



Message

Issue 219
June 2004

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Mount Rainier Day Festival Week—June 1 to June 5

Joe's Movement Emporium and Mount Rainier residents prepare to "*Sweep the Avenue*" in preparation for community-wide celebration!

THEME: Many Cultures, One Community

Tuesday, June 1 – Friday, June 4

"Sweeping the Avenue 2004: A Community Clean-Up and Arts Celebration"

- 4 – 6:00 p.m. – City-wide clean up
- 5 – 6:30 p.m. – Family art projects at Joe's Movement Emporium
- 7 – 8:30 p.m. – FREE dance & music classes at Joe's and the Latin-American Folk Institute (LAFI)

Prizes will be awarded for the most trash collected. There will be t-shirts and food for participants, and nightly live performances inside the Mount Rainier Town Center!!!

Saturday, June 5

Mount Rainier Day Festival (at Mount Rainier City Hall)

10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

The week-long celebration will culminate with the festival featuring: a parade through the town center; American Red Cross Blood Drive; a book giveaway; arts & crafts vendors; food vendors offering diverse cuisine; a variety of performances by local artists; a karate demonstration; a children's play area with face-painting, roller-skating, a bike-repair workshop, moonbounce, arts & crafts workshop, poster contest, and much, much more!

Joe's Movement Emporium, 3802 34th Street
Latin-American Folk Institute, 3800-A 34th Street
Mount Rainier City Hall, One Municipal Place (at Rhode Island Avenue Bus Terminal)

For more information, contact: Ophelia Baxter at 240-393-1187, Barbara Goliday at 301-537-6046, or Robert Taylor at 301-779-2172. Visit the City's website for future updates on Mount Rainier Day, the Parade, and the week's activities.

www.mountrainiermd.org.

**Deadline for the July Message
is June 15.**

Mayor's Report

by Mayor Bryan Knedler

HIGHER TAXES IN YOUR FUTURE. The Council in a straw vote has rejected the lowering of the real-property tax rate (city manager had proposed .75 per \$100 of assessed value) in favor of keeping the rate at .79. The final vote is to take place on June 8th. Please let us know your feelings on this issue.

Because your property has increased in value, you will pay more tax dollars to the city next year. In order for you to pay the same amount as last year, the rate should be set at .72 (the constant yield rate). Renters will likely see their rates go up to cover the increase. Property owners can easily figure out the amount of increase by looking at the assessment notice provided earlier this year. Or go to the state assessment website: http://sdatcert3.resiusa.org/rp_rewrite/.

Determine the percentage increase of your property value. Your actual city tax bill will increase at that same amount. Most property owners will see around a 15 percent increase. Your county and state taxes will also be increased.

A promise is being made that the rate will be decreased starting next year. However, note that it is unlikely the rate will ever be decreased enough to bring your bill back down since your property will continue to increase in value. The city taxes you pay will continue to go up every year.

The proposal to keep the rate at .79 includes the promise that \$100,000 will go into the city reserves (the savings account). While I concur with the goal of building the reserve, I think it should be done on a more incremental basis. This same promise was made when the rate was in-

creased by 12 cents and again when it increased by 24 cents. We still have zero in savings.

The reality is that if the City collected all the money owed to it, we would not be in such bad shape. Yes, some revenues have been projected too high, but thousands are owed in back taxes and fees. The city manager has been identifying these debts and placing liens on properties. To encourage swifter payments, the council at her direction has increased the penalty for late payments. In addition, I believe some employee benefits have become too burdensome and some "wants" should be delayed or spread over several years.

Just as you must budget your household expenses and resist spending beyond your means, the city must do likewise. With fears of gentrification and forcing out lower-income working families and seniors, increasing the tax burden is the wrong direction to go.

BASS LIQUORS LICENSE REVOKED. The Board of License Commissioners (liquor board) refused to renew the liquor license for Bass Liquors and Restaurant after two nights of hearings (May 5 went until midnight and May 6 until 2 a.m.). The Board will issue its written decision on May 25, at which time we expect Bass' attorney to request that the store remain open during the expected appeal to the circuit court. The Board has revoked the license twice before and the court has overturned the decision on procedural grounds.

