

# The Message



Issue 304

December 2012/January 2013

## 2012 Mount Rainier: A Brief Review

During 2012, the City Council and staff continued efforts to move forward with the major development projects, community sustainability efforts and support to local businesses and initiatives throughout the City.

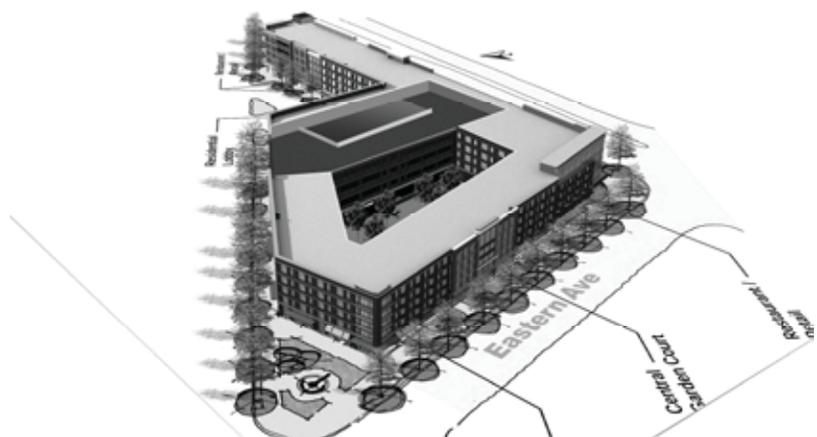
Council and staff are moving forward with the development of the Civic Center, construction drawings are being completed and an application is being submitted to the USDA for funding the project that includes a new library building, community space and connects City Hall, Star Potts Hall and the library as a single facility. And with Streetsense as the selected developer of the Rhode Island Avenue properties, Staff and Council can continue to develop the Capital Improvement Plan for street improvements and fund needed street projects.

Volunteer Committees such as the Green Team, the Tree Commission, the Design Review Committee, the Mixed- Use Town Center

Committee, the Youth and Recreation Committee and Neighborhood Watch Groups contributed greatly to ongoing efforts to improve the quality of life for all residents, young, old and in-between by working closely with the local community organizations such as the Mount Rainier Business Association, the Neighborhood Design Center, Gateway CDC Joe's Movement

*REVIEW, continued on page 3*

## RIA Moving Forward



The Mount Rainier City Council awarded StreetSense and Neighborhood Development Corporation the rights to develop two city-owned properties at the corner of Rhode Island and Eastern Avenues into mixed uses of residential and retail.

The project proposes 210 apartments and 18,000 square feet of retail. The development team was able to expand the project by securing the rights to a Thrifty truck rental property adjacent to the City-owned

property. Negotiations are in progress with the developers, City and County representatives. The project is expected to break ground next year; and is expected to give a boost to the Prince George's County Gateway Arts District, which includes Mount Rainier, Hyattsville, North Brentwood and Brentwood.

The County Government is supporting the larger project via \$1.5 million in financial breaks and additional subsidies for the project.

### IN THIS ISSUE...

2013 City Election	2
Council Schedule	2
Community Happenings	4
Chief's Blog	6
Public Works Schedule	7
Directory of Important Contacts	8

## CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND SPECIAL DATES

Unless noted,  
all City Council  
meetings occur at  
7 pm at City Hall,  
One Municipal Place

**January 2 & 16**

**February 5 & 19**

**March 5 & 19**

**April 2 & 16**



**MRTV Programs appear on Comcast 71,  
Verizon 21, and “On Demand” daily.**

MRTV now provides a 24/7 programming schedule. Watch for the daily Program Guide for a list shows and times.

**LIVE Programs – City Council Meetings and Work sessions, 7 pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.**

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

# City Council Elections May 2013

The City of Mount Rainier is scheduled hold an election for the offices of Mayor and one councilmember for Ward 1 and one councilmember for Ward 2.

In accordance with the City of Mount Rainier Charter, on the first Monday in May in every fourth year beginning with 1997 the registered voters of the City shall vote for one person to serve as Mayor of the City, and candidates to serve as Councilmembers for each ward.

For the upcoming election, the office of Mayor, and one council seat from Ward 1 and one council seat from Ward 2 will be on the official ballot.

City of Mount Rainier Charter, Article V, Section 505, Nomination Procedures, states that any person desiring to have his or her name placed upon the official ballot for Mayor or Councilmember at any city election shall present to the Supervisor of Elections a petition setting forth his or her name and residence, and the of-



vice sought, and such petition shall be signed by at least twenty (20) qualified voters.

