



# Message

Issue 241  
October 2006

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**The deadline for submissions for the Message is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.**

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

## City of Mount Rainier Updates Website

Stay tuned for information about the City's new and improved website. The site will contain photos and images of community events in addition to a section for Special Events. Check out the user\_friendly search function to browse through the City's Code of Ordinance.

Please forward your comments, compliments, and suggestions to the City's Webmaster, Tammy Miller. [tgmiller5@yahoo.com](mailto:tgmiller5@yahoo.com)

## Public Hearing to be held at Bunker Hill Fire Station

The Bunker Hill Fire Department will hold a Public Hearing in regards to a propped purchase of new fire equipment (pump truck). Tuesday, October 17, 2006 at 7 PM. For more information, contact John Hines at (310) 985-5405

## Dr. John Deasy Goes Back to School with local Mount Rainier church group

CEO/ School Superintendent John Deasy attends Back to School 2006 event hosted by the Associated Churches for Community Advocacy at St. John's Episcopal Church in Mount Rainier on Saturday, August 18, 2006.

The Mini Conference on Pooling Resources was a SMASHING SUCCESS! FULL HOUSE. The Associated Churches for Community Advocacy will host its next Mini Conference in three months. ACCA hopes to make this an ongoing quarterly event where parents, the faith\_based community, all levels of government, and schools come together to dialogue, work together and make a major difference in our community. If you missed this one, please watch your emails for specific dates for the mini conference.

Thank you to everyone who participated and supported the event. Thank you for coming out and being a part of the mini conference.



Pictured in photo left to right: Mayor Malinda Miles; CEO John Deasy, Superintendent of Prince Georges County Schools; Conference attendee/ Church member.

## Christmas in April

Applications to benefit from the Christmas in April program are due no at the program's office later than November 1, 2006 . Work will be completed on April 28, 2007 .

The program is designed to help individuals who have no means to make needed repairs themselves. A group of volunteers will come to the home and complete the designated projects. Types of repairs that can be done include interior/exterior painting; minor carpentry; plumbing and electrical work; replacing stoves, refrigerators, and hot water heaters; cleanup and yard work. Structural repairs cannot be undertaken by the program. Projects must be completed in one day, April 28, 2007 . The home must be owned and occupied by the homeowner who is elderly and/or disabled. There are no income requirements but need is taken into account when choosing projects.

Applications are available at City Hall, and questions can be answered by calling (301) 868\_0937.

## Register to Vote

Voter registration cards are available at City Hall and on the Web at <http://www.elections.state.md.us/citizens/registration/application.html>. Deadline for registration is 21 days prior to the election.

## Community Day Help us Celebrate 75 Years at Trinity Lutheran Church 30<sup>th</sup> Street & Bunker Hill Road Saturday, October 7, 2006 Noon to 4pm Rain or Shine

This event is free for the Mount Rainier Community. The event includes crafts for kids, games with prizes, moonbounce, blood pressure and health info, Hispanic mission, Mount Rainier Nature Center, temporary tattoos, food and beverages, and fun and fellowship.

## Mount Rainier Youth Committee

The Mount Rainier Youth Committee is accepting proposals for programs that will aid in the development of our City's Youth. You may get in touch with MJ Park, Chairperson of Youth Committee, at [Mjpeace@gmail.com](mailto:Mjpeace@gmail.com), or contact Mr. James Booth, Assistant City Manager, at City Hall, 301\_985\_6585. Anyone who is interested in giving a little time to the existing youth programs, please do.

## PJ Park Invites Us as he Bikes to Brazil

Little Friends for Peace alumnus and counselor PJ Park has answered the challenge to be a Peace-builder. He set out on a 9,000 mile bike ride to Brazil – to demonstrate that biking works as a way to get around! He is equipped with bike repair skills from running the Mount Rainier Bike Coop. He is prepared to sleep many a night in his tent, but he hopes to meet many people who will like him and his message so much that they will invite him to stay in their homes!

PJ's peace-building message and invitation is to 'capture the carbon' with

him.

- drive our fossil fuel burning cars less, burn less natural gas in our hot water heaters and furnaces, and use less electricity which needs to burn global-warming coal.
- click <http://www.NativeEnergy.com> to offset the carbon our consumption emits by financing capture of methane from garbage and manure dumps and burning it to generate electricity.
- click <http://www.undoit.org> to sign the petition for Congress to pass the McCain-Lieberman Climate Stewardship & Innovation Act in the U.S. Senate.

PJ will have his cell phone (240)899-8423 and a website [www.biketobrazil.blogspot.com](http://www.biketobrazil.blogspot.com) that will help us keep track of his biking progress, send him our question, messages and people we know who may invite him in. Check our website, too, for updates: [www.LFFP.org](http://www.LFFP.org).

## Mayor's Report

The summer is almost over, and we are headed into fall and winter. Many of us will face higher utility bills in addition to our regular bills and expenses. As part of our services to the residents, I am scheduling a series of forums by the various utility companies, PEPCO, Washington Gas, Verizon, Comcast, and Washington Sanitation and Suburban Commission to discuss ways to save on our utilities.

A Mini-Conference on Pooling Resources was held on August 19 at St John's Episcopal Church, sponsored by the Associated Churches for Community Advocacy. This function was well attended with guest appearances by Mr. John Deasey, new CEO of Prince George's County's Public Schools, Delegate Doyle Niemann, Ms. Gail (Dorsey) Golden principal of Hyattsville Middle School along with several candidates for school board and other elective offices. School supplies were provided to more than 100 Mount Rainier students attending Mount Rainier Elementary, Thomas Stone Elementary, Hyattsville Middle, and Northwestern High Schools. Refreshments were provided. Three (3) Palm TungstenW PDAs were won by students and residents. One (1) PDA was given to

Ms. Golden for her attendance as one of three principals invited to this affair. Thank you to all of the attendees and our special guests. The Associated Churches for Community Advocacy will be sponsoring a follow-up mini conference in November.

