2010

Mount Rainier-native Coast Guard Captain commands Air Station's oil spill response

(Courtesy of Petty Officer 3rd Class Nick Ameen, Seventh Coast Guard District Public Affairs Specialist)

On June 03, 2010, Mount Rainier native John Turner took command of Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, which is the largest and busiest air station in the Coast Guard, flying nearly 650 search and rescue missions each year. Since taking command, Capt. Turner has been in charge of enforcement and response to the Gulf oil spill.

Air Station Clearwater aircrews also conduct search and rescue operations. In fact, Air Station Clearwater crewmembers were among the first responders to the 7.0-magnitude earthquake that rocked the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince Jan. 12.

But now, several months after the earthquake in Haiti, with an oil spill of unprecedented magnitude looming in the Gulf of Mexico, Capt. Turner along with the men and women of Air Station Clearwater are once again working overtime. Their pivotal role in the wake of this disaster is flying Gulf survey flights, which provide crucial information to surface assets in order to confirm or identify anomalies seen from surveillance data collected by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

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Mount Rainier CERT Coordinator Earns Prestigious Volunteer Awards

On Friday June 4th at the Prince George's Volunteer Center "Affair of the Heart Reception" Mount Rainier CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Coordinator **Tonie Davis III** received the Gold Level President's Volunteer Service Award. In addition to the President's Award Tonie also received the Prince George's County Volunteer Center's Volunteer of the Year Award. The individual volunteer of the year award recognizes an individual who displays the highest standards of leadership and exemplary performance as an Emergency Preparedness volunteer in the National Capital Region.

The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation (the Council) was established in 2003 to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers are making in our communities and encourage more people to serve. The Council created the President's Volunteer Service

Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

America has a long and proud tradition of volunteer service. Now more than ever, volunteers are renewing their commitment to helping others and making new connections that bring us closer together as families, as neighbors, as communities, and as a Nation.

CENTENNIAL HISTORY BOOK AVAILABLE

Anyone interested in city history should not be without the new book, *Mount Rainier, Maryland: Centennial of a Streetcar Suburb* (1910 to 2010). The 124-page book is filled with photographs, anecdotes, maps, and newspaper accounts of events. The book covers major events in the city's history including the subdivision of the 100-acre Clemson farm into the Mount Rainier Subdivision, impact of the trolley, accounts of the local Ku Klux Klan, Corinna Loring murder-mystery, the 1949 exorcism, changes in demographics in the last 30 years, revitalization efforts, and establishment of both the historic district and arts district. And much more! Copies are available at City Hall (and at the farmers' market) for \$5. Copies are available by mail for \$12 (to cover postage and handling).

Christmas in April*Prince Georges County**

Christmas in April is a non-denominational volunteer organization that repairs homes of senior citizens who are either low-income and/or physically challenged so they may live in warmth, safety, and independence. Christmas in April, is an annual one-day project designed to keep homeowners living in their homes in a more comfortable and secure environment. The scope of work ranges from yard work to interior painting to replacing old appliances and installing smoke detectors.

For more information or an application contact Prince Georges County, Christmas in April at 301-868-0937 or www.christmasinaprilpg.org.



**Mount Rainier Farmers
Market
Opening Day, Saturdays
from
9 am – 1 pm (Former Bass
Lot)**

MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL E. SCOTT, CHIEF OF POLICE

Crime Prevention for Homeowners during Warm Weather Months

Most of us like to use this time of year to relax, have a bit of vacation, and generally enjoy the warm sunny weather. Criminals however, are never on vacation, so please take the time to protect your property and valuables against warm weather scammers, con artists, and opportunity criminals.