In the case of a petitioner for councilmember only signatures of qualified voters residing within the ward from which the petitioner is running shall be counted. Nomination petitions must be presented by the petitioner to the Supervisor of Elections at City Hall between the hours of 6 pm and 8 pm on the first Monday in April of every odd-numbered year, which for this election will be April 1, 2013.

The Mayor and Council will appoint members to the City Board of Elections on Tuesday; March 5, 2013. Anyone interested in serving on the Board of Elections should contact their council representative or the City Manager. Nomination Petitions may be picked up between 9:00am and 5:00pm Monday through Friday.

For additional information concerning City Elections, please go to [www.mountrainiermd.org](http://www.mountrainiermd.org) and click on the government tab and then proceed in the left hand column to reports and documents and click on City Charter or Elections Procedures.

Questions, comments and submissions to the Mount Rainier *MESSAGE* should be sent to **Michael Jackson, Assistant City Manager, via mail at One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD 20712 or via e-mail at [mjackson@mountrainiermd.org](mailto:mjackson@mountrainiermd.org)**. All submissions for the February 2013 *MESSAGE* must be received by close of business on Wednesday, January 23, 2013. Submissions received after that time will be considered on a space available basis. The Mount Rainier Message is published monthly except for the combined July-August and December-January issues.

# Lawrence Guyot Remembered

Lawrence Guyot, a civil rights leader who survived jailhouse beatings in the Deep South in the 1960s and went on to encourage generations to get involved in various causes, died last month at the age of 73.

A Mississippi native, Guyot worked for the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee and served as director of the 1964 Freedom Summer Project, which sought to register blacks to vote despite a history of violence and intimidation by authorities. Guyot was severely beaten several times during the civil rights era.

He continued to push for and speak out on voting rights until his death. He is survived by his wife, Monica Klein Guyot, daughter Julie Guyot-Diangone, and son Lawrence Guyot III.



## Community Garden at Richardson Park

Residents who are looking to put their green thumbs to use, or interested in learning about gardening as a new hobby, may get a chance to do so this Spring/Summer, 2013.

The Community Garden at Richardson Park is in its beginning development stages. The City Council gave permission to use city property at Richardson Park on 31st Street and Arundel Road to build a community garden with raised beds.

paths), maintaining a demonstration garden bed, planting fig trees, clearing invasive vines off the property, and building compost bins. There was also a very successful fundraiser at "Franklin's Restaurant, Brewery, and General Store" in November 2012!

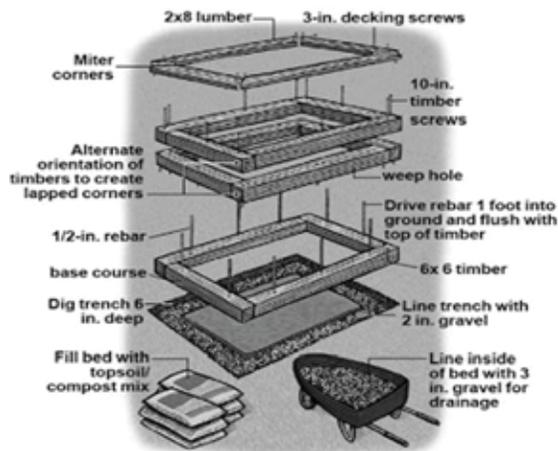
Volunteers are needed over the next few months to help with upcoming "off season" chores such as fence-building, shoveling wood chips, tilling up soil for raised beds, building those raised beds and then taking a breather before filling those raised beds with top soil and compost.

For more information about the community garden and questions on how to get involved as a volunteer, please email Jacquelyn Riposo at [MountRainierGarden@gmail.com](mailto:MountRainierGarden@gmail.com).

### REVIEW, *continued from page 1*

Emporium, Little Friends for Peace ARTWORKS, the Police Department, the Mount Rainier Nature Center and the D.C. based Friends of Rhode Island Avenue.

2013 brings the return of community favorites such as the Mount Rainier House Tour, Farmers Market, Build A Better Block Project, Sweeping the Streets, Free Flicks and Mount Rainier Day in the Spring. New community programs making 2013 exciting include the ART LIVES HERE Project, development of a community garden, much more as staff and Council continues to move our City forward!