Liberation Temple Church sponsored a "Meet the Mayor" forum on September 6 at the Mount Rainier Nature Center. This was a very informative forum that addressed questions from residents living in the various apartment complexes. Councilman Bryan Knedler also attended this forum.

During the month of August and September the Mayor met with representatives from the various apartment complexes in the City. The purposes of the meetings were to develop partnerships and consensus on various issues, i.e., safety, matching funds for grants, purchasing police vehicles, and in general open channels of communications. Both meetings were well attended. The group agreed to meet monthly on the fourth Tuesday at 10:00am to continue our dialogue. The ultimate purpose is to build a relationship with the owners, managers, and the City and to eliminate surprises, and make Mount Rainier a truly livable community for everyone. The next meeting will be held on October 24 at 10:00am. All Council members are invited.

So long, and Congratulations to Otis and Emma Haywood. By now, all of you know that former Councilmember Otis Hayward and his wife Emma have sold their home and moved to Savannah, Georgia. Otis was the first Black person to serve on the Mount Rainier City Council. Although Otis only served two terms on the Council, his footprint was very big, and led to many changes (changing the City from four wards to two; initiating the study and change to the City Charter; the bike trail) here in the City. After leaving the Council, he continued to be very active in community activities and continued to exemplify good community spirit and character. Otis and Emma, we will miss you, and wish you Bon Voyage on your new adventure!

The struggle continues with the **port-a-potties**, however, the good has

outweighed the bad. In an effort to find a happy medium, the City moved the port-a-potty from behind City Hall to the front side in an effort to reduce misuse, and illegal activities. For many years, there was no place in the City for travelers to use to relieve themselves since the City does not have any fast food places or restaurants. To alleviate this problem, the City placed into use two port-a-potties in the downtown area. These port-a-potties serve metro riders, metro bus drivers, and many of the homeless population that pass through our City. Recently, I learned that the port-a-potties were not useable because they were not being cleaned daily. The potties are now being cleaned regularly. Should you identify or witness other problems, misuse or illegal activity at the port-a-potties, please report it to the City Manager or Mount Rainier Police Department by calling 301-985-6590.

If you have not heard, the City of Mount Rainier is in good financial standing. This year we completed our financial audit on time and according to an un-audited financial report from Mr. Manjani, our director of finance, we are \$400,000 in the black! That is impressive considering that four years ago we were paying \$30,000+ and our audit was taking us almost two years to complete – and we were more than \$190,000 in the red even after property taxes were increased to the highest in the County. Congratulations to the City Staff and Mock and Associates for all of their efforts and work on the financial health of our CITY. The final audit report is available to the public for review.

Mount Rainier's **Community Tool Shed** is alive and well, but still desperately NEEDS members. If you are looking for ways to contribute to your community, but just don't know how, this just may be the place for you. Call City Hall (301-985-6585) to get more information, and get involved. The Mount Rainier Tool Shed is located at 3601 Bunker Hill Road and is opened on Saturdays for borrowing and returning tools. You may also call the Tool Shed (301-779-1962) on Saturdays between 10-1PM.

As a part of the **Livable Communities Grant** proposals submitted to County Executive Jack Johnson, Mount Rainier

and Brentwood received \$90,000 for a shared police officer. After review and discussion both mayors and council forged an MOU that went into effect on July 1. Chief Scott appointed one of our officers to full-time policing and community services to Brentwood and Mount Rainier. The \$90,000 grant from the Livable Communities Initiative provides for fully equipping the officer for duty, pays salary and benefits, and provides other necessities to ensure full performance of the new police officer.

The City also received funding for its much needed lighting project along 34<sup>th</sup> Street. The project should be getting under way over the next few months. Northeast Electric received the contract, but had to revise it to conform with our available funds. Work should get underway during this fiscal year.

Jerry and MJ Parks, founders of **Little Friends of Peace**, have lived and worked in Mount Rainier for many years. Their program has been recognized throughout the Washington area for its emphasis on peace. In addition, many of the participants in their program have gone on to become contributing members of society working for peace at all levels. The Little Friends of Peace was a major contributor to this summer's youth and recreation program. They trained several youths as counselors and used them to work with younger children in the community. Thank you for a job well done. If you wish to receive more information on Little Friends for Peace, please contact MJ or Jerry (301) 927-5474 or send them an email [mjpeace@gmail.com](mailto:mjpeace@gmail.com).

**Xtreme Teens** is another one of the programs started in Mount Rainier this summer. It got started a little late, but has proven to be one of the programs that made a major difference in the City. This program has been championed by former Councilmember Intisar Haamid. After years of declaring the need for teen programs in the City, Ms. Haamid applied for and received a grant from the City for Xtreme Teens. In this afternoons and weekend program, teens get to play video, card, and board games; shoot pool, watch movies, shoot the breeze and hang out in a safe and supervised environment. If you haven't visited or sent your child to visit this program, you are in store for

a treat. Xtreme Teens currently operate out of the basement of the Mount Rainier Christian Church at 33<sup>rd</sup> and Bunker Hill Road. Come on out and support this teen activity. Parents and youths can hang out together.

The third summer youth program in our City was hosted in the downtown area at 34<sup>th</sup> and Perry. More than 30 children gathered daily and participated in one of the most diverse programs I have ever witnessed. Youth participating in the program ranged from ages 4 to 19. Some served as counselors while others received various levels of instruction. This program concentrated on improving reading, reading comprehension and math in the mornings, and provided a full range of supervised recreation in the afternoons. Some of the afternoon activities included swimming, skating, bowling, and on the last day of camp a visit to Six Flags. This program operated from 7:00am to 6:00pm daily. Kudos to the Mount Rainier Police Department for assisting with transportation for the youth to Rollingcrest Community Center and to Six Flags. Congratulations to my son, William Miles, II who was so impressed with the program that he took off from work an entire week to work with the young men in the program. Rev. Gerald Grandison, Rev. Deborah Johnson, Mrs. Jones, and Pat Williams thank you for your dedication and daily work with our youth. Fantastic job.

