



Message

Issue 215
February 2004

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City departments will be closed Monday, Feb. 16 for President's Day.

www.mountrainiermd.org

Essay Contest

The MD Municipal League (MML) and the MD Mayors' Association (MMA) invite 4th graders throughout MD to participate in a statewide essay contest: "If I Were Mayor, I Would..." Deadline is March 1.

Contest Problem: Your city provides citizens with a variety of services that include a 3-person police force, twice-a-week trash collection, snow and leaf removal, and street, sidewalk and park maintenance. In addition, the city pays for the cost of the annual Festival at the Park. Next year your city government will not be receiving as much money as it had in the past to help pay for citizen services. You will have to reduce or get rid of some services or raise the city property tax (the money collected from property owners in the city to pay for services) to keep the same amount of services you have now.

What would you do if you were the mayor? Would you reduce the city's services? Which ones? Would you eliminate (get rid of) some city services? Which ones? Or would you reduce some services and raise taxes a little? How could you use community fundraisers to help in some way? How could you use computers and other new technology to help provide services to citizens?

Contest Rules: The contest is open to all MD students enrolled in the 4th grade during the 2003-2004 school year. Essays must address the subject with the opening line beginning: "If I Were Mayor, I Would..." Essays may not exceed 275 words. Only one essay may be submitted per student. Essays will be judged by contest sponsors in the following areas: demonstrated creative ways to provide services to citizens; displayed knowledge about the role of a mayor; legibility; and proper use of grammar.

Students must include their first and last names, school and teacher's name at the top of their essays. Essays must be received no later than March 1, 2004. Winners will be notified by the end of March. Mail all entries to: MARYLAND MUNICIPAL LEAGUE, 1212 West Street Annapolis, MD 21401.

Ward Two Election Results

The new Ward Two council member is Pedro Briones. The Dec. 8 election results: Pedro Briones: 179 votes; David Graham: 45 votes.

Briones currently practices appropriations & budget law at the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO). He has worked on Capitol Hill as executive assistant to a senior member of Congress. He has also worked on behalf of children with emotional, behavioral and mental disorders and their families, at the Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, where he served as Director of Operations. He currently sits on the national Board of Directors of the Federation as treasurer and served as vice president from 2001 to 2002. Briones has also provided direct services to area children and families affected by HIV/AIDS as a volunteer. He received his BA in American history and women's studies from Georgetown University in 1994, and received his law degree from George Washington University in 2003. He was admitted to the Maryland bar in 2003. Further biographical information is posted on the City website, www.mountrainiermd.org.

City of Mount Rainier Welcomes New Director of Finance, Vijay Manjani

Vijay K. Manjani, formerly with the DC Court of Appeals and the University of Maryland began his tenure as Director of Finance on January 21, 2004. Mr. Manjani has an MBA degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance and two undergraduate degrees: Bachelors of Law and Bachelors of Commerce with Honors, Accounting from the University of Delhi, Delhi, India. Mr. Manjani will be taking the CPA examination in April 2004.

The City of Mount Rainier welcomes Mr. Manjani to the Mount Rainier family.

Mayor's Report

by Mayor Bryan Knedler

PROPERTY ASSESSMENTS UP. Those of you who own property in the city should have received a reassessment letter from the State Department of Assessment and Taxation (SDAT). While we have yet to get the official numbers from SDAT, it looks to me like we are averaging about a 10 to 15 percent increase in market value each of the next three years.

Without a lowering of the city tax rate, you will see a rise in the taxes you pay this coming year. Now is the time to let your council members know how you feel about the hefty jump you have experienced in the amount of taxes you pay. In my opinion, the Council needs to lower the rate below the "constant yield" amount.

This past year, the rate was lowered by a penny but it did not result in you paying any less in taxes since it was at the "constant yield" amount (meaning the city receives the same amount of property tax revenue if the tax rate is lowered in direct proportion to the rate of property value increases). Since the Council raised taxes by 24 cents a couple of years ago, we would need to lower the tax rate significantly for you to see relief in the actual amount you pay.

If you are a low income property owner, take a look at the Homeowner's Tax Credit information provided elsewhere in this issue (also available on the city website) and take advantage of the cap if you qualify.