The City Council passed a resolution in favor of revocation (Gandee abstained) and assigned the city attorney, Susan Silber, to assist the

citizens who challenged the license renewal. She and her associate, Kenneth Sigman, did a stellar job of preparing our witnesses and presenting the citizens' case. Several citizens gave firsthand accounts of their experiences with problems at the address. Lt. Mike Scott, second in command at our police department, gave very useful testimony about crime; our public works director, Ed Gabay, provided testimony about the code violations in the building; and I provided testimony regarding past broken promises and conditions. Also notable and appreciated were the testimonies of State Senator Gwen Britt, State Delegates Doyle Niemann and Victor Ramirez, County Councilman Peter Shapiro; and former mayor Sissine—all asking for the license to be revoked.

Witnesses in favor of the liquor store provided testimony that it is a safe and clean place, no loitering is taking place there, and it provides needed services to the Mount Rainier community. Michael Bass, representing the Bass Trust which owns the property, provided assurances to the Board that the lease he is negotiating with Mr. Gould and his partners (owners of the liquor license) would absolutely force changes at the business. Gould and partners promised a family-oriented restaurant in addition to the check cashing and continued liquor package store. Mr. Gould in 2000, stated that such a restaurant would not be feasible. I reminded the Board that two years ago the owners had promised a business plan that would show how they would restore the restaurant and attract the community to it. We

Mayor, continued on page 6

From the Police Chief

HOW TO REACH US

For police service calls (24 hours a day) 301-985-6565/66
 For information/admin offices (M-F, 9A-5P) 301-985-6580
<http://www.mountrainiermd.org/government/mrpd/index.html>
Please cut and place on your phone

VACATION CHECK FOR YOUR HOME. When you go on vacation are you concerned with leaving your home unattended? Why not notify us so we may check on it from time-to-time? If you plan on leaving on a short or long vacation and would like us to check your property, please call to be placed on our house checklist. We will need your address, length of visit and a number to contact you at in case the need arises.

FLIM FLAM, CONFIDENCE GAMES BE FOREWARNED. There is an old saying, never pass up a good deal. Well, in the case of home repairs and driveway repair using an unlicensed person often leads to you being taken scammed. Be wary of persons going door-to-door offering repair work at discount rates and without a contract. A reputable licensed contractor usually cannot complete the work immediately and will put you on a schedule. Be aware of the person who can begin work immediately and needs money to rent tools or buy products. Then best advice is to use a person that you know and a licensed contractor to perform work.

SURVEY SAYS. Frequently we ask persons that we make contact with either through taking a report or issuing a citation to comment on the contact with our officers. This anonymous survey allows us to gauge the service that we render and make adjustments through training

QUESTION

The officer was courteous. 4.5
 The officer was neat and orderly. 4.70
 I was treated with respect. 4.63
 The officer displayed a professional attitude. 4.5
 The officer did not make any unnecessary comments. 4.75
 The officer was knowledgeable concerning my problem. 4.33
 In general, I believe the police do a good job. 4.5
 Generally, I feel the police provide a necessary service. 4.66
 I feel the police are needed to provide a safe community. 5.0
 The police should enforce the traffic laws. 4.5

AVERAGE

NOT ANSWERED

17% return rate.

and coaching of employees. In 2003, our survey results are as follows:

POLICE TOWN HALL MEETINGS. Over the past year, we have held quarterly meetings with our residents. These community meetings give our residents the opportunity to meet directly with our police officers assigned to their neighborhood. During these meetings, residents provide valuable information on crime and traffic concerns to the officers. At our March 17 meeting, the residents in Team Policing Area 1B (Ward 2), that includes residents from the DC line to 34th Street to Taylor Street were very vocal with their concerns regarding traffic, pan handling and persons drinking in public. The officers' assigned to this area took immediate action and with the help of other officers they increased the enforcement effort in the area. Although the below numbers

are Citywide, they reflect the overall increase in our effort to increase enforcement.