Many of you may not know who put together the Mount Rainier Message every month for the past 15 years. Her name is Terry Kelly. She also lived in Mount Rainier until recently. Terry has done this job relentlessly and with lots of duress and stress over the years, and those of us who worked with her truly appreciate her. Terry has decided to move on! She will be MISSED. Terry, thank you for a job well done over many years, and thanks for hanging in there until we found someone else to take on this awesome but necessary task. The Mayor and Council appreciate the dedication that you have shown over the years. Sandra Joseph has taken on the responsibility of developing the "Message." Thank you Sandra and welcome back. Sandra always finds a way to give back to Mount Rainier!

## Websites of Interest

Malinda Miles --- [www.malindamiles.com](http://www.malindamiles.com)  
 Historic Mount Rainier Maryland --- <http://www.mountrainiermd.org>  
 Mount Rainier Police Department -- <http://www.mountrainiermd.org/government/mrpd/index.html>  
 Bunker Hill Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company --- <http://www.mrvfd.org>  
 Mount Rainier Elementary School --- <http://www.pgcps.org/~mrainier/>  
 Thomas Stone Elementary School --- <http://www.pgcps.org/~tstone/index.htm>  
 Hyattsville Middle School --- <http://www.pgcps.org/~hyattsms/>  
 Northwestern High School --- <http://www.pgcps.pg.k12.md.us/~nwest>  
 Prince George's County Municipal Association <http://www.mdmunicipal.org/chapterweb/pgcma>  
 Maryland Municipal League --- <http://www.mdmunicipal.org>  
 Friends of the Mount Rainier Library (FOL) --- <http://www.mtrainierfol.org/>  
 Gateway Community Development Corporation [www.gateway-cdc.org](http://www.gateway-cdc.org)  
 Washington Metro Area Transit Service <http://www.wmata.com/>  
 Mount Rainier Business Association (MRBA) [www.mrbassociation.org](http://www.mrbassociation.org)

## Councilmember Knedler's Report

I have several business related items to share with you this month. But first, a note about activism and ideals. PJ Park ( 29th St. ) is on his bicycle in a journey to Brazil . The purpose is to bring attention to the global warming issue and a bill sponsored by Sen. McCain and Sen. Lieberman (Climate Stewardship Act). He is collecting signatures and donations to pass the bill Follow PJ's progress at [www.biketobrazil.blogspot.com](http://www.biketobrazil.blogspot.com).

**Local Business News.** Our new cafe has received several reviews and everyone is buzzing about. **Armosphere**, on the circle in the Artspace. The Gazette review ([http://www.gazette.net/stories/091406/entebeh170842\\_31942.shtml](http://www.gazette.net/stories/091406/entebeh170842_31942.shtml)), The Washington Post: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp\\_dyn/content/article/2006/07/20/AR2006072001878.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp_dyn/content/article/2006/07/20/AR2006072001878.html)). Another local business, **Island Style Ice Cream**, 3829 34th St, was

featured in the Washington Post Food Section ([http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp\\_dyn/content/article/2006/07/04/AR2006070400303.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp_dyn/content/article/2006/07/04/AR2006070400303.html)). Andrew Granzow [of Mount Rainier] and Lauren Flannery, opened **Pepperjacks Sub and Sandwich Shop** in Laurel ([http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp\\_dyn/content/article/2006/08/15/AR2006081500349.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp_dyn/content/article/2006/08/15/AR2006081500349.html)).

**Arts and Prosperity.** Richard Florida, author of the best-selling "The Rise of the Creative Class" has become increasingly influential with local development officials. His premise is that cities that attract highly educated "creative class" workers fare better economically. Something that has been the basis for the Gateway Arts District from the beginning. Florida recently commented in the Washington Post about the Brookland area (but this could be said of Mount Rainier just as easily): "This is a really lovely neighborhood. This is a real neighborhood. I know when people hear the term 'Northeast' what they think," he said. "This is remarkable. The typical advantaged person doesn't know this exists." Mount Rainier also should fare well under some of his other theories. He believes a major factor in attracting creative\_class types is "openness." He contends that a large gay presence correlates positively with a city's economic performance. He also views racial and ethnic diversity as a source of strength, and feels that Washington 's large black middle class has made the region more tolerant. Florida also warns that economic success can end up shutting out the artists with high rents and living expenses. For the entire article, go to ([http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp\\_dyn/content/article/2006/09/17/AR2006091700399.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp_dyn/content/article/2006/09/17/AR2006091700399.html)).

**Art School.** The Mitchellville Community School of the Arts will be opening a campus in Mount Rainier ([www.mitchellvillecsa.org](http://www.mitchellvillecsa.org)).

**GLBT Brunches.** The social potluck group for gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered, and friends meets every other month. If you are interested, contact [glmrm@aol.com](mailto:glmrm@aol.com).

**Community List Serve.** A new email list service has been created by residents. Among other things, the group has been

sharing names of contractors. You could access that list of names if you sign up for the listserv. Other topics have ranged from the need for a dog park to crime to various local events. Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MountRainierMD/> and click on the "Join this group" button. If you don't want to deal with lots of emails, you can join my email list, [mtrainiernews@aol.com](mailto:mtrainiernews@aol.com). I send out a weekly newsletter of local news and occasional emails on special events and alerts, such as like snow emergencies.

## Councilmember Briones' Report

I hope you had a wonderful summer! I wanted to share with you a few agenda items which I would like to pursue this coming fall. I hope you'll take a few moments to comment on these and provide me with your feedback, constructive criticism or just some nice neighborly notes.