ELECTION IN WARD TWO. Congratulations to Pedro Briones, the new Ward Two council member. Thank you to the Bunker Hill VFD for use of the station (probably for the last time), Public Works' staff for setting up the booths, and the election staff: Maxine Drakeford (election supervisor), Anita Bianchini, William Ballantyne, and Richard Bissell. Thank you to David Graham for throwing his hat in the ring. And, of course, thank you to the voters who participated.

FEDERAL FUNDS FOR JOE'S MOVEMENT EMPORIUM. Federal funds totaling \$200,000 for the Gateway Arts District are part of the fiscal 2004 Omnibus Appropriations law. The Board

of Directors of the Gateway CDC, recipient of the funds, has voted to use the money to assist Joe's Movement Emporium purchase the Direct Mail warehouse on Bunker Hill Rd.

Thank you Congressman Van Hollen for arranging for this much needed money.

QUEENS CHAPEL ROAD UPGRADES. The State Highway Administration has finished the repaving of Queens Chapel Rd. and the new lane pattern has been marked. This came about after many meetings with residents in Avondale, Mount Rainier, and Hyattsville. The reduction of the traffic lanes has allowed for creation of turn lanes. Let us know how you think it is working, and whether the traffic seems easier to negotiate.

NICK FRANCIS AND JACK JOHNSON RECOGNIZED FOR ARTS DISTRICT WORK. Nick Francis, executive director of the Gateway Communities Development Corp. (CDC), and County Executive Jack Johnson were recognized with the "Bridge Builders Award" for their contributions to the Gateway Arts District by Partners for Livable Communities, a District-based nonprofit. For Port Towns Gazette article, go to: www.gazette.net/200350/porttowns/news/192173-1.html.

ANACOSTIA LEGISLATION. Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) is the lead sponsor of a bill providing for a comprehensive regional approach to cleaning up the Anacostia River. Reps. Steny Hoyer, Albert Wynn, and Chris Van Hollen are among cosponsors of the bill. The Anacostia Watershed Initiative Act of 2003 would set up a mechanism to develop, fund, and implement a 10-year Comprehensive Action Plan for the Anacostia watershed that would address both the District's outdated and inadequate combined sewer system and the runoff from federal facilities and other properties in Maryland. Five-sixths of the land area that contributes polluted water to the river is within Maryland and about a sixth of the total is owned and managed by the federal government.

Nearly all of its pollution enters the river from public streets, storm drains, and sewers.

HOMEOWNERSHIP HELP. Did you resolve to buy a home in 2004? The vast majority of city residents are renters and I know several families that have moved from renting in one of our apartment complexes to owning a home here. The state offers assistance to first-time homebuyers with low interest rates. Call the Department of Housing and Community Development at 1-800-756-0019, or go to www.dhcd.state.md.us/nav_buy/index.asp.

The "Smart Commute Initiative" is another program that may help you qualify for a home loan. Check out www.mwcog.org/planning/smart_commutel/.

Some area banks are participating in this program which credits extra income to your buying power when they calculate your loan qualifications because you live near a metro station or bus stop.

COUNTY PROPERTY TAX INFO ONLINE. PG County Property Tax Inquiry page http://tax-acct-info.co.pg.md.us/servlets/resqportal?rqs_custom_dir=taxes&rqs_cleancache=1

The information provided by this system is "real time" so that the data is up-to-date the moment it is viewed. The displays are designed with the viewer in mind, providing the data most often requested. Four years of payment history are available. The amount due is displayed for the current month as well as the subsequent month, for those going to settlement in the current month and paying in the next.

CONGRATS TO CHIEF KEENEY. Congratulations to Chief of Police, Fred Keeney, for his election in 2003 to be vice president of the state Chief's of Police Association, and his appointment by the municipal chiefs of the metro area to represent them at the Washington-Metropolitan Council of Governments. Such distinctions speak volumes about the respect you have in the state and it reflects positively on Mount Rainier.

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

www.mountrainiermd.org/government/mrpd/index.html

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 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.

