Message

CITY OF MT. RAINIER · MARYLAND

The deadline for submissions for the *Message* is the 20ᵗʰ of each month.

www.mountrainiermd.org

It's coming. . .mark your calendars for May 20, 2006!!

2006 Mount Rainier Day Festival

There will be:
- 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament – sponsored by Wachovia and MRBA
- Kids Corner
- Gateway CDC sponsored Artist's Loft Tour
- Vendor's galore (food, craft, info, etc.)
- Moon Bounce
- Steel Drum Band
- Reggea Band
- FOL Book Giveaway and Face Painting
- Balloons
- One of the largest Parades in years
- Various singers, bands, and other entertainment

If you miss this Mount Rainier Day you'll be sorry. So, come out and celebrate the diversity that is Mount Rainier on May 20, 2006. If you want to volunteer that day (high school students can receive community service hours), become a vendor, or if you just have questions, please call Ophelia Baxter 240-393-1187.

▶ **FY 2007 Proposed Tax Rate Public Hearing and Budget Worksession, Tuesday, May 23, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., City Hall, Mount Rainier. See page 9 for details.**

▶ **Public Hearing on 30th Street Park, Tuesday, May 23, 2006 at 8:00 p.m., City Hall, Mount Rainier. Discussion on proposal from Park and Planning and Proposed Development of 30th Street Park. See page 10 for details.**

The National Bicycle Greenway: Mayor's Ride 2006 will be in Mount Rainier on May 12 at 9 a.m.

More info: *http://www.bikeroute.com/NationalMayorsRide2006.*

City Manager Report

By Jeannelle Branson Wallace

CDBG Street Improvements

The City has been working on several matters of importance to the citizenry. One project involves the replacement and/or installation of curbs on gutters on many of the City's streets and as well as driveway aprons as a result of funding through the County's Community Development and Block Grant program (CDBG). Please note that the repair work was not done on every driveway due to limited funding. Only those aprons considered to be in dire need of repair were replaced. Other areas not addressed will be considered during the repair phase for program year 32 during the summer months later this year. City management is working on finalizing the re-striping of 34th Street.

Of particular concern was the drainage problem experienced by the residents on Tilden Street. The work that was completed here appears to be satisfactory to those residents thus far. City Manager Wallace has requested additional assistance from Prince George's County to address the drainage issues in other areas of the City. Assistant Manager James Booth has worked diligently with the City Engineer Consultant to determine the best approach to resolving the drainage problems.

Grant Funding

The Mayor and Council are pursuing a partnership with the Town of Brentwood for shared community policing services. This partnership is geared towards the enhancement of police services for both the Town of Brentwood and the City of Mount Rainier. Prince George's County has awarded a grant of $90,000 to support this effort.

The City has received notice of other funding from the State of Maryland Community Development Administration through the Community Legacy program in the amount of $85,000. This grant will be used towards the predevelopment

(architectural design and engineering study) for the construction of a community center at 3409 Rhode Island Avenue (the site of the current library and Congressman Chris Van Hollen's satellite office). The City has also been informed that it will receive $150,000 for this effort as well through a County sponsored Bond Bill supported by Senator Gwendolyn Britt.

The City has also been promised 15 slots through the Prince George's County Summer Youth Program Initiative. All 15 applications have been issued to Mount Rainier residents. Thus far, two Mount Rainier businesses – Nisey's Boutique and Artsmosphere Café have agreed to train youth during the summer. Prince George's County will pay the salary for the hiring of the youth participants who will work for the departments of public works, police, and city hall.

The City has also learned that it will receive $100,000 for street repairs under CDBG for next year.

The City is also moving towards finalizing the upgrade of lighting and decorative improvements for 34th Street through a grant from community legacy last year. Once the City has received final cost estimates on the installation of decorative lighting, the project will be underway.