**Town Center Development.** I am happy to report that over this past summer I've met with several area developers to market our thriving town center and introduce them to several opportune sites and vacant lots. Councilwoman Alta Morton and myself have identified three experienced developers who are very interested in our town center and who have expressed an eagerness to partner with the City in implementing our Town Center Urban Renewal Plan. As you may know, the City has recently been awarded approximately \$300,000 in federal funds to build a parking facility and \$230,000 in state funds for a new library building. My goal is that we begin to solicit proposals for these and other projects for Council and public consideration. I am currently drafting a Request for Proposals (RFP) to issue sometime this fall. Stay tuned for more news on this in the coming months.

**Dumpster regulation.** Are you frustrated at the sight of huge dumpsters sitting in your neighbors yard for months (or years) at a time? Lately it seems like dumpsters seem to stick around a lot longer than usual, collecting much more than just regular construction debris. While we're thrilled to have residents renovate their historic homes, we should

be mindful that housing an exposed 40-foot dumpster on residential yards on a permanent or semi-permanent basis can become an eyesore and a nuisance. Housing open dumpsters for long periods of time encourages pests and standing water (West Nile), especially when regular trash begins to collect in them instead of temporary construction debris. This month I am introducing legislation which will regulate the amount of time that dumpsters remain on private property and require a nominal regulation fee that will help provide for greater enforcement. Keep an eye out for this agenda item and come speak on this important item.

**Corn Storage Proposal.** Several neighbors who own corn\_burning stoves recently approached the City with a proposal to establish an “Urban Grain Bin (UGB)” cooperative in Mount Rainier. The UGB would store corn that would be burned for home heating use in environmentally\_friendly corn stoves. According to proponents, corn burning stoves are a great way to reduce electricity use while reducing greenhouse gas emissions because burning corn is climate neutral, that is, it releases only as much carbon dioxide (a green house gas) as the corn plants absorb when they are grown. Currently, several residents of the City of Mount Rainier and the surrounding area belong to the “Save Our Sky Home Heating Cooperative” in Takoma Park, MD. Those residents have approached the City with a proposal which I would like to see implemented in time for this winter. We will place this on our October, just in time for heating season. For more information on burning corn to heat homes, please visit [http://chesapeakeclimate.org/pages/page.cfm?page\\_id=77](http://chesapeakeclimate.org/pages/page.cfm?page_id=77). For information on local Maryland corn stove dealer, please visit [www.marylandcornstoves.com](http://www.marylandcornstoves.com).

## Halloween: Some History and Safety Reminders

Today is September 20<sup>th</sup> and there is a distinct chill in the air this morning! My favorite time of year! And soon to come, my favorite holiday – Halloween! “All Hallows Eve” is a *big* deal at my house. With a large collection of skeletons, spider web, black lights, tombstones, jack-o-lanterns, imitation

fog, screaming doormats, Benny the bat, and the ugliest mask you have ever seen in your life, we do our best to scare the dickens out of candy beggars young and old. We also give out the best candy, treats and trinkets in the neighborhood. Everyone wins – the beggars get great treats, and for us, the treats are in the tricks!

For most people, Halloween has become synonymous with candy, costumes, scary stuff, witches, ghosts and pumpkins. But do you know how we came to celebrate Halloween? Its true origins lie with the ancient Celtic tribes who lived in Ireland, Scotland, Wales and Brittany. For the Celts, November 1<sup>st</sup> marked the beginning of a new year and the coming of winter. The night before the new year, they celebrated the festival of Samhain, Lord of the Dead. During this festival, Celts believed the souls of the dead – including ghosts, goblins and witches – returned to mingle with the living. In order to scare away the evil spirits, people would wear masks and light bonfires.

When the Romans conquered the Celts, they added their own touches to the Samhain festival, such as making centerpieces out of apples and nuts for Pomona, the Roman goddess of the orchards. The Romans also bobbed for apples and drank cider—traditions which may sound familiar to you. In 835, Pope Gregory IV moved the celebration for all the martyrs (later all saints) from May 13<sup>th</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup>. The night before became known as All Hallows Eve. Eventually the name was shortened to simply, Halloween.

The current custom of going door-to-door to collect treats actually started in Ireland hundreds of years ago. Groups of farmers would go door-to-door collecting food and materials for a village feast and bonfire. Those who gave were promised prosperity; those who did not received threats of bad luck. When an influx of Irish Catholic immigrants came to the United States in the 1800s, the custom of trick-or-treating came with them.

Irish Catholic immigrants also gave us the tradition of carving pumpkins. The custom actually began with a turnip! Turnips were hollowed out and a lighted candle placed inside to ward off evil spirits. When the Irish came to America,

they discovered the pumpkin and used it as a larger substitute for the turnip. The tradition has continued and we now carve pumpkins instead of turnips for Halloween.

Today, the most important part of Halloween is having fun, and the most important thing about having fun is to have it safely. I have listed below some of the more important safety tips to help parents and children ensure a night of fun without incurring the risk of future nightmares.

The police department will have additional officers on duty on Halloween night, and our Neighborhood Watch president, Ophelia Baxter, has promised to mobilize members of the program to assist us in ensuring that the City has a safe and happy Halloween.

☺ Help your child pick out or make a costume that will be safe. Make it fire proof, and if you use a mask, be sure that the eyeholes are large enough for good peripheral vision. It is always better to use non-allergenic face paint rather than wearing a mask.

☺ It is always best to use a non-flame light source to illuminate your decorative jack-o-lanterns. If you set jack-o-lanterns on your porch with candles in them, be sure that they are far enough out of the way so that kids’ costumes won’t be accidentally set on fire.

☺ Make sure that if your child is carrying a prop such as knives or swords as part of his or her costume that the tips are smooth and flexible enough not to cause injury if the child falls or comes into contact with another child or adult.