Free Gun Locks Available

If you own a gun, Maryland law requires that the gun be secure from access by minors. Locks designed to insure that a gun you may own is completely safe are available free of charge through the Department. The locks were made possible through a program called Project ChildSafe. Project ChildSafe, is a program developed by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) to distribute millions of firearm safety kits throughout the country over the next year. The program is funded by a U.S. Department of Justice Grant, with additional funding provided by the firearms industry.

Gunlocks are available to the public from either the Police Station lobby or the lobby at City Hall. Officers will also have locks available while on patrol, just stop an officer and ask for a free lock.

November 2003 Statistics

Breaking and Entering-(10)
4100 block of Russell Ave.
4000 block of 37th St.(2)
3500 block of Bunkerhill Rd.
3200 block of Queenstown Dr.
4300 block of 28th St.
2900 block of Arundel Rd. (3)
4000 block of 35th St.
Robbery-(4)
2300 block of Varnum St.
4600 block of 25th St.
3800 block of 34 St.
4200 block of 28th St.
Assault-(4)
3200 block of Chillum Rd.
3200 block of Queenstown Dr.
4100 block of Russell Ave.
2500 block of Arundel Rd.
Stolen Autos-(7)
3200 block of Queenstown Dr.
2700 block of Upshur St.
4700 block of 31st St.
3100 block of Queens Chapel Rd.
4200 block of Kaywood Dr.
3500 block of Newton Pl.
4501 block of Eastern Ave.
Thefts-(21)
4200 block of 34th St.
2900 block of Upshur St.
4000 block of 36th St.
3300 block of Buchanan St.
3200 block of Rhode Island Av.(3)
4100 block of 30th St.
4000 block of 37th St.
4000 block of 35th St.
2300 block of Varnum St.(2)
3200 block of Queenstown Dr.(2)
4000 block of 33rd St.
2700 block of Webster St.
3300 block of Chillum Rd.
3300 block of Rhode Island Ave.
4100 block of 34th St.
2700 block of Allison St.
2900 block of Allison
3200 block of Queenstown Dr.

Superior Performance

Sergeant James E. Stoots was named "Officer of the Year" for the second consecutive year. Stoots is being recognized "as the officer who made the most difference and had the most significant impact on our community," according to Fred Keeney, Chief of Police. Among Sergeant Stoots accomplishments were his untiring efforts to solve crimes in the City. Stoots developed information that led to the arrest of subjects

wanted in robberies, burglaries and setting up suspected drug houses.

During the spring, several businesses were robbed at gunpoint. Through his networking with other agencies, Stoots developed a suspect and closed three robberies that occurred in the City. This arrest led to Riverdale Park Police and the Hyattsville Police also charging the suspect with robberies and attempted murder. In another case, Stoots developed information that led to the arrest of a Colmar Manor woman that was preying on senior citizens. The woman would go door-to-door and solicit money under false pretenses. She removed the keys to a City residence during one of her encounters; reentered the residence at a later time committing a burglary. Stoots doggedly pursued leads until the woman's arrest. In another case, officers developed information concerning a possible drug house during knock and talk with residents. Stoots working with these officers learned that the house might have been serving as a laboratory for the production of methamphetamine. Working with Prince George's County Police, Drug Enforcement Administration and the County State's Attorney's Office Stoots arrested the resident and shut down the lab.

Also being recognized is POFC John P. Hosinski who was given a "Chief's Award" for superior performance in enforcement. POFC Hosinski made more than 50 arrests through November of this year. POFC Victor E. Kenworthy received two awards one for "Team Policing" and another for "Rookie of the Year." Ms. Rima Sifri received a Chief's Award as "Civilian Employee of the Year." All of the award recipients were voted on by their peers and selected by the Chief of Police.