Did you know that our officers responded to 9,599 calls for service in 2003 a 15% increase over the 8,372 calls for service we responded to in 2002? The next Town Hall meeting will take place on Monday, June 14 at 7 PM at the Police Department.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH EFFORT UNDERWAY. In early May, an organizational meeting was held to gauge interest in forming a Neighborhood Watch Group. The attendees decided to conduct neighborhood walk in Team Policing Area 2B. Approximately ten (10) residents came out and walked the neighborhood encouraging the residents to participate and join us in starting a Neighborhood Watch. The group has momentum and scheduled another walk in Team Policing Area 2A on

	2003	2004
Parking	1,310	1,188
State Traffic Citations	117	176
Equipment Repair Orders	5	12
Municipal/Civil Citations	0	4
Criminal Citations	2	27
Warnings	0	118
Arrests	23	92

Police, continued on page 10

Real Property Tax Increase

Voting Will Be Held on Tuesday, June 8, 2004 at City Hall

CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER NOTICE OF PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Mayor and City Council of the City of Mount Rainier, Maryland, proposes to increase real property taxes

1. For the tax year beginning July 1, 2004, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 10.5 %, from \$195,219,030 to \$215,760,301
2. If the City of Mount Rainier maintains the current tax rate of \$.790 per \$100 of assessment, real property tax revenues will increase by 10.5 % resulting in \$162,276 of new real property tax revenues.

3. In order to full offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to \$.715, the constant yield tax rate.
4. The City is considering not reducing its real property tax rate enough to fully offset increasing assessments. The City proposes to adopt a real property tax rate of \$.790 per \$100 of assessment. This tax rate is 10.5 % higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate \$162,276 in additional property tax revenues.

Bunker Hill Vol. Fire and Rescue Co.

The new Bunker Hill Fire Station is nearing completion and the Bunker Hill VF&RC (formerly the Mount Rainier VFD) is beginning a recruiting drive. If you are a student attending a local university you are eligible for our student live-in program. Or if you are a community minded person looking for a way to help your community, we have a place for you. For details, visit: <http://www.bhvfr.com/>.

The VFRC is operating out of the new station with a temporary use and occupancy permit because the building has not fully been approved by the county. The VFRC has already sold their former home on 34th Street, so the temporary permit was issued.

Mount Rainier Website Survey

The Mount Rainier Website is undergoing a redesign. To ensure that we are serving your needs, please visit the Website (<http://www.mountrainiermd.org>) and answer the survey. The survey will be on the site until the end of June.

Please contact webmaster@mountrainiermd.org for any questions or concerns regarding the Mount Rainier Website.

Thank you for helping to improve your City's Website.

Roller-Skate Event Schedule

MNCPPC will set up its mobile skate park (traditional rollerskates not rollerblades) as follows:

- Sat. June 19, noon to 2 p.m., 35th and Perry
- Sat. July 17, 5 to 7 p.m., Taylor and 28th
- Sat. Aug. 14, 9 a.m. til noon, 35th and Perry

Contact Councilmember Haamid for more details, 301-864-3418

Mount Rainier Business Association Seeks Executive Director

The Mount Rainier Business Association is seeking a part-time employee to serve as an Executive Director for the Association and handle its affairs which are minimal, but necessary. If interested, please contact Larry Solomon at 301-927-0013.

Job Vacancy Announcement

Part-Time Call-A-Bus Driver

Starting salary \$10 per hour

The Department of Public Works at the City of Mount Rainier seeks a part time Call A Bus Driver to assist the Department in operating its transportation service for the City. Incumbent must have knowledge of the City of Mount Rainier and surrounding areas and be customer service oriented. Must have ability to deal with a wide range of rider ages. Position is part time with a schedule of two weeks per month.

Required minimum experience is 3 to 5 years operating a bus or truck. Valid Maryland driver's license is required with clean driving record. To apply send cover letter and resume to **Director of Public Works, City of Mount Rainier, City Hall Building, One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD, 20712** or apply in person at the City Hall.

A criminal background check will be required of any and all successful applicants. At least two letters of recommendation will be required.

Mount Rainier Tree Commission

The Mount Rainier Tree Commission has a new e-mail address: treecommission@mountrainiermd.org. Please e-mail us if you have any questions or concerns about trees on public property or if you know of a tree that needs to be pruned, removed, or replaced.

Red Cross Blood Donor

Let's take our commitment to our community up a notch by being a blood donor. The Red Cross has agreed to send their Blood Mobile to our Mount Rainier Day celebration!

Did you know: A full 95% of us will use a blood product in our lifetime but less than 5% of us donate. Unfortunately, donations are decreasing each year. Each blood donation may save up to three lives! What is needed is a commitment from approximately 60 residents, at a minimum, to sign up to be donors.