☺ Children always want to take part in pumpkin carving. Small children should not be allowed to use a sharp knife or saw to cut the top or carve the face. There are many commercially available pumpkin-carving kits that come with tiny saws that work better than knives and are safer for older children to use. It is best to let the younger children clean out the pumpkin and draw a face or other design on it, which parents or older children can then carve for them.

☺ Treating your kids to a spooky Halloween dinner will make them less likely to eat the candy they collect before you have the chance to check it for them.

Instruct your children not to eat any treats until they bring them home to be examined by you.

C Review with your children some basic personal safety tips such as not getting into cars or talking to strangers, and watching both ways before crossing streets.

C Let your children know not to cut through back alleys and fields. Make sure they know to stay in populated places and don't go off the beaten track. Stay in well-lighted areas.

C Make sure your child carries a flashlight, glow stick or has reflective tape on their costume to make them more visible to cars.

C It is important that younger children not be permitted to go out Trick or Treating by themselves without some adult supervision. It is a good rule of thumb to have at least one adult for every 3-5 children in a group. Take this opportunity to partner with a neighbor or other family member to assist with supervising the kids. Heck, why not get into costume yourself – no sense letting the kids have all the fun!

C If you allow your older children to go out Trick or Treating by themselves,

know the route they will be taking. It is also a good idea for you to walk the route, in the dark, a day or so before hand so you'll be aware of any hazards the children may come across. If you have a friend or neighbor you know that lives along the planned route, alert them to what costume your child is wearing so that they can keep an eye out for them.

C Make sure you set a time by which the children should be home, and be sure to stress to them the importance of being home on time *before* they leave. Some children do not have a good sense of time, so an alternative would be to have them come home after they have gone around the block once.

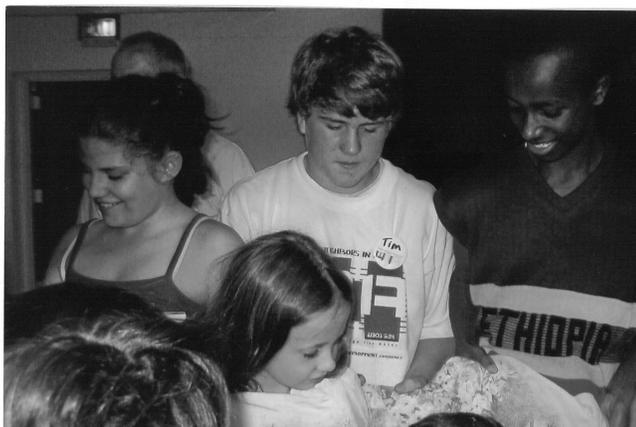
C Explain to your children the difference between tricks and vandalism. Throwing eggs or papering a house may seem like fun, but they need to know that this is unacceptable behavior. Damaging someone's property or causing them a lot of messy clean up is not fun. Clean up, having to pay for damages and other legal repercussions can ruin Halloween for both children and their parents. The Mount Rainier Police Department is extremely intolerant of vandalism of any sort, regardless of a person's age.

C Explain to your kids that animal cruelty is not acceptable. Kids know this on their own, but sometimes peer pressure can be a bad thing. Make sure that they know that harming animals is not only morally wrong, but punishable by law and will not be tolerated.

C The official Halloween Safety Game - <http://www.halloweenmagazine.com/play.html> is a fun, interactive way to teach younger children basic Halloween safety rules.

C Homeowners should consider healthy food alternatives to candy for trick-or-treaters which may include packages of low-fat crackers with cheese or peanut butter filling, single-serve boxes of cereal, packaged fruit rolls, mini boxes of raisins and single-serve packets of low-fat popcorn that can be microwaved later. You can also offer non-food treats such as plastic rings, pencils, stickers, erasers, or other small school supplies.

Have a safe, enjoyable and frightening All Hallows Eve.



Little Friends for Peace - Peace Camp 2006 Participants Ariel, Tim, and Yacob



Little Friends for Peace Peace Camp 2006 Participants Sarah, Matt, and Hollie

## Selected Crimes – August 2006

The statistics that I report each month in *The Message* represent those crimes that one, have been designated by the FBI as Part I offenses for Uniform Crime Report purposes, and two, that have been verified by an officer and a report has been written to document the circumstances of the crime. This list does not include UCR Part II offenses, miscellaneous incident reports, accident reports, field interview reports, and those incidents when an officer responds to a call for service and no report is required.

In the interest of getting more timely crime information out to our residents, I will be posting a weekly crime synopsis on the Chief's web log. Mr. Donald Bell, our CSAFE Victims Assistance Coordinator, will prepare a weekly summary of the crimes and activity by date and street location. We will use a Sunday to Saturday week period, and the summary will be posted by Tuesday of the following week. In order to provide the community with a sampling of what this information will look like, I have posted crime information from August 1<sup>st</sup> through September 16<sup>th</sup> on the Blog. The address is: <http://www.mrpdchief.blogspot.com/>. Councilmember Knedler will also be including these crime statistics in his weekly Mount Rainier News e-mail as an additional way of ensuring the widest possible distribution.