Trash Code Violations

The City is still experiencing problems with residents adhering to the City's trash code. Please keep in mind that the regulations are for the safety and health of the community, to control the rodent population, to help with keeping the City clean, and to improve the overall appearance of the City. All trash is to be kept in air tight containers with lids. Non-contaminated cardboard material is to be placed out with recyclables on Friday of each week. Please remember to return trash receptacles to the side or rear of your property once trash has been collected. Prompt return of trash receptacles helps to

improve the appearance and also helps to ensure that your trash cans and lids remain in good condition. The Public Works Department has been instructed to place all lids inside the trash can to help with containing the lids to each can. Let's continue to work together for a better Mount Rainier!

City of Mount Rainier Gets Tough on Code Enforcement

City Manager Jeannelle Branson Wallace

The City's Code Enforcement Department recently received training from the State's Attorney Office concerning the coordination of Court cases for blighted and vacant properties within the City. Following the frustration experienced by Code Enforcement when cases are prosecuted in District Court of Prince George's County, the City Manager requested the State's Attorney office to help the City with an improved process for successful judgments against property owners who do not maintain their property in accordance with City of Mount Rainer Codes. The results – the Department of Environmental Resources has recently successfully prosecuted cases where the property owner has been negligent. Additionally, property owners have received hefty fines for failure to abate code violations.

Mayor and City Manager Meet With 47TH Delegation and Other County Officials to Discuss Improved Health Benefits

Mayor Malinda Miles and City Manager Jeannelle Wallace along with members of the staff including Acting Chief Michael Scott, and Acting Lieutenant James Stoots, met with the 47th delegation - Delegates Doyle Niemann and Victor Ramirez, Senator Gwendolyn Britt, and County Councilman Will Campos to discuss the possibility of partnering with other small municipalities to offer better and less costly health insurance benefits to its employees. Also in attendance at the meeting were Obie Pinckney, Municipal Liaison to Jack Johnson; Anna Angolia, Chair of the Commissioners for the Town of Cottage City; Joyce Frederick representing Mayor Dianna Fennell of Colmar Manor; Julie Sanden, Benefits Coordinator for Prince George's County; and Robert Friedman of Congressman Chris Van Hollen's Office

A follow-up meeting is scheduled for May 18, 2006, 8:30 a.m. at City Hall.

Committee Members Still Needed

Our many committees need you. Several of our committees are in need of members. I am sure there is a committee that is of interest to you and their meeting schedules fit into your schedule. Please contact James Booth, Assistant City Manager at City Hall at 301-985-6585 to find out more about the following committees:

- Tool Shed Committee
- Beautification Committee
- Neighborhood Watch Program
- Parking Task Force Committee
- Tree Commission
- Cable Commission
- Emergency Preparedness Commission
- Mount Rainier Business Association

Council Highlights

April 4, 2006—Mayor and Council Meeting
- Ordinance 7–2006—this Ordinance amends Chapter 12B, Urban Forest, of the *Mount Rainier Code* relating to hazardous trees on private property. The new language follows:

Section 12B-8. Hazardous Trees on Private Property.

A. No person shall permit a tree or tree part, dead or alive (including a stump displaced from the ground), to stand on private property if it is hazardous. Hazardous, in relation to a tree or tree part, means defective, diseased or dead, and posing an unreasonable risk of failure or fracture with the potential to cause injury to people or damage to property.

B. No person shall maintain a fallen tree, tree part, brushwood, or firewood on private property that constitutes a harborage place for rodents, vermin or other pests.

C. When a violation of this section is found on private property in the City, the City Manager (or designee) shall give notice to the owner, occupant, or person responsible for the property to correct the condition within such reasonable time as may be specified in the notice.

D. If any person, after receipt of notice pursuant to subsection C, fails or refuses to correct or abate a violation, and the City finds that immediate action is needed to protect the public health, safety or property, then the City may take any action reasonably necessary to abate or correct the condition or may contract to have the necessary action taken. The City shall send the property owner or his or her agent a bill for the costs of the corrective action. If the bill is not paid within 30 calendar days, the cost shall be a lien against the real property which may be collected and enforced in the same manner as are property taxes or by a suit against the owner.