After a very careful screening, the donation process is simple, sterile and safe. In less than half an hour, you will be back at the celebration and able to enjoy the festivities to the fullest.

Let's show our neighboring communities how much we care and demonstrate our willingness to give back to those in need.

Contact Regina Wardwell RN CFNP at 301-864-7895 to be included.

Friends of the Library

Friends of the Library will be participating in Mount Rainier Day, June 5, with a book giveaway, story telling, and face painting.

Book donations are needed. If you would like to donate please e-mail or drop the books on the front porch at 3604 Perry Street. Also, if anyone has teens that need community service hours let Michelle Sust know. Help is needed with table activities, setup, cleanup. Contact Michelle at 301-699-5121 or send an e-mail to MSust@msn.com. See <http://mtrainierfol.org/announcements>.

Peace Parade

Mount Rainier Elementary School's annual Peace Parade is scheduled for June 4. They hope to be celebrating the highest number of peace days yet. Start time is 9:30 a.m. The Northwestern High School Marching Band is invited.

Call-A-Bus

Mount Rainier Call-A-Bus offers curb to curb bus service to medical appointments, shopping centers, recreations centers, libraries, 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 a.m.-2:00 p.m. For reservations and additional information, call 301-985-6586.

Smoke Detectors and Insurance Reminders

Have you checked the smoke detector batteries lately? And, with the greatly increased value of our homes, please think about the sufficiency of your insurance coverage. Hide your small valuables (jewelry, credit cards, etc.) instead of leaving them readily available for a burglar.

And, leave the porch light burning at night!

Mayor, *continued from page 2*

received a one-page plan the next morning. The Board was rightly displeased. In my testimony, I noted that the current renovation plans are not the plans shown to the City Council two years ago. Of particular concern is the elimination of the large restaurant kitchen that currently exists to be replaced by a "takeout kitchen."

Several citizens spent hours reviewing security tapes provided by Bass. Their observations of loitering, urination, drinking, etc. on the parking lot undermined the credibility of the owners' testimony.

Mr. Bass and several other witnesses made reference to the loitering and vacant buildings all around that block— meaning it is not Bass which is causing problems, but the neighborhood. In particular, our police department was blamed for allowing problems to persist on Rhode Island Ave. The Council in its resolution stated the belief that Bass attracts the problems, not the other way around. Bass draws about 1,400 customers per day. While most are law-abiding, the problem patrons generate additional work for our understaffed police department. With Bass gone, I anticipate that our officers will be able to spend more time patrolling the neighborhoods.

Accusations that the city and citizens have not tried to work out the problems is pure bunk. These problems have persisted for 20 years and the license has been revoked twice before. Plenty of communica-

tion has gone on between the various parties. I and several other people sat down with Mr. Gould and his partners back in 2001 and came to agreements on how the business would operate and become more community-friendly. Many of the promises were not fulfilled. You know the saying: once fooled, shame on them; twice fooled shame on you.

The Council will be voting on whether to participate in further proceedings regarding this license and likely appeals to the courts. The city attorney estimates the legal bill will ultimately run about \$15,000. I believe you must weigh this against the economic harm suffered and burden created for the police department from the continuing existence of the business. This must be evaluated for the long-term benefits rather than the short-term expense.

CITY MANAGER RENEWS CONTRACT. The Council and City Manager, Jeannelle Wallace, have agreed upon a new two-year contract for her services (Haamid voted no). Ms. Wallace has been working diligently for the past two years trying to get our city departments and finances in order. She has instituted many cost saving ideas, worked to collect past-due fees and taxes, and utilized her many years of experience as a city manager to bring stability to Mount Rainier City Hall. Please join me in congratulating her on a job well done!

Public Works News

Recycling Saves Money

Help keep City expenses down, and benefit the environment by recycling on Fridays. The City saves on the fee charged for dumping regular trash (charge per ton) when we divert items to the recycling bins. The fee for recycled materials is much less.

Use your yellow bins for mixed glass, plastic, and metals (no need to separate them). Bundle newspapers or put them in boxes or paper bags. Also recycle "junk" mail, cardboard, cereal boxes, magazines, and those heavy telephone books. If Friday is a holiday, save it for the next Friday. If you need a new bin, call Public Works, 301-985-6583.