- ***Deception Burglaries:*** Suspects, posing as legitimate workers, approach elderly homeowners with the intent of gaining entry to their home under a seemingly legitimate role: local gas company, water department, Cable Company, tree trimmers, pavers, government inspectors or officials. One suspect will distract the homeowner while a second suspect will enter the home and search inside for valuables and cash. Another ruse used to gain entry into the home is for a suspect to knock on the door and ask for a pen and piece of paper to leave the victim's neighbor a note. The suspect may appear to have difficulty writing the note, and will ask to come inside the house. Once inside the victim's house, the suspect will ask the victim to help write the note. As the suspect keeps the victim occupied, others enter the residence to remove money and valuables. Be particularly alert to anyone in your neighborhood looking to perform home repairs, or asking to gain entry into your home. Be sure to ask to see identification and let them know you are going to call and get authorization from their company before allowing them access. If they are legitimate, they won't mind the wait. Remember, do not intervene, but call police immediately and report suspicious activity.
- ***Home Improvement Scams:*** To prevent the chances of being victimized, residents are urged to observe the following precautions:
 - Keep doors (including patio doors) and windows locked - even if you will be out for only a short time.
 - Request identification from utility representatives - legitimate representatives carries it, and will gladly show it to you. Call their company for verification.
 - Only rarely will legitimate home improvement companies solicit door-to-door. They usually distribute fliers or make phone calls - it's more cost effective for them.
 - Never pay in cash. Using a check keeps a record of the transaction and often provides identification of the person cashing the check.
 - Beware of excuses such as "We just finished a job around the corner and had extra materials that we could offer you at a discounted price." Professional companies do not operate in that manner.
 - Call police immediately if you notice someone unfamiliar to the neighborhood or acting suspiciously.
 - Be aware of various ruses that have been used to gain entry, including posing as utility representatives, asking for a drink of water, looking for property that is for sale, or selling home improvement services.
 - When purchasing or installing a home alarm system, make sure that the company who installs the alarm, as well as the company that monitors the alarm, are licensed to do business in Prince George's County. If a sales person comes to your door he/she must have a solicitation permit from the City – ask to see it!
- ***Lock your doors while working outside:*** When out working in your yard or garden, carry a key with you and lock your front and back doors. Some criminals specialize in stealing from homes when people are outside doing yard work. When you finish with that yard work, remember to clean up and lock up behind you. When you put your rake and other tools in the shed, garage or basement, don't forget to lock the doors. Thieves see an open door as an invitation. Deny criminals the opportunity to steal by securing your home and property.

The best crime prevention tool is a good neighbor!

Take the time to reacquaint yourself with your old neighbors and meet new ones. Why not organize a neighborhood watch to protect and watch out for one another's property? Let your neighbors know when a suspicious person has been spotted in your area. If residents see strangers sizing up their neighbors' home that could also be a sign something is wrong. In that case, a call to 301-985-6565 will get an officer to the scene to check things out. Residents can help their elderly neighbors by regularly checking in on them, and keeping an eye on them. If, for example, a neighbor sees an elderly resident in conversation with a stranger, they could politely inquire about what is going on. Neighbors working together for each other's well being are the foundation of a healthy community. Caring and personal involvement builds stronger bonds between neighbors, and helps maintain safe neighborhoods.



National Night Out 2010

Please come and join us for this year's ***National Night Out Against Crime*** on Tuesday, August 3rd on the grounds of Thomas Stone Elementary School. Bring your family and friends and enjoy an evening of live entertainment, plenty of food, and lots of fun things to do for the whole family. Please keep an eye on the City's web site, and on the police chief's Blog (www.mrpchief.blogspot.com) for details and updates as plans for this exciting night evolve.

Preventing Thefts from Auto

One of the most common types of theft is theft of valuables from your automobile. Theft from auto is strictly a crime of opportunity that can be prevented if you take away the opportunity. Thieves generally won't waste their time breaking into autos that don't have valuables in plain sight.

Over the past few months we have seen a marked increase in the numbers of thefts from autos at the local BP gas station at eastern Avenue and Varnum Street. These thefts have occurred while the operator is pumping gas, or while the operator of the car goes inside the gas station to pay for fuel or other items. The thief drives or walks up next to the parked car, and tries to open the victim's car door. If it's unlocked, they go inside and take whatever is not secured. Thefts of purses, handbags, GPS's, and iPods are most common. The crime takes place in about 5 seconds!

Please be aware of your surroundings. Lock your car doors, even while pumping gas. Keep valuables under your seat or in your trunk. If you see any suspicious activities contact the Mount Rainier Police Department at: 301-985-6565/6566.

- The best way to prevent theft from your auto is to always keep valuables out of sight. Never leave cell phones, briefcases, suitcases, or small electronic devices (personal music devices,

digital assistants, etc.) in your car in plain view. Take these items with you, or secure them — all the time, every time!