A violation of this Chapter is a municipal infraction with a fine of $200

Resolution 4–2006—This resolution appointed the following members to the Youth Program and Recreation Committee:
1. Intisar Haamid
2. Brooke Kidd
3. M.J. Park
4. Julie Barnet
5. Mary Papadopoulos
6. Chrystal Vaughan 16 year old youth representative
7. Vicki Ricks
8. Julie Thomas
9. Deborah Johnson

April 11, 2004—Mayor and Council Work Session
- Acting Chief Michal Scott presented the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget for the Mount Rainier Police Department. Capital requests included radar equipment, motor segway, marked and unmarked police vehicles. Emphasis during fiscal year 2007 will be on traffic enforcement, drug activity, and public safety.
- Ordinance 8–2006—(First Reading) amending Chapter 3, Building Code of the *Mount Rainier Code* to add a requirement for a City building permit prior to the demolition of a building or structure. **A City building permit is required** for every construction, enlargement, permanent paving, removal or demolition with the City requires a a permit from the Department of Environmental Resources of Prince George's County and a permit from the City of Mount Rainier.
- For demolition or removal of a building or structure with a footprint of more than 500 square feet, the charge for a building permit shall be $500.00.
- The Mayor and Council also discussed the pros and cons of annexation and received an update from Greg Hall of County Council member Will Campos office.
- Discussion also focused on the Maryland—National Capital Park and Planning Commission's prior presentation on the proposed upgrades for the 30th Street Park. **A public hearing is scheduled at City Hall for May 23, 2006 to hear comments from the citizenry**.

April 25, 2006—Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council
- Discussion focused on the proposed Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Brentwood for shared Community Policing Services with the City of Mount Rainier. Vote for approval was scheduled for May 2, 2006.

Police Chief's Report

How To Reach Us

For police service calls
(24 hours a day) 301-985-6565/66
Administrative Offices ONLY
(M-F, 9A-5P) 301-985-6580
www.mountrainiermd.org/government/mrpd/index.html
Please cut and place on or by your phone

The Motor Scooter Boogie

If you haven't heard that annoying, high pitched whine of a miniature motor scooter riding through, over and around your neighborhood, consider yourself one of the lucky ones!

What started out as the "motorized pedacycle" or MOPED back in the gas crunched days of the 1970s has evolved into today's modern "motor scooter." Today's motor scooters look much more like motorcycles than Mopeds, and have "tweaked" motors that allow them to travel a little faster than their predecessors, while staying in the "under 50 cc" engine size category. The average moped could only get up to speeds of about 25 MPH, while the average motor scooter can attain steady speeds in the 40 MPH range. Most of today's motor scooters have a sleek, European styling about them, although there are some which are built to look like "race rocket" motorcycles, and even some that resemble miniature Harleys.

It's these smaller, "race rocket" or "pocket rocket" type motor scooters that cause problems for our residents. You know the ones I'm talking about. They look like a full size motorcycle that some-one shrunk in the dryer like an old t-shirt and appear not much bigger than your average cocker spaniel! Small and difficult to see, these scooters pose a hazard to pedestrians and street traffic, and their riders often fail to heed the rules of the road – and sidewalks. In short, they are a nuisance!

The popularity of these motorized scooters has taken off over the past few years. They often top the Christmas and birthday lists of children, teenagers and adults. Parents buy them for their kids because they think it will be a fun toy, but in an urban environment such as ours, they are anything but a "toy." They are poten-tially dangerous motor vehicles, and as such, children younger than 16 have no business riding one on our streets and sidewalks.

Maryland law requires that riders have either a driver's license or a moped license for good reason. *Training.* Driver training teaches teens not only the laws and rules of the road, but they get some experience in actually doing it. They have to demonstrate a minimum amount of proficiency. Children on the other hand often just jump on one of these "pocket rockets" and ride at full speed, darting in and out of traffic, riding on the sidewalks, without a clue as to the real dangers they face. Since motorists do not easily see them, and because the rider is inexperienced, these kids pose a hazard to themselves, to motorists and to pedestrians. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission 5,900 emergency room injuries were attributed to motorized scooters in 2002.