Bulk Trash Policy

Bulk trash may be picked up by appointment only on the first and third Monday of each month. Appointments are made by calling 301-985-6558 and leaving your address and telephone number any time up until 12:00 noon on the Friday before the Monday bulk trash collection. Only three cubic yards of trash are allowed per resident. Demolition spoils from building renovation and hazardous materials or chemical are not allowed.

Yard Waste Policy

During and between the months of December through February, yard waste pick up is by appointment only on the second Monday of each month. Appointments may be scheduled by calling 301-985-6558. Leaves and grass clippings must be placed in bags. Branches no longer than four feet and no thicker than three inches in diameter must be tied up in manageable bundles. No more than three cubic yards of yard waste will be collected per resident on any collection day.

Judges for America In Bloom Contest Will Spend July 8 Visiting Mount Rainier

by Jack Engel Jr.

"America In Bloom is a national campaign and contest sponsored by The American Horticultural Society and America In Bloom, a nonprofit Organization. It is modeled on successful programs in England and Canada that have fostered urban beautification efforts and civic pride. In the friendly competition, communities are evaluated in a wide range of categories such as floral displays, urban forestry, landscaped areas, turf and ground covers, environmental awareness, heritage conservation, and community involvement." (The American Gardener, December/January 2004.)

Bruce K Riggs and Evelyn Allemanni are the judges for cities in the 5001-10,000 population category. They will spend a full day in each of the seven competing cities starting with Mount Rainier on July 8th. Horseheads, NY, Logan, Ohio, Montgomery, Illinois, Mount Rainier, MD, Oberlin, Ohio, Vernal, Utah and Williston, Vermont are this year's entrants.

During his 18 years at the New York Botanical Garden, Bruce was very involved with the Horticulture and Education Divisions. He administered the creation and implementation of the internationally recognized interpretation program for the NYBG. He was part of the team that helped restore the Botanical Garden into an internationally recognized horticultural showcase. Bruce has extensive tour, narration, television and radio experience. His writing has included scores of brochures, sections of books, magazines and interactive web sites.

Evelyn is a writer, artist, web site designer and award-winning-gardener in Elfin Forest, CA. In 2000, Good Morning America named her garden one of the five best in the country. San Diego

Home/Garden Lifestyles has twice named it one of its gardens of the year. In the spring of 2003, Better Homes and Gardens featured it on its cover and it appeared in Garden Shed in January 2004. You can take a tour of her garden at www.allea.com/gardening_ea.htm.

When I requested the Council's approval of this project on February 24, I promised to raise the funds for the City's \$500 registration fee and to purchase seeds and growing medium for resident volunteers to start of their homes and then transplant to public areas in May/June.

Further, volunteers would be recruited with the understanding that they would devote 20/30 minutes per week to the maintenance of the plants which they had grown. Thirty residents responded in March and early April. With considerable pride they are growing 57 packets of seeds for 48 different annuals, perennials and ornamental grasses. These plants will supplement the landscaping which the City has developed in the past. Councilmember Melinda Miles kindly offered the sponsorship of her Tree Commission as the umbrella under which we operate.

The City's Registration Fee was raised with \$250 in contributions and \$250 from Mount Rainier businesses. Many thanks to all the members of the City Council, Melinda Miles, Pedro Briones, Intisar Haamid and Carol Gandee and Mayor Bryan Knedler for their donations and the following residents: Randy Richter, Jason Donaldson, Stephen Stewart. We are grateful for the generous donations of Party Time Liquors, Thrifty Car Rental and Community-Vision Consultants. We also appreciated the support of Glut and Nissey's.

Beware of Home Repair Scams

Some residents have been victims of a man who is promising to do home repairs in the area. He collects a deposit and then never comes back. Please be aware that ALL home repair contractors must have a Maryland Home Improvement Commission (MHIC) license number (usually found on their business cards and advertisements). If you have a problem with a properly licensed contractor, the MHIC will help you get your project completed, or your money refunded. Always ask for referrals. You may also report unlicensed contractors to the MHIC or ask about prior complaints against your contractor. 1-888-218-5925 (toll free). Or, www.dllr.state.md.us/license/home_improv/index.html.

Streetlights and Tree Branches

Please notify Public Works at 301-985-6583 or a councilmember if your streetlights are being blocked by tree branches. Trimming away the foliage may greatly increase the effectiveness of the lights.