Council Highlights

December 2, 2003

- December 8, 2003 Election Plan—Approved
- Options for City staff
- **Ordinance 11-2003** amending the City Code to require payment of all fines prior to releasing vehicle from impound and adding a penalty for illegal removal of impound notice. (2nd Reading/ Vote) (Knedler)
- **Ordinance 12-2003** to prohibit removal of stop work orders without permission (2nd Reading/ Vote) (Miles)
- **City Manager's Evaluation** (Closed Session)

December 9, 2003 Council Meeting

- Validation of Election—Accepted/ Approved by Council
- Swearing-in of New Council Member

December 9, 2003 WORK SESSION

- December 26, 2003 Discussion for City Staff Holiday—Approved
- Budget Amendments
- Council Rules

December 16, 2003

- **Ordinance 14-2003** Amending the City Code to reflect new Snow Emergency Routes (First Reading)

- **Resolution 24-2003** declaring a public works vehicle surplus (First Reading/ Vote) Approved

December 16, 2003 WORK SESSION

- Council Rules
- Manager's Meeting

January 6, 2003

- Commercial trash fee update
- January meeting schedules/ rolling agenda
- Variance Request for 3205 Arundel Road Tabled until January 20, 2003

January 13, 2003 Work Session

Discussion Items

- Introduction of New Treasurer – Vijay Manjani
- **Ordinance 1-2004** Amending City Code requiring businesses to use commercial trash service
- **Resolution 1-2004** FY 2005 Budget Calendar
- Council Rules
- Rolling Agenda
- Snow Emergency Routes
- Vehicle Fleet/ Snow Chains
- Commercial Trash Elimination
- Review of Minutes December 9 and 16

Mount Rainier Business Association News

The MRBA meetings are held at 8:30 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the Police Station on Rhode Island Ave. except during the month of August when no meetings are held. Quarterly meetings are held Dec., March, June and Sept. at 6:30 pm at the Police Station.

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.

Events for FY 2005 Budget Process

Friday Jan. 16. Budget instructions issued to city departments, community groups, and the Bunker Hill VFD.

Friday Jan. 30. Deadline for Bunker Hill VFD to submit FY 2005 budget requests.

Friday Feb. 13. Deadline for city departments and community groups to submit FY05 budget requests.

Monday Mar. 15. City Manager submits proposed FY 2005 budget to Mayor and Council.

Tuesday Mar. 23. Council work session on proposed budget.

Tuesday Apr. 6. Presentation and public comment, proposed FY2005 budget for all City programs except for police dept. (including parking enforcement), public works (including code enforcement). Summary available.

Tuesday Apr. 13. Presentation and public comment, proposed FY2005 budget for public works and code enforcement. Summary available.

Tuesday Apr. 20. Presentation and public comment, proposed FY2005 budget for police department. Summary available.

Tuesday Apr. 27. Worksession on the proposed budget.

Tuesday May 4. Worksession on proposed budget; straw vote on proposed tax rate.

Tuesday May 25. Public hearing on constant yield tax rate and proposed FY2005 budget; first reading of FY2005 budget ordinance.

Tuesday June 1. Second reading and vote, FY 2005 budget ordinance.

PGCMA Scholarships

Scholarships are available to college students through the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA's) Scholarship Program.

Applications can be picked-up at City Hall. Application is due no later than April 30. Selection of the scholarships will be made by a countywide selection committee and announced by the end of May.

Student Eligibility: Applicant must be accepted to or currently enrolled in an accredited college or university in an undergraduate degree program intended to prepare students for a career in governmental or public service. Applicant must have good scholastic standing, i.e., at least a 2.0 GPA.

Mount Rainier Christian Church Celebrates 100 Years

On Dec. 31, 2003 in the fellowship room of Mount Rainier Christian Church (33rd and Bunker Hill Rd), a Watch Service for the New Year was held. We looked back at 2003. The fire which was devastating but proved our resilience, Elder Tom Breeze's passing, and the dedication of Prusch Park in honor of Stan and Pauline Prusch. We looked forward to 2004 and our 100th year in the Mount Rainier community helping those in need and preaching the gospel and opening our doors to other churches and organizations in the community for 100 years.

On Jan. 1, 2004 in the same fellowship room we held the Centennial Brunch and Rededication Service. This service included an old hymn as well as a new praise song. The original charter was read and the names of the 15 original signers read as a bell was rang after each one. We looked back at our roots in the Disciples movement and the individuals that started the church in this place. We remembered that the church grew out of a Sunday School, which began two years earlier.