Date	Offense	Location	Date	Offense	Location
30-aug-06	Assault - Aggravated	4300 Bl 28 <sup>th</sup> Pl	09-aug-06	Theft - from Auto	3300 Bl Chillum Rd
16-aug-06	Assault - Aggravated	3200 Bl Chillum Rd	07-aug-06	Theft - from Auto	3100 Bl Queens Chapel
20-aug-06	Assault - Simple	2300 Bl Varnum St	22-aug-06	Theft - Vehicle Tags	4300 Bl Russell Av
11-aug-06	Assault - Simple	29 <sup>th</sup> St	13-aug-06	Theft - Vehicle Tags	3200 Bl Queenstown Dr
31-aug-06	B & E - Residential	3200 Bl Chillum Rd	30-aug-06	Theft < 500	3300 Bl Chillum Rd
20-aug-06	B & E - Residential	3200 Bl Chillum Rd	21-aug-06	Theft < 500	2200 Bl Varnum St
19-aug-06	B & E - Residential	4100 Bl 31 <sup>st</sup> St	02-aug-06	Theft < 500	3500 Bl Bunkerhill Rd
12-aug-06	B & E - Residential	3100 Bl Taylor St	20-aug-06	Theft > 500	3700 Bl 34 <sup>th</sup> St
04-aug-06	B & E - Residential	4300 Bl 28 <sup>th</sup> Pl	18-aug-06	Theft > 500	3100 Bl Queens Chapel
04-aug-06	B & E - Residential	3100 Bl Taylor St	02-aug-06	Theft > 500	4400 Bl 32 <sup>nd</sup> St
23-aug-06	B & E - Commercial	3400 Bl Rhode Island Av	31-aug-06	Vandalism	3400 Bl Rhode Island Av
12-aug-06	B & E - Commercial	3100 Bl Queens Chapel	18-aug-06	Vandalism	2700 Bl Upshur St
31-aug-06	Robbery - Citizen	34 <sup>th</sup> St	14-aug-06	Vandalism	3300 Bl Chillum Rd
31-aug-06	Robbery - Citizen	4400 Bl 28 <sup>th</sup> Pl	01-aug-06	Vandalism	3300 Bl Chauncey Pl
31-aug-06	Robbery - Citizen	Upshur St	28-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4200 Bl Kaywood Dr
29-aug-06	Robbery - Citizen	4300 Bl 28 <sup>th</sup> Pl	26-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4200 Bl Kaywood Dr
29-aug-06	Robbery - Citizen	3400 Bl Rhode Island Av	26-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4200 Bl Kaywood Dr
24-aug-06	Robbery - Citizen	3300 Bl Rhode Island Av	24-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4600 Bl 29 <sup>th</sup> St
09-aug-06	Robbery - Citizen	Allison St	21-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4200 Bl 34 <sup>th</sup> St
05-aug-06	Robbery - Citizen	3300 Bl Chauncey Pl	21-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4100 Bl 30 <sup>th</sup> St
28-aug-06	Robbery - Commercial	3200 Bl Bunker Hill Rd	18-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4100 Bl Rainier Av
04-aug-06	Robbery - Commercial	3400 Bl Newton St	14-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4600 Bl 29 <sup>th</sup> St
28-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	3700 Bl Wells Av	06-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4400 Bl 30 <sup>th</sup> St
26-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4200 Bl Russell Av	05-aug-06	Vandalism to Auto	4300 Bl Russell Av
25-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4300 Bl Russell Av			
25-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	3200 Bl Queenstown Dr			
22-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	3100 Bl Arundel Rd			
14-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4600 Bl 25 <sup>th</sup> St			
13-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4100 Bl 31 <sup>st</sup> St			
13-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	2500 Bl Arundel Rd			
11-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4400 Bl 28 <sup>th</sup> Pl			
10-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4200 Bl 28 <sup>th</sup> St			
07-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4700 Bl 31 <sup>st</sup> Pl			
05-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4300 Bl 28 <sup>th</sup> Pl			
05-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	4000 Bl 33 <sup>rd</sup> St			
04-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	3600 Bl Bunkerhill Rd			
02-aug-06	Stolen Vehicle	30 <sup>th</sup> St			
23-aug-06	Theft - from Auto	3100 Bl Upshur St			
23-aug-06	Theft - from Auto	4200 Bl 31 <sup>st</sup> St			
17-aug-06	Theft - from Auto	4200 Bl Russell Av			
14-aug-06	Theft - from Auto	3300 Bl Buchanan St			



City Hall – Mount Rainier

## ***Mount Rainier Cable Television – Channel 71***

Mount Rainier Cable TV  
Channel 71  
PROGRAM SCHEDULE

4PM  
Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursday, and Fridays  
(Repeat of videotaped meetings, events, etc.)

7PM  
Tuesdays (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
City Council Meetings, Work Sessions, Public Hearings, Live Cablecasts  
Programs subject to change without notice

Watch the Channel 71 Community Program Bulletin for program updates, schedules, city services and announcements. To place an announcement, submit the information in written form to City Hall or email: [gcarbonell@mountrainiermd.org](mailto:gcarbonell@mountrainiermd.org)

“Shoot it, Share it” – Mount Rainier Cable TV is offering area residents and community groups the opportunity to cablecast any self-produced videos that might be of interest to the rest of the City. If you have attended a city event or captured something interesting on video...give us a call. Contact the City of Mt. Rainier Cable TV Department for more information or call (301) 985-6585 and leave a message.



## Little Friends for Peace

### PEACE SKILLS TRAINING CLUBS

Have you heard about the **Summer Peace Camps** led by Youth and Adults? Little Friends for Peace continues during the school year with afternoon and evening **Peace Clubs**. It also offers **In-school Workshops** for children, teachers and parents.

Typical activities include

"Check-in" Circle                      "Win-win" Games                      Singing & Songwriting                      Art  
 Problem-solving Table                      Peace Hero Skits                      and Story Sharing

**Check these opportunities** offered by Little Friends For Peace:

- **Teen Peace-building Club:** will meet two evenings per month, starting in October, at Mount Rainier City Hall or Mt. Rainier Christian Church's Extreme Teen Club on Friday nights.
- **Kids Peace Club** ages 4 to 11: meets Tuesdays 3:15 to 5 pm (with extended care available) at MJ Park's home, 4405 29<sup>th</sup> Street, Mt. Rainier
- **Peace Workshops** for children, youth, teachers, parents & families: available in-school , in-church, at MJ's home, anywhere

All to learn Peace, Meet Peacemakers, Learn how the Peace Train can help us solve our problems non-violently and peacefully so we can learn how to treasure differences in people and learn to live together peacefully.