Mount Rainier Parent's Group

Do you have children? Do you live in Mount Rainier? Are you looking for ways to meet your neighbors and their children?

If you have questions or need more information (yes, you can bring the children), please do not hesitate to contact Ivy Thompson at 301-277-3329 or mtrainierc@aol.com or Kirsten Slade at kirsten@pinkpricklypear.com.

The Mount Rainier Nature Center is a wonderful place to bring your children and we have the place from 12:30 until 3:00 p.m. each Saturday.

So come on out and join us.

Drainage Nuisances

The Mount Rainier City Code Sec. 3-114 forbids draining roof or surface water in a manner that creates a structural or health hazard, or any other nuisance to the adjacent properties. The National Building Officials and Code Administration (BOCA) Code Sec. 304.7 also forbids draining roof water onto adjacent properties. Please check your downspouts, sump-pump drainage tiles, and other water that flows from your property to make sure they are not creating a problem for your neighbors.

Fire Safety for Kids

The Bunker Hill Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company, formerly Mount Rainier Volunteer Fire Department, has added a Kid's Links section to its web page. From here you will find several links to sites such as the United States Fire Administration Kids Page, the Federal Emergency Management Agency Kids Page, the National Fire Protection Agency Kids Page and others. Children can learn home fire safety and fire safety in the forests. They can learn what to do in a disaster and how to develop an escape plan if your home ever catches fire. They can play fire safety games and even get pages to print and color. These links provide lots of fun for the kids, all while learning fire safety. Go to, <http://www.mrvfd.org/> and on the menu bar at the top of the page put your cursor over the Kid's Links button. Questions may be addressed to, jmutchler@mrvfd.org.

Neighbors United for Peace and Justice

Eyewitness accounts from Iraq, El Salvador, Peru, and the West Bank will be shared on Sat., June 19, 6 to 8 p.m., at Joe's Movement Emporium, 3802 34th St. Speakers will include Mary Parker, Jerry Park, and Sarah Grusky. For more information, contact John Clark, 301-699-3443, or johnc@quixote.org. Childcare provided.

Call-A-Cab

Seniors (age 55 and older) and/or disabled residents can purchase coupon books to pay for rides with participating cab companies. No restrictions on time of day or distance from Mount Rainier. Purchase up to 14, \$20.00 coupon books in a 6-month period at \$10.00 per book. Lift-equipped providers also available. Call 301-883-5656 or Maryland Relay 800-735-2258 for more information.

- Apply by completing an application form.
- Order coupon books by enclosing \$10.00 for each \$20.00 coupon book. Make your check or money order payable to Prince George's County.
- Mail completed application form and check or money order to the Office of Transportation, 9400 Peppercorn Place, Suite 320, Largo, MD 20774, with proof of age and/or disability.
- Call the taxicab company you prefer (from the list sent with coupons).
- Show your coupon book to the driver.
- Pay the driver using any combination of coupons and cash.

Council Legislation

Introduced, read, and adopted May 18, 2004

Posted May 19 to May 29, 2004

City of Mount Rainier

Resolution 17-2004

(Drafted by Councilmember Briones)

Introduced by Mayor Knedler, Councilmember Briones, and Councilmember Haamid

A RESOLUTION EXTENDING RESOLUTION 12-2004 AND STATING THE POSITION OF THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER IN REGARDS TO THE MAY 2004 REVOCATION OF THE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE BUSINESS KNOWN AS BASS' RESTAURANT & LIQUOR, 3208 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council passed Resolution 12-2004 on April 14, 2004, supporting the petitioners 2004 challenge to the renewal of the liquor license for Bass' Restaurant & Liquor; and

WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners voted on May 7, 2004 to revoke the liquor license of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor; and

WHEREAS, the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners is expected to issue its final decision and findings of facts revoking the liquor license of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor, on or about May 25, 2004; and

WHEREAS, two prior decisions by the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners revoking the liquor license of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor have been overturned on appeal by the Circuit Court of Prince George's County because of procedural technicalities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mount Rainier and petitioners have invested a considerable amount of funds and energy opposing the liquor license of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor over the past two decades and opposing the blight and crime that this establishment brings to our City; and