- If your car has a trunk, use it. Put valuables in there or in a locked glove compartment. Hiding items under seats is better than leaving them in plain view, but securing them inside the glove compartment or trunk is a far better deterrent.
- Any time you're shopping, place packages in the trunk, not on the passenger seats or floors.
- Look for car radios or other sound systems that can operate only in the vehicle in which it was originally installed. This reduces the risk of theft.
- If you can unfasten your sound system and take it with you, or lock it in your trunk, do so. And don't forget to do the same with your CDs and tapes.
- Always lock your doors even if you plan to be away from your vehicle for only a minute such as running in to pay for gas.
- If you don't have the luxury of parking your vehicle in a garage at night and have to leave it parked in the driveway or on the street in front of the house, makes sure to remove the garage door opener. This is a key to your home!!
- The best advice is to not leave anything in your vehicle, or at least in plain sight, that you would not want taken. Even the smallest most insignificant items left in plain view could result in a window being smashed which causes a great deal of expense and mess. If you will eliminate the opportunity, you have a greater chance of eliminating the crime.

May 2010 Selected Offenses by Team Policing Area

Date	Offense	Location				TPA
06-May-10	Assault - Aggravated	3200	BL	QUEENSTOWN	DR	1A
11-May-10	B & E - Residential	3100	BL	QUEENS CHAPEL	RD	1A
03-May-10	Property Damage	3000	BL	QUEENS CHAPEL	RD	1A
11-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	3100	BL	QUEENS CHAPEL	RD	1A
13-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	3300	BL	CHAUNCEY	PI	1A
15-May-10	Theft - From Auto	3200	BL	QUEENSTOWN	DR	1A
17-May-10	Theft - From Auto	3700	BL	36TH	ST	1A
18-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	3400	BL	UPSHUR	ST	1A
24-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	4200	BL	EASTERN	AV	1B
27-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	3700	BL	36TH	ST	1B
07-May-10	Stolen Vehicle	3700	BL	37TH	ST	1B
22-May-10	Stolen Vehicle	3400	BL	NEWTON	ST	1B
08-May-10	Theft - From Auto	4500	BL	EASTERN	AV	1B
17-May-10	Theft - From Auto	4500	BL	EASTERN	AV	1B
19-May-10	Theft < 500	3700	BL	36TH	ST	1B
22-May-10	Theft < 500	3700	BL	35TH	ST	1B

29-May-10	Theft < 500	4500	BL	EASTERN	AV	1B
29-May-10	Destruction of Property	2400	BL	ARUNDEL	RD	2A
04-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	4300	BL	RUSSELL	AV	2A
05-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	4100	BL	RUSSELL	AV	2A
09-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	4600	BL	25TH	ST	2A
20-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	2300	BL	VARNUM	ST	2A
30-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	2500	BL	ALLISON	ST	2A
06-May-10	Stolen Vehicle	4200	BL	28TH	ST	2A
04-May-10	Theft - From Auto			KAYWOOD	DR	2A
04-May-10	Theft - From Auto	4100	BL	RUSSELL	AV	2A
08-May-10	Theft - From Auto	4600	BL	25TH	ST	2A
05-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	4600	BL	29TH	ST	2A
07-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	4600	BL	27TH	ST	2A
16-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	3000	BL	UPSHUR	ST	2A
31-May-10	Assault - Aggravated			OTIS	ST	2B
24-May-10	B & E - Commercial	4200	BL	34TH	ST	2B
12-May-10	B & E - Residential	4000	BL	30TH	ST	2B
31-May-10	Destruction of Property	2600	BL	PERRY	ST	2B
15-May-10	Rape	3100	BL	BUNKER HILL	RD	2B
03-May-10	Robbery - Citizen			BUNKER HILL	RD	2B
23-May-10	Robbery - Citizen	3400	BL	BUNKER HILL	RD	2B
09-May-10	Stolen Vehicle	3300	BL	BUNKER HILL	RD	2B
09-May-10	Theft - From Auto	3200	BL	BUNKER HILL	RD	2B
23-May-10	Theft - From Auto	3800	BL	34TH	ST	2B
23-May-10	Theft - From Auto	3800	BL	34TH	ST	2B
26-May-10	Theft - From Auto	4000	BL	33RD	ST	2B
28-May-10	Theft - From Auto	3300	BL	OTIS	ST	2B
24-May-10	Theft < 500	3200	BL	RHODE ISLAND	AV	2B
12-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	3700	BL	34TH	ST	2B
22-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	3300	BL	OTIS	ST	2B
23-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	3800	BL	34TH	ST	2B
23-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	3800	BL	34TH	ST	2B
23-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	3800	BL	34TH	ST	2B
23-May-10	Vandalism to Auto	3800	BL	34TH	ST	2B



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**. "2010 Census"
- **CitiScape** – 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

MRTV comments, suggestions and show ideas: mrtvchannel71@yahoo.com or call 301-985-6585



Green Home Initiative

The Northern Prince George's County Green Home Initiative will help low- and moderate- income homeowners decrease their energy footprint by making environmentally-sound home improvements that will enable them to decrease energy usage and realize significant energy cost savings. The City of Mount Rainier_in partnership with the Washington Area Community Investment Fund (WACIF) is carrying out its Green Home Initiative funded by the State of Maryland! These energy-efficient home improvements will not only lower your energy costs and save you money but also contribute to increasing property values!