Check out our web page [www.lffp.org](http://www.lffp.org)                      [mjpeace@gmail.com](mailto:mjpeace@gmail.com)                      240-838-4549

[www.LFFP.org](http://www.LFFP.org)                      4405 29<sup>th</sup> St., Mt. Rainier, MD 20712                      301 927-5474                      [mjpeace@gmail.com](mailto:mjpeace@gmail.com)

**City of Mount Rainier Businesses**  
***Eat. Shop. Dance. Teach Learn. Share. Heal. Socialize. Play.***  
***Coffee. Tea. Ice Cream. Pastries. Snacks. Great Food. And More.....***  
***Come for a Visit and Choose To Live in Mount Rainier***

***Arts and Crafts; Antiques; Arts and Entertainment***

Bazaar San Antonio, 4010 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Community Vision, 3808 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 G&A Discount, 3813 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Joe's Movement Emporium, 3802 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Kaywood Unisex Salon, 2309 Varnum Street  
 Latin American Folk Institute-LAFI, 3800-A 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Ms. Cee's Beauty Parlor, 2307 Varnum Street  
 Nisey's Boutique, I Got It At Nisey's, 4006 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Odd and Even Thrift Shop, 3400 Rhode Island Ave  
 Phil Y's Barber Shop and Salon, 2319 Varnum Street  
 Shear Creation Salon, 3201 Rhode Island Av  
 Tre Chic Coiffeures Hair Salon, 3705 Rhode Island Ave  
 Virgo Company Dollar Store, 3221 Rhode Island Ave  
 World Arts Focus, 3810 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 VSCJ Antiques and Collectibles, 3225 Rhode Island Ave

***Auto Services; Gas/ Fuel; Supplies***

A&P Wholesalers, 3501 37<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Advance Auto, 3191 Queens Chapel Road  
 Bunker Hill Laundermat, 3846 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Eastern BP Amoco, 4501 Eastern Avenue  
 LaCasita Furniture and Bedding, 3235 Rhode Island Ave  
 Thrifty Car Rental, 3210 Rhode Island Ave  
 The Chic Coiffeur Hair Salon, 3705 Rhode Island Ave

***Barbershop, Hair Salon, Beauty and Spa Supplies***

Beauty Depot, 3171 Queens Chapel Road  
 Colors By Tangie, 3800-B 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Crown of Glory Salon, 4004 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 First Beauty Nail Salon, 3215 Rhode Island Ave  
 Hands on Barber, 3811 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Tracey's Hair Studio, 3848 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Urlyana's Hair Studio and Spa, 3237 Rhode Island Ave  
 DeMone's House of Hair, 3316 Perry Street

***Books; Natural Healing; Coops***

Dar Es Salaam, House of Healing, 3830 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Brenda's Healthy Skin Solutions, 3830 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Glut Food Coop, 4000 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 WWCG Books, 3847 34<sup>th</sup> Street

***Flower Shops***

Margaret's/ Mount Rainier Flower, 3407 Perry St  
 Oscar's Flower and Gift Shop, 4006 34<sup>th</sup> Street

***Child Care Services***

Gateway Child Development, 3833 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Mount Rainier Child Development Center, 3407 Perry St.  
 Mount Rainier Early Learning Center, 4001 33<sup>rd</sup> Street

***Insurance, Tax, and Accounting Services***

Anchor Finance Company, 3200 Otis Street  
 Crown Insurance Agency, 3615 Rhode Island Av  
 Jackson Hewitt, 3207 Rhode Island Ave  
 Capricorn Tax Service, 3237 Rhode Island Ave

***Dry Cleaning and Laundry***

Queens T. Custom Cleaners, 3111 Chillum Rd

***Convenience, Beverage, Grocery, and Dollar Stores***

7-11 Convenience Store, 3310 Chillum Road  
 7-11 Convenience Store, 2310 Varnum Street  
 Check Cashing Services, 3211 Rhode Island Ave  
 Chuck's Liquors, 3416 Rhode Island Ave  
 El Palenque Disco Centro, 3414 Rhode Island Ave  
 Ericka's Grocery, 3237 Rhode Island Ave  
 Family Dollar, 2201 Varnum Street  
 Family Dollar, 3179 Queens Chapel Road  
 Habesha International Market, 2311 Varnum Street  
 La Pequenita Grocery Store, 3840 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Marie's Variety Store, 4002 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Money Marts, Checks Cashed, 3213 Queens Chapel  
 Mount Rainier Antique Shop, 3815 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Party Time Liquors, 3307 Rhode Island Ave  
 K' Food Mart, 3223 Rhode Island Ave  
 Kaywood Supermarket, 2303 Varnum Street  
 Varietas Blanqui, 3402 Rhode Island Ave

***Eating Places***

Artmosphere Digital Café, 3311 Rhode Island Ave  
 Caribbean Market, 3213 Queens Chapel Road  
 Frances Salvadorean & Mexican Food, 3852 34<sup>th</sup> St  
 Grand China Restaurant, 2300 Arundel Road  
 Island Style Ice Cream Parlor, 3856 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Joe's Carryout Restaurant, 3185 Queens Chapel Rd  
 Joe's Seafood Carryout, 3183 Queens Chapel Rd  
 Mannie's Carryout, 2305 Varnum Street  
 Pan Lourdes Latin Bakery, 3237 Rhode Island Ave  
 Potomac Fish House, 3221 Rhode Island Ave  
 Terminal Snack Bar, 3405 Rhode Island Ave  
 Tortilla Kitchen, 3231 Rhode Island Ave

***General Contractors; Real Estate; Other Services***

Built Up Roofing, 3711 Wells Ave  
 Charles K. McConkey & Sons, 3314 Perry Street  
 PD Systems, 3808 34<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Reynold's Real Estate Academy, 3239 Rhode Island Ave  
 EXIT Crown Realty, 3615 Rhode Island Ave