RECOGNIZING the perseverance of the petitioners and residents of the City, the eloquence of the many witnesses, including our County Councilman, State Senator and State Delegates, who have given compelling testimony opposing the license renewal, and the diligence of the City Attorney, Mayor, Council, Lieutenant Michael Scott of the Mount Rainier Police Department and the Director of Public Works;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT RAINIER, MARYLAND,

THAT Resolution 12-2004 of the City of Mount Rainier is hereby extended for the pendency of any administrative and /or judicial appeal or any other efforts by the owners, operators and licensees of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor to overturn the May 2004 decision by the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to revoke Bass' liquor license; and

THAT the City of Mount Rainier shall become a party in opposition to any administrative and / or judicial appeal or any other efforts by the owners, operators and licensees of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor to overturn the May 2004 decision by the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to revoke Bass' liquor license; and

THAT the City Attorney is hereby directed to continue representing the City at any administrative and / or judicial appeal or any other efforts by the owners, operators and licensees of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor to overturn the May 2004 decision of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners; and

THAT the City Attorney is hereby directed to represent the City at all formal negotiations between the petitioners or owners, operators and licensees of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor regarding the May 2004 revocation of the Bass liquor license; and

THAT the Mayor and Council reaffirm the list of conditions as stated in Resolution 12-2004 in the event that alcoholic beverage sales continue during the appeal process are hereby reaffirmed; and

THAT, as a further condition, the Mayor and Council requests that all alcoholic beverage sales cease during the pendency of any administrative and / or judicial appeal or any other efforts by the owners, operators and licensees of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor to overturn the May 2004 decision by the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to revoke Bass' liquor license; and

THAT the City Attorney is hereby authorized to craft additional conditions at her discretion to further the peace and safety of the City and surrounding neighborhood during the pendency of any administrative and / or judicial appeal or any other efforts by the owners, operators and licensees of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor to overturn the May 2004 decision of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to revoke Bass' liquor license; and

THAT the Mayor and Council should be promptly notified and given an opportunity to approve or disapprove on additional conditions placed on the owners, operators and licensees of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor during the pendency of any administrative and / or judicial appeal or any other efforts by the owners, operators and licensees of Bass' Restaurant & Liquor to overturn the May 2004 decision of the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to revoke Bass' liquor license; and

THAT the expenditures related to the Resolution be tracked separately and reported to the Mayor and City Council.

Police, continued from page 3

May 24. We plan to walk in all of the four (4) Team Policing Areas. For additional information, please contact Angela Davis at 301-985-6580, ext. 229.

MARCH 2004 STATISTICS

Robbery- (6)

3100 block of Webster St.
3800 block of 38th St.
3200 block of Rhode Island Ave.
3700 block of Rhode Island Ave.
3800 block of 34th St.
Bus Terminal @ Municipal Place

Breaking and Entering- (7)

2900 block of Arundel Rd.
4700 block of 31st St.
3300 block of Perry St.
3400 block of Rhode Island Ave.
3300 block of Rhode Island Ave.
4600 block of 27th St.
4100 block of 32nd St.

Assault- (5)

3300 block of Bunkerhill Rd.
3300 block of Chauncey Pl.
3200 block of Queenstown Dr.
3700 block of 34th St.
3200 block of Arundel Rd.

Stolen Auto- (12)

3200 block of Chillum Rd.
3100 block of Queens Chapel Rd.
4500 block of 32nd St.
3700 block of 37th St.
2800 block of Shepherd St.
3700 block of 37th St.
3800 block of 34th St.
3100 block of Queens Chapel Rd.
3300 block of Buchanan St.
2700 block of Webster St.
3200 block of Queens Chapel Rd.
Queenstown Dr.

Theft- (21)

3500 block of 37th St.
4000 block of 31st St.
3300 block of Rhode Island Ave.
2300 block of Varnum St.
3200 block of Rhode Island Ave.
3600 block of Perry St.
3300 block of Rhode Island Ave.
4000 block of 31 St.
3200 block of Chillum Rd.
4000 block of 35th St.
3200 block of Rhode Island Ave.
3400 block of Rhode Island Ave.
3300 block of Chillum Rd.
4000 block of 36th St.

3700 block of 37th St.
2700 block of Upshur St.
3100 block of Queens Chapel Rd.
3600 block of Perry St.
2300 block of Varnum St.
3100 block of Queens Chapel Rd.
3800 block of 34th St.