A subgroup of the Mount Rainier Green Team is leading the project and is seeking both volunteers and donations. The group has already organized several workdays on the site that involved hauling wood chips (for the

# Community Happenings



Joe's Movement Emporium,  
3309 Bunker Hill Rd, Mount  
Rainier · (301) 699-1819,

*Tickets for events can be purchased by visiting [www.joesmovement.org](http://www.joesmovement.org)*  
**THEATRE/MUSIC - VARIETY – “Va Va VOOM” Sat., Dec. 15 @ 10pm**, Joe's is bringing the circus home and who knows what could happen in this magical night of burlesque, comedy and daring feats! The night supports DC, MD, and VA alternative performance artists and gives the Joe's community a chance to let loose. Your paid admission gets you into the performance as well as two drink tickets and finger foods. For Mature Audiences Only!

**AERIAL ARTS – Arachne Aerial Arts present “Aerial Works in Progress” Sun., Dec. 16 @ 4pm**

This informal showing features students of Arachne Aerial Arts along with other regional aerial artists.

**Brentwood Arts Exchange, located in the Gateway Arts Center, 3901 Rhode Island Avenue, Brentwood, MD 20722, (301) 277-2863, to register for classes visit [arts.pgpark.com](http://arts.pgpark.com)**

Gallery Hours: Monday -Friday: 10am-7pm, Saturday: 10am-4pm, Sunday: Closed

**EXHIBITIONS:** Artist Reception at the 39th Street Gallery, December 15, from 5:30 - 8:00 PM, (second floor 39th Street entrance) **"No Strings Attached"** Dec. 15 - Jan. 19, 2013, by Artist collective Delusions of Grandeur, Wesley Clark, Shaunte Gates, Jamea Richmond-Edwards, Amber Robles-Gordon, and Stan Squirewell. "No Strings Attached," is a micro-examination of systematic control. Mechanisms such as: tethering, bindings, trusses, and all constructs that joins or is fixed in their inaction to hold in place. To remove bondages one must cut, pry, scrape, hack and in severe cases chew off portions of themselves.

In the 39th Street Corridor Exhibition Space **Mixed Media Paintings by Tom Hill**, "Blending the personal and political, my work conveys my experience in the world as a gay man, in exploration of both the sacred and the profane."

**ART CLASSES/WORKSHOPS Art After Work @ Brentwood Arts Exchange** - Grab a friend and free yourself from the daily stresses of the workplace in these creative evening art classes. Participants and their friends can enjoy an evening of art making, wine and conversation while expressing their creativity in a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere. Each class will briefly present a new and exciting art medium as well as an array of techniques for participants to try and experiment. Guests are welcome to bring their own bottles. No previous art experience is required. Every Other Thursday, 6:30 – 8:30pm, All Ages.

**INFLUENCE OVER TIME: THE ART OF WINSTON HARRIS**, Arts Program Gallery, University of Maryland University College UMUC Inn and Conference Center, Second Floor Gallery, 3501 University Blvd. East, Adelphi, MD 20783, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. daily. University of Maryland University College (UMUC) will display "Influence Over Time: The Art of Winston Harris" exhibit now through March 31, 2013. The exhibition is a reflection of Harris' interest in the passage of time and the roles that overt status symbol pieces, such as Rolex watches, play in contemporary culture. For more information, call 301-985-7937, or visit [www.umuc.edu/visitors/events/art/upload/Winston-Harris-E-vite\\_final.pdf](http://www.umuc.edu/visitors/events/art/upload/Winston-Harris-E-vite_final.pdf).



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT & PATRONAGE!!! WE WILL SEE YOU IN THE SPRING.**

# Community Happenings

**O**ur community has plenty of elves and angels that help to make the holidays merry for everyone. Thanks to Mario Cisneros for the past 7+ years the Mount Rainier Giving Project has helped families in our community around the Christmas Holiday. This year is no exception. We are looking for individuals or groups who can help a family in need. With the weather getting colder there is a great need for warm clothing. Please expand your generous hearts and help a family in our community. If you are interested in participating contact Yvette Barnes at [ysb527@yahoo.com](mailto:ysb527@yahoo.com). Wishing you a Peaceful and Wonderful Holiday Season.



## Support Our Schools

Volunteer with the local Mount Rainier Parent Teacher Organizations (PTO)! Our local schools are only as great as the people involved!