We honored our lifetime members Daisy Malinosky, Alden Imus and Kitty Shaver, as well as Stan Prusch. As all came forward to take Communion those that wished to do so signed a rededication charter, which honors our past and looks to our future. We closed in song and prayer and a bell was rang 100 times to honor each year. At the start of the service the most wonderful sound came crashing on the floors upstairs as the pew company had arrived to install our new pews.

We are very proud to play such an awesome role in this community and look forward to doing so in the next 100 years.

Homeowners' Property Tax Credit Program

Concerned about increased city property taxes? The State of Maryland has a program that sets a limit on the amount of property taxes any homeowner must pay based upon his or her income. This program is available to all homeowners regardless of their age.

For purposes of the tax credit program, "income" means the combined gross income before any deductions are taken. Income from all sources must be reported whether or not the monies received are included as income for Federal and State income tax purposes. Nontaxable retirement benefits such as Social Security and Railroad Retirement must be reported as income for the tax credit program

The chart below is printed in \$1,000 increments to show you the specific tax limit for each income level.

Household Income	Tax Limit
\$1 - 4,000	\$0
5,000	10
6,000	20
7,000	30
8,000	40
9,000	85
10,000	130
11,000	175
12,000	220
13,000	285
14,000	350
15,000	415
16,000	480
17,000	570
18,000	660
19,000	750
20,000	840
21,000	930
22,000	1,020
23,000	1,110
24,000	1,200
25,000	1,290
26,000	1,380
27,000	1,470
28,000	1,560
29,000	1,650
30,000	1,740

For each additional \$1,000 of income above \$30,000, you add \$90 to \$1,740 to find the tax limit.

Example: If your combined household income is \$16,000, you see from the chart that your tax limit is \$480. You would be entitled to receive a credit for any taxes above the \$480. If your actual property tax bill was \$990, you would receive a tax credit in the amount of \$510—this being the difference between the actual tax bill and the tax limit.

Applications are available at most public libraries, or by calling the Tax Credits Telephone Service at 1-800-944-7403. Or visit the Web site: <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/htc.html>.

Preserving Affordable Housing

Revitalization is driving up real estate prices so that fewer working people can afford to live near where they work. Limited public funds are available to subsidize housing costs for lower income households, but the gap between the amount of subsidy needed and the amount of subsidy available continues to widen as housing costs soar.

To address this problem, community land trusts are being developed in a growing number of communities. A CLT is a private nonprofit corporation created to acquire and hold land for the benefit of a community and provide secure affordable access to land and housing for community residents.

Gateway CDC is working to develop a CLT here in the Gateway Communities to keep some housing affordable as prices soar. Sale prices in our zip code have increased by more than 30 percent in the last year!

An informational meeting sponsored by the Gateway CDC will be held on Mon., March 1 at City Hall, 7 p.m. For details, contact Jodi-beth McCain at 301-864-1312.

The CLT provides access to land and housing for people who are otherwise priced out of the housing market. Some CLT homes are rented, but, when possible, the CLT helps people to purchase homes on affordable terms. The land beneath the homes is then leased to the homeowners through a long-term (usually 99-year) renewable lease. Residents and their descendants can use the land for as long as they wish to live there. When CLT homeowners decide to move, they can sell their homes. The land lease agreement gives the CLT the right to buy each home back for an amount limited by the CLT's resale formula. Each CLT designs its own resale formula—to give homeowners a fair return for their investment, while keeping the price affordable into the future.

The key to CLT success is strong community support and involvement. Community members and CLT homeowners make up the board of the CLT. Without a strong show of community support the CLT won't be successful in raising funds or growing to fulfill its mission over time. Gateway CDC encourages all interested to attend the meeting on March 1. For more information, see www.iceclt.org/clt/.

Mount Rainier Kennel Club

Attention dog owners. There have been various reports of dogs running at large, dogs off lead attacking other dogs (or cats) and sometimes attacking dog owners attempting to protect their own pets.