***Health/ Medical Services/ Counseling***

Dr. Sukumaran Arqangat, 3308 Perry Street  
 Dr. Suresh Gupta, 3503 Perry Street  
 Dr. Raman Tuli, 3503 Perry Street, Suite B  
 C.A. Mayo and Associates, 3403 Perry Street

***Security, Printing, and Other Services***

Abacus Corporation, 3501 Perry Street  
 H&W Printing, 3616 Oak Lane  
 Standard Pressing Company, 3299 Queens Chapel Road  
 Financial Empowerment, 3830 34<sup>th</sup> Street

## Mount Rainier Committees Meetings

### **Council Meetings**

1st and 3rd Tues., 7 p.m., City Hall lower level

### **Beautification Committee**

1st Mon., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

### **Cable Commission**

2nd Mon., 6:00 p.m., City Hall

### **Friends of Library** ([mtrainierfol.org](http://mtrainierfol.org))

Mon., 7:30 p.m., Community Vision, 34th Street

### **Gateway Municipalities CDC**

2nd Thurs., 7:00–9:00 p.m.  
4102 Webster Street

### **Mount Rainier Business Association**

2nd Weds., 6:30 p.m., Mount Rainier Police Station

### **Tool Shed Committee**

2nd Mon., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

### **MUTC Town Center Design Review Committee**

2nd Weds., 6:15 p.m., City Hall

### **Design Review Board**

3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

### **Tree Commission**

2nd Thurs., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

Note: The above Committees are scheduled to meet according to the above schedule. Please check the City's website or contact City Hall to verify if a meeting is being held on a particular date. Meeting notices are posted at City Hall prior to the scheduled meeting.

# Calendar

## October - November

October 2	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up	November 1	Regular Trash Pick Up
October 4	Regular Trash Pick Up	November 3	Recyclables Pick Up
October 6	Recyclables Pick Up	November 6	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
October 9	Yard Waste Pick Up	November 8	Regular Trash Pick Up
October 11	Regular Trash Pick Up	November 10	Recyclables Pick Up
October 13	Recyclables Pick Up	November 13	Waste Pick Up Yard
October 16	Columbus day (City Hall and Public Works Closed)	November 15	Yard Waste Pick Up
October 17	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up	November 17	Recyclables Pick Up
October 18	Regular Trash Pick Up	November 20	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
October 20	Recyclables Pick Up	November 22	Waste Pick Up Yard
October 23	Yard Waste Pick Up	November 24	Recyclables Pick Up
October 25	Regular Trash Pick Up	November 27	Yard Waste Pick Up
October 27	Recyclables Pick Up	November 29	Waste Pick Up Yard
October 30	Yard Waste Pick Up	November 30	Thanksgiving Day (City Hall and Public Works Closed)

*Starting December 2006, every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday will be Yard Waste Pick Up by appointments only. Please have all bulk trash and yard waste out by 7:00 am on the pick up day and all appointments made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding pick up day.*

*There is a 3 cubic yards limit per household for bulk trash pick up and a total of 6 pick up in a 12 month period, after which any other pick up will be a special bulk pick up for which there is a charge.*

www.mountrainiermd.org

**Mayor**

**Malinda Miles**  
301-699-1378

mayormiles@malindamiles.com

**City Manager**

**Jeannelle B. Wallace**  
301-985-6585, ext. 22

fax: 301-985-6595

jwallace@mountrainiermd.org

**Asst. City Manager**

**James Booth**

301-985-6585

fax: 301-985-6595

jbooth@mountrainiermd.org

**Councilmembers**

**Ward 1**

**Carol Gandee**

301-277-6377

gandydncr@aol.com

**Alta Morton**

202-309-5455

altaward1@hotmail.com

**Ward 2**

**Pedro Briones**

301-277-1833

pedroeb@aol.com

**Bryan Knedler**

301-699-3134

bknedler@aol.com

**Message**

**Sandra Joseph**

tumkho@yahoo.com

## 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 5:00 p.m. Public Works open 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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**

Acting Chief Lieutenant Michael Scott

Mscott@mountrainiermd.org

301-985-6565 (emergency calls)

301-985-6566 (nonemergency calls)

301-985-6590 (administrative)

City Public Works 301-985-6583,  
Bulk Trash Appts. 301-985-6558

Child Abuse

and Neglect Hotline

301-699-8605

Congressman Chris Van Hollen's 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 Executive

Jack Johnson

301-952-4131

County Councilman

Will Campos

301-952-4436

Energy Assistance

301-422-5110

Family Services

301-699-2680

Fire Department

301-985-5406 (non-emergency)

911 (emergency)

Gateway CDC

4102 Webster Street

301-864-3860

Gazette Circulation

301-670-7350

Health Department

301-386-0300

Library 301-864-8937

Hours: M–W 10–6:30 (closed 2–2:30)

Sat. 10–5

Landlord–Tenant Commission

800-487-6007

Mt. Rainier Nature/Rec Center

4701 31st Place

301-927-2163

M–National Capital

Park and Planning,

Park Permit Office

301-918-8111

North Brentwood Comm. Ctr  
4012 Webster St.

301-864-0756

Office of Handicapped Services

TDD 301-627-3352

Park Police

301-459-3232 (emergency)

301-459-9088 (non-emergency)

Parks and Recreation

301-699-2407

Pepco

Lights Out

1-877-737-2662

(you must give the 10-digit phone number  
or 10-digit account number for location of  
outage)

**Live Wire, Other Emergency**

202-872-3432

Post Office

301-864-5168

Public Defender

301-699-2760

Public Schools

301-952-6000

State's Attorney

301-952-3500

Washington Gas Light

703-750-2500

WSSC

301-206-8000

301-206-4002 (emergency)

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

Postal Customer  
Mount Rainier, MD 20712

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October 2006 Message  
City of Mount Rainier  
One Municipal Place  
Mount Rainier, MD 20712