If you see anyone who you think is using any type of motor scooter illegally, please call the police department and report it. Try and get a description of the rider, including what he/she is wearing, and a description of the scooter. It is not uncommon for neighborhood kids to share one of these scooters, so you may see different people riding the same one. If you know, or have an idea where the rider lives, let us know so we can contact the owner of the scooter or a parent.

If you are a parent whose child has one of these, please know that we are serious about keeping them off our streets. If you want to let your child have that motorcycle or motorcross experience, please find an

appropriate training facility, school or private instructor that has the proper space for them to ride. The streets, sidewalks and parks in Mount Rainier *are not* that proper space.

REMEMBER - MARYLAND STREET LEGAL MOTOR SCOOTERS:
1. Must have a seat for the driver,
2. Must have a "step-thru" chassis,
3. Must have an engine size of 50cc or less,
4. Must have an automatic transmission,
5. Must have a white headlight in the front, and a red reflector or light to the rear,
6. May not travel at speeds in excess of 30 MPH,
7. May not travel on roadways whose posted maximum speed limit is more than 50 MPH,
8. Must use bike lanes or paved shoulders when on the highway except for passing, and
9. May not use bike or pedestrian paths.
10. The driver must possess a valid driver's license (any class) or a Moped license. Tags and insurance are not required, nor is a helmet required for anyone over the age of 16. Insurance and a DOT approved helmet are recommended.
11. The use of mopeds and motor scooters on private property, such as parking lots and open fields, are subject to the permissions and rules granted by the owners of the property. Riding on private property without the permis-sion of the owner could result in an arrest for trespassing!

Selected Crimes – March 2006

Assault
| 2500 | BLOCK | ARUNDEL RD |
| 4000 | BLOCK | 34TH ST |

Burglary - Residential
3400	BLOCK	EASTERN AV
4100	BLOCK	29TH ST
4100	BLOCK	29TH ST
4300	BLOCK	28TH PL

4200	BLOCK	28TH ST
3300	BLOCK	BUCHANAN ST

Rape

3200	BLOCK	QUEENSTOWN DR

Robbery - Citizen

3400	BLOCK	PERRY ST
3300	BLOCK	BUCHANAN ST
3300	BLOCK	CHAUNCY PL
3300	BLOCK	CHILLUM RD
4500	BLOCK	34TH ST

Stolen Vehicle

3200	BLOCK	CHILLUM RD
2500	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
3300	BLOCK	BUNKERHILL RD
3600	BLOCK	RHODE ISLAND AV
3207	BLOCK	PERRY ST
2500	BLOCK	ARUNDEL RD
2500	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
4200	BLOCK	RUSSELL AV

Theft < 500

3300	BLOCK	CHAUNCEY PL
3300	BLOCK	CHILLUM RD
4400	BLOCK	32ND ST

Theft > 500

3200	BLOCK	RHODE ISLAND AV
4200	BLOCK	29TH ST
3200	BLOCK	RHODE ISLAND AV

Theft from auto

4200	BLOCK	RUSSELL AV
4100	BLOCK	RUSSELL AV
4700	BLOCK	34TH ST

Theft - Identity

4500	BLOCK	34TH ST
3300	BLOCK	RHODE ISLAND AV

Theft - Vehicle Tag

3200	BLOCK	QUEENSTOWN DR
3200	BLOCK	CHILLUM RD
3200	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
4300	BLOCK	KAYWOOD DR
3200	BLOCK	QUEENSTOWN DR

Vandalism to Auto

3100	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
4200	BLOCK	28TH ST
3100	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
3700	BLOCK	34TH ST
2700	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
3300	BLOCK	CHILLUM RD
3100	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
2800	BLOCK	34TH ST
2700	BLOCK	ARUNDEL RD
4100	BLOCK	32ND ST
3700	BLOCK	36TH ST

Vandalism

4000	BLOCK	32ND ST
3800	BLOCK	34TH ST
2400	BLOCK	ARUNDEL RD
3300	BLOCK	CHILLUM RD
3600	BLOCK	OAK LN
3600	BLOCK	OAK LN
3100	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
2700	BLOCK	QUEENS CHAPEL RD
3200	BLOCK	CHILLUM RD
3100	BLOCK	VARNUM ST

Gateway Arts District Open Studio Tour

More than 30 artists throughout the towns of Hyattsville, North Brentwood, Brentwood and Mount Rainier will open their doors to the public May 20 from 12 noon to 5 p.m.