The Thomas Stone Elementary PTO meets every third Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Contact PTO President Ms. Kristen Hayes at [k\\_hayes2008@hotmail.com](mailto:k_hayes2008@hotmail.com) and Vice-President Mr. Daniel Rivas at [dbr81@yahoo.com](mailto:dbr81@yahoo.com).

The Mount Rainier Elementary PTO meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. in the school library. Contact Ms. Yvette Barnes at [b527@gmail.com](mailto:b527@gmail.com) to volunteer.

You can also support our local schools by registering your Giant bonus card at [www.giantfood.com/our\\_stores/bonus\\_bucks/index.htm](http://www.giantfood.com/our_stores/bonus_bucks/index.htm). The schools earn money each time you use your card. You can select up to 3 schools. You must re-register every school year

## School Supplies Needed

Please consider donating the following supplies to both Thomas Stone Elementary and Mount Rainier Elementary Schools:

printer cartridges	construction paper,
scotch tape	copy paper
pencils	hand sanitizer
tissues	paper towels
Notebook paper	composition books

Mount Rainier's  
Neighborhood Watch

Cordially Invites You to Our Second Annual

### Cookie Exchange

December 21  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mount Rainier Police Department  
3249 Rhode Island Avenue  
Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

Mount Rainier Code Enforcement & Mount Rainier Police Officers have been invited to join us, I'm sure that this meeting will prove to be informative for all.

Seeing as the holiday season is upon us, this watch meeting will be a cookie exchange, please consider bringing a platter or package of cookies to share with your neighbors.

For More Information: [TJKRobinson@yahoo.com](mailto:TJKRobinson@yahoo.com)



Take advantage of the end of the year tax breaks before they expire and consider making a year-end donation to local organizations working to improve the quality of life of our youth and all residents

throughout Mount Rainier and the Arts District!

- Artworks
- Little Friends for Peace
- Mount Rainier Community Fund
- Joe's Movement Emporium
- Prince George's African American Museum and Cultural Center
- Gateway CDC
- Neighborhood Design Center

# CHIEF'S BLOG

## *'Tis the Season to Prepare for Winter Weather*

When weather conditions warrant the declaration of a snow emergency the City of Mount Rainier follows the District of Columbia, NOT Maryland or Prince George's County. Residents should be aware that when a winter weather advisory is announced the chances of a snow emergency being declared is a distinct possibility and you should tune in to news and weather reports for updated information.

The Alert DC system is an excellent resource for obtaining emergency information including snow emergency declarations. By signing up for this service, you can receive emergency notifications in a variety of ways such as e-mail, cell phone text message, Blackberry or wireless PDA. **You can sign up for the Alert DC service at the following web site: <https://textalert.ema.dc.gov/index.php?CCheck=1>.**

The Mount Rainier Police Department will also notify residents of snow emergency declarations via Twitter (@MRPDChief) and on the Chief's Blog at [www.mrpdcchief.blogspot.com](http://www.mrpdcchief.blogspot.com).

The City has established the below listed streets as snow emergency routes. When a snow emergency is declared, parking along these streets is automatically prohibited for the duration of the snow emergency.

### **Mount Rainier Snow Emergency Routes:**

- \* **34<sup>th</sup> Street from Eastern Avenue to Arundel Road;**
- \* **Chillum Road from Arundel Road to the City boundary at Queens Chapel Road (MD Rt. 500);**



- \* **Rainier Avenue from 34<sup>th</sup> Street to Upshur Street;**
- \* **Upshur Street from Rainier Avenue to 28<sup>th</sup> Place;**
- \* **28<sup>th</sup> Place from Upshur Street to Russell Avenue;**
- \* **Russell Avenue from 28<sup>th</sup> Place to Arundel Road;**
- \* **Varnum Street from Russell Avenue to Eastern Avenue;**
- \* **Arundel Road from Russell Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Street**

Vehicles found parked on a snow emergency route after a snow emergency has been declared by the DC government are subject to a \$100 fine (City Code §13A-107) and to being impounded at the owner's risk and expense. Vehicles that become stalled on a snow emergency route, impede the flow of traffic, or interfere with snow removal operations are also subject to being impounded at the owner's risk and expense.

## *This Year, Use Sober Ride*

Twenty-five percent of all drunk driving deaths occur in the month of December. Over the Christmas and New Year's holidays there is a 40-60% spike in alcohol-related traffic fatalities



Don't drink and drive this holiday season! From December 14th to January 1st you can call 1-800-Sober Ride for a free taxi ride home.