I was horrified when I heard about a miniature poodle that was attacked recently by an unrestrained dog. It miraculously survived the attack. Unfortunately the owner had to deal with a \$1000 vet bill. Some dog owners carry sticks for protection, but that may only provoke a dog that has been trained to attack. I know when my dogs get into a scuffle with each other, NOTHING but NOTHING diverts their attention. Screams, grabbing them by the scruff, spraying water into their faces—nothing fazes them. My “family” of dogs is always vying for their place in the pack and although it is only a “show “ it is still terrifying to hear and watch. When a dog off lead attacks, it is no show and it is a fight to the “finish”.

How can we protect our pets and ourselves? Can we carry a bee bee gun, stun gun, or a pellet gun? I've been advised that it is illegal. I would not want to kill or injure another dog, only shock them out of their “attack mode” and make them run away. Someone suggested pepper spray, but that could just blow back into your own face or your pet's. It is

better than the alternative, just ask the poodle's owner.

I went to our Chief of Police as a citizen and asked him if he had any thoughts in this area (he has two dogs of his own). He agrees it is a problem. The City is not in a position to finance an Animal Control Division; therefore it is left up to the officers and the citizens. Neither officers nor citizens are really equipped for catching dogs running at large and unless an animal is already restrained, even the County will not respond. The citizens-as individuals are powerless, that is unless we band together. The Chief suggests bringing dog owners together to meet and discuss these issues and has offered a place for our meetings at the new police station.

We, as pet owners really need to do something on our own. I believe that if we have our own club with monthly meetings where we can exchange ideas and information we can benefit greatly and resolve many issues.

If you are a concerned pet owner and want to take part in this effort to protect not just dog walkers, but everyone that enjoys walking in our community, call me.

Bonnie Abigail
Mount Rainier Kennel Club
301-985-6580
Citizen

State Income Tax Reminder

The City of Mount Rainier shares in the state income taxes paid by residents ONLY if you write in "Mount Rainier" as your municipality in the appropriate box on your state tax return. This does not increase your taxes; it assures that a share of your tax dollars will help fund city services like police, public works, etc. All of Kaywood and Queens Manor, as well as most of Queenstown are within the borders of Mount Rainier.

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.

February–March calendar

Feb. 2	Scheduled Bulk Trash Collection
Feb. 4	Regular Residential Trash Collection
Feb. 6	Recyclable Collection
Feb. 9	Yard Waste Collection (by appointment only)
Feb. 11	The Mount Rainier Mixed-Use Town Center Design Review Committee will meet at City Hall, 6:15 pm Regular Residential Trash Collection
Feb. 13	Recyclable Collection
Feb. 16	President's Day--City Hall Closed
Feb. 17	Scheduled Bulk Trash Collection
Feb. 18	Regular Residential Trash Collection
Feb. 20	Recyclable Collection
Feb. 23	Yard Waste Collection (by appointment only)
Feb. 25	Regular Residential Trash Collection
Feb. 27	Recyclable Collection
March 1	Community Land Trust presentation, 7 pm, City Hall Regular Yard Waste Collection and Scheduled Bulk Trash Collection
March 3	Regular Residential Trash Collection
March 5	Recyclable Collection
March 8	Regular Yard Waste Collection
March 10	Regular Residential Trash Collection
March 12	Recyclable Collection
March 15	Regular Yard Waste Collection and Scheduled Bulk Trash Collection
March 17	Regular Residential Trash Collection
March 19	Recyclable Collection
March 22	Regular Yard Waste Collection
March 24	Regular Residential Trash Collection
March 26	Recyclable Collection
March 29	Regular Yard Waste Collection
March 31	Regular Residential Trash Collection

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.

www.mountrainiermd.org

Mayor

Bryan K. Knedler
301-699-3134
e-mail: bknedler@aol.com

City Manager

Jeannelle B. Wallace
301-985-6585, ext. 22
fax: 301-985-6595
e-mail:
mrcitymanager@msn.com

Councilmembers

Ward 1

Carol Gandee
301-277-6377
gandydncr@aol.com

Intisar Haamid

301-864-3418

Ward 2

Malinda Miles
301-699-1378
ward2@malindamiles.com

Pedro Briones

301-277-1833
pedroeb@aol.com

Message

Terry Kelly
301-779-7857
e-mail: tkelly60@aol.com

**Deadline for the
March Message
is February 20.**

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
Chief's e-mail:
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
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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