Interested in receiving our weekly crime report? Just send us your e-

mail address requesting to be placed on the mailing list. E-mail the request to MRPDChief@covad.net. The weekly crime report that is e-mailed contains only verified reports of crimes or incidents and does not reflect the total calls for service officers responded to during the week.

Insert Police Map Here

Council Meetings

1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 7 pm
City Hall lower level

Town Center Design Review

Committee—2nd Weds., 6:15 pm
MRBA—2nd Weds., 6:30 pm

Gateway Municipalities CDC—2nd

Thurs., 7:00–9:00 pm,
4102 Webster St.

Friends of Library

(mtrainierfol.org)—Monday,
7:30 pm, Community Vision, 34th St.
Yard Waste

In Dec., Jan., and Feb., yard waste
collections will occur on the second
Mon., by prior appointment only. Call
301-985-6558 to make an appt.

June–July calendar

June 1–4 Sweeping the Avenue (Sponsored by Joe’s Movement Emporium)

June 2 Regular Residential Trash Collection

June 4 Recyclable Collection
Mount Rainier Elementary School Peace Parade

June 5 MOUNT RAINIER DAY—COME OUT AND CELEBRATE!

June 7 Regular Yard Waste Collection and Scheduled Bulk Trash Collection

June 8 Real Property Tax Vote, City Hall

June 9 Regular Residential Trash Collection
MRBA General Meeting, Mount Rainier Police Station 6:30 pm
The Mount Rainier Mixed-Use Town Center Design Review Committee will meet at 6:15 p.m. on June 9, 2004, at City Hall

June 11 Recyclable Collection

June 14 Regular Yard Waste Collection

June 16 Regular Residential Trash Collection

June 18 Recyclable Collection

June 19 Roller Skating Event noon to 2 p.m., 35th and Perry

June 21 Regular Yard Waste Collection and Scheduled Bulk Trash Collection

June 23 Regular Residential Trash Collection

June 25 Recyclable Collection

June 28 Regular Yard Waste Collection

June 30 Regular Residential Trash Collection

July 2 Regular Recyclable collection

July 5 Scheduled Bulk Trash collection and Yard waste collection

July 7 Regular residential trash collection

July 8 America in Bloom Contest

July 9 Regular Recyclable collection

July 12 Yard waste collection

July 14 Regular residential trash collection

July 16 Regular recyclable collection

July 17 Roller Skating Event 5 to 7 p.m., Taylor and 28th

July 19 Scheduled Bulk Trash collection and Yard waste collection
Neighbors United for Peace and Justice, 6 to 8 p.m., Joe’s Movement Emporium

July 21 Regular residential trash collection

July 23 Regular recyclable collection

July 26 Yard waste collection

July 28 Regular residential trash collection

July 30 Regular recyclable collection

Proposed FY05 Budget

Note: The Council voted to postpone the vote on the FY 2005 Budget until June 8, 2004. The original date was June 1, 2004. The proposed FY05 budget is available on the city website or copies are available at City Hall.

www.mountrainiermd.org

Mayor

Bryan K. Knedler
301-699-3134

bknedler@mountrainiermd.org

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

cgandee@mountrainiermd.org

Intisar Haamid

301-864-3418

IHaamid@mountrainiermd.org

Ward 2

Malinda Miles
301-699-1378

MMiles@mountrainiermd.org

Pedro Briones

301-277-1833

PBriones@mountrainiermd.org

Message

Terry Kelly
301-779-7857

tkelly60@aol.com

Important Numbers

City Hall open: Mon.-Fri., 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Police Department admin. offices open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Public Works open 7:00 am to 3:00 pm.

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
MRPDChief@covad.net

301-985-6565 (emergency calls)
301-985-6566 (nonemergency calls)
301-985-6591 TIPS/COPS line
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 Council
301-952-3700

County Councilman
Peter Shapiro
301-952-4436

County Executive
Jack Johnson
301-952-4131

Energy Assistance
301-422-5110

Family Services
301-699-2680

Fire Department
301-927-8657 (non-emergency)
911 (emergency)

Gazette Circulation
301-670-7350

Health Department
301-386-0300

Library 301-864-8937
Hours: M-W 10-7 (closed 2-3)
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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June 2004 Message
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