Remember YOU choose your ride. Either a free ride in a police cruiser under arrest or free ride home in a cab.

# Public Works

## RECYCLE, BULK TRASH AND YARD WASTE COLLECTION TIPS

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.

*In accordance with City Code 11:110 A, yard waste will be collected on the 2nd Monday in December, January and February by appointments only. Residents are to call the bulk line, 301-985-6558, and select option 2 for yard waste.*

All BULK TRASH appointments must be made before 12 Noon on the Friday preceding the pick up day. All bulk trash items must be set out before 7:00 AM on pick up day. Call 301-985-6558, select option 2.



### MOUNT RAINIER CALL-A-BUS

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

## PUBLIC WORKS CALENDAR

DATE	PARTICULARS
December 17	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
December 19	Regular Trash Pick Up
December 21	Recyclables Pick Up
<b>December 25</b>	<b>Christmas Holiday City Hall and Public Works Closed</b>
December 26	Regular Trash Pick Up
December 28	Recyclables Pick Up
December 31	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
January 1	<b>New Year's Day Holiday City Hall and Public Works Closed</b>
January 2	Regular Trash Pick Up
January 4	Recyclables Pick Up
January 7	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
January 9	Regular Trash Pick Up
January 11	Recyclables Pick Up
January 14	Yard Waste Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
January 16	Regular Trash Pick Up
January 18	Recyclables Pick Up
<b>January 21</b>	<b>MLK, Jr. Holiday City Hall and Public Works Closed</b>
January 23	Regular Trash Pick Up
January 25	Recyclables Pick Up
January 30	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 1	Recyclables Pick Up
February 4	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
February 6	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 8	Recyclables Pick Up
February 11	Yard Waste Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558)
February 13	Regular Trash Pick Up
February 15	Recyclables Pick Up
February 18	<b>Presidents Day Holiday City Hall and Public Works Closed</b>

# RECYCLE YOUR ELECTRONICS

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

**Mayor**  
**Malinda Miles**  
301-699-1378

[mayormiles@malindamiles.com](mailto:mayormiles@malindamiles.com)

**City Manager**  
**Jeannelle B. Wallace**  
301-985-6585, ext. 22  
fax: 301-985-6595

[jwallace@mountrainiermd.org](mailto:jwallace@mountrainiermd.org)

**Asst. City Manager**  
**Michael D. Jackson**  
301-985-6585 ext.30

[mjackson@mountrainiermd.org](mailto:mjackson@mountrainiermd.org)

**City Treasurer**  
**Vijay Manjani**

[vmanjani@mountrainiermd.org](mailto:vmanjani@mountrainiermd.org)

**Councilmembers**

**Ward 1**

**Jimmy Tarlau**  
301-335-6099

[Jtarlau@cwa-union.org](mailto:Jtarlau@cwa-union.org)

**Bill Updike**  
301-367-5649

[updikew@yahoo.com](mailto:updikew@yahoo.com)

**Ward 2**

**Ivy Thompson**  
[friendsforivy@gmail.com](mailto:friendsforivy@gmail.com)

**Brent Bolin**  
301-744-9465

[brentcbolin@gmail.com](mailto:brentcbolin@gmail.com)

**Message**

Michael D. Jackson

[mjackson@mountrainiermd.org](mailto:mjackson@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 11 p.m.  
Public Works open 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

47th District Reps  
Senator Victor Ramirez  
301-858-3745

Del. Doyle Niemann  
Del. Jolene Ivey  
Del. Michael Summers  
301-858-3326

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

City Code Enforcement Office  
301-985-6551

Alex Brown  
301-674-9175  
Kevin Simpson  
240-508-4187  
Michael Warrick  
240-882-9788

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

**City Police Department**  
Chief Michael E. Scott  
[Mscott@mountrainiermd.org](mailto: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  
Rushern Baker  
301-952-4131

County Councilman  
Will Campos  
301-952-4436

CSX railroad  
1-877-Tell CSX

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–Thursday 11-7:00 (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  
301-699-2400

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

P. G. Animal Control  
3750 Brown Station Road  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
(301) 780-7201

Post Office  
301-699-8856

Public Defender  
301-699-2760

Public Schools  
301-952-6000

State's Attorney  
301-952-3500

Washington Gas Light  
703-750-1000

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.*

Postal Customer  
Mount Rainier, MD 20712

Pre-sorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 171

December 2012 Message  
City of Mount Rainier  
One Municipal Place  
Mount Rainier, MD 20712