Benefits to you, your home and your community!

Reduce your energy costs and **save** money!

Increase the **value** and attractiveness of your home!

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful emissions! Increase energy efficiency awareness among homeowners!

Support the green economic development in Prince George's County

Eligible Use of Funds:

Heating & Cooling Systems
Dishwashers/Stoves/Microwaves
Washers and Dryers
Refrigerators and
Freezers
Lighting retrofit
Ceiling Fans
Water saving toilets
Windows and Doors (windows and door replacements may be eligible for the city tax credit as well)
Insulation and weather stripping

Who can apply?

Priority will be given to low- to moderate income homeowners and seniors though any resident homeowners may apply.

Program requirements:

Must own and reside in the home receiving funds and weatherization work
Home must not be for-rent, for-sale or in foreclosure
Name and address of applicant must appear on electric bill
Only upgrade of existing appliance

Program requirements continued:

Program recipient must participate in Energy Study by supplying pre and post program energy bills to track savings resulting from work completed
Pre- and Post-home inspections performed
There must be a need for the work;
Provide proof of financial need (most recent W-2 or 1040)

Household Annual Income Limits:

1 Person: \$30,249 **2 Person:** \$39,556 **3 Person:** \$48,864 **4 Person:** \$58,171
5 Person: \$67,479 **6 Person:** \$76,786 **7 Person:** \$86,093 **8 Person:** \$95,400

**For More Information: There will be a Public Outreach Meeting July 20, 2010, 7 pm
at City Hall or you may contact
City Manager, Jeannelle Wallace at 301-985-6585**

**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

July and August 2010 Schedule

Listed hereunder is the scheduled pick up dates for trash in the City of Mt. Rainier, for July and August 2010.

DATE	PARTICULARS	DATE	PARTICULARS
July 2	Recyclables Pick Up	August 2	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
July 5	4 th of July Holiday observance (City Hall and Public Works Closed)	August 4	Regular Trash Pick Up
July 6	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up	August 6	Recyclables Pick Up
July 7	Regular Trash Pick Up	August 9	Yard Waste Pick Up
July 9	Recyclables Pick Up	August 11	Regular Trash Pick Up
July 12	Yard Waste Pick Up	August 13	Recyclables Pick Up
July 14	Regular Trash Pick Up	August 16	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
July 16	Recyclables Pick Up	August 18	Regular Trash Pick Up
July 19	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up	August 20	Recyclables Pick Up
July 21	Regular Trash Pick Up	August 23	Yard Waste Pick Up
July 23	Recyclables Pick Up	August 25	Regular Trash Pick Up
July 26	Yard Waste Pick Up	August 27	Recyclables Pick Up
July 28	Regular Trash Pick Up	August 30	Yard Waste Pick Up
July 30	Recyclables Pick Up		

All bulk trash appointments must be made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding bulk 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

Michael D. Jackson
301-985-6585 ext.30

mjackson@monutrainiermd.org

Councilmembers

Ward 1

Jimmy Tarlau
301-335-6099

Jtarlau@cwa-union.org

Alta Morton

202-674-4525

altamm1@yahoo.com

Ward 2

Ivy Thompson

friendsforivy@gmail.com

Bryan Knedler

301-699-3134

bknedler@aol.com

Message

Jeannelle B. Wallace

jwallace@mountrainiermd.org

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 Midnight. Public Works open 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

47th District Reps

301-858-3745

Sen. David Harrington

301-858-3326

Del. Doyle Niemann

Del. Jolene Ivey

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

Chief Michael E. Scott

Mscott@mountrainiermd.org

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

Satellite Office:

6475 New Hampshire Ave, Suite C-201

Hyattsville MD 20783

301-891-6982 (voice)

301-891-6985 (fax)

Monday–Friday 9:00 a.m.–5:30 p.m.

Consumer Affairs

301-470-7534

County Animal Control

301-780-7200

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)

The City of Mount Rainier is an equal opportunity employer, without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, disability, political or union affiliation.

Mount Rainier, MD 20712

Postal Customer

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July/August 2010 Message
City of Mount Rainier
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