The open studio tour will showcase a variety of painters, mixed-media artists, sculptors and photographers. The public is invited to take a self-guided tour throughout the Gateway Arts District by picking up a map either from the Gateway CDC Office at 4102 Webster Street in North Brentwood; the Mount Rainier Artists' Lofts at 3311 Rhode Island Avenue; or the Gateway CDC Booth at the Mount Rainier Day festivities. Various artists will conduct mini workshops and demonstrations. Highlights include a variety of visual and performing artists from the Mount Rainier Artist Lofts, ceramic artists from the Red Dirt Studio, fused-glass artists from the Washington Glass School, a sneak peek at the New Joe's Movement Emporium currently under renovation, a group show featuring the work of the Hyattsville Artists' Alliance at Franklin's Restaurant, and a show and closing reception at the Mount Rainier Artists Lofts.

The date will be shared with Mount Rainier Day, a full day of family fun, food and live performances, starting at 10:00 am in Mount Rainier at 34th and Rhode Island Avenue.

Support for this project was provided by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA).

For further information or press inquiries, please contact Tonya Jordan at 301-864-3860, ext. 1 or send an e-mail to *tonya@gateway-cdc.org*.

Pan Masters PanJamboree 2006

Join the Pan Masters Steelband Organization and the Gateway Community Development Corporation for the

- PanMasters' Steeldrum PanJamboree
- 2 p.m. til sundown
- Sunday, May 28, 2006 (Memorial Day Weekend)
- 4511 Rhode Island Avenue, North Brentwood, MD 20722

The annual PanJamboree brings together steelbands from New York, Baltimore and the greater metropolitan DC region for a day of music, Caribbean food, and competition. Join the fun, as these bands compete against each other, displaying their talent and latest compositions in a friendly warm-up match to the East Coast carnival season.

PanMasters is a for-profit organization actively involved in the community, promoting the culture of the Caribbean people in a variety of forms. PanMasters is host to a number of functions on an annual basis, such as the DC Calypso Monarch and the Junior Pan Solo Competition. PanMasters also has an annual Jazz show, which features Caribbean-Jazz band "FUSION", led by Lennard Jack, one of PanMasters' founding members. At this event FUSION offers an evening of scintillating music using conventional instruments, with the steel pan as the lead instrument.

Gateway CDC is a nonprofit community organization working in Mount Rainier, Brentwood, and North Brentwood. Its primary project is the Gateway Arts District.

For more information on the PanMasters, call us at 301-864-2610, visit our web page at www.panmasters.com or e-mail us at *panmasters@hotmail.com*

Wheels on the Circle. . .The Mount Rainier Bicycle Co-op is Open for Business!

It's springtime, and thoughts turn to outdoor activities. But what if one of those activities involves bicycling, and the only action your bike has seen this past winter has been from the inside of your garage?

Getting it (and you) back in shape for bicycling has just been made a little easier—You've got the **Mount Rainier Bicycle Co-op** to help get you and your wheels get back on the trail! What was once a garage for local law enforcement has since become housing for the newly-formed Mount Rainier Bicycle Co-op (MRBC). Since its inception in the fall of 2005, and with invaluable assistance from Trip for Kids/Metro DC (TFK), the all-volunteer Co-op is a one-stop shop for local residents to perform basic maintenance and repairs on their bikes. For novices, we offer basic "How-To's" on keeping bikes up and rolling. MRBC also sponsor bike rides, including rides designed for children and teens that include mechanical training, safety do's and don'ts, and nutrition education. And you should know that MRBC's efforts have not gone unnoticed—Mount Rainier City Manager Jeanelle Wallace received word last month that the City has received a Maryland Municipal League Award of Excellence on behalf of the MRBC, recognizing the co-op's efforts to make Mount Rainier one of Maryland's "excellent municipalities." Not bad for an organization that's barely six months old!

Playing a major role in the MRBC's success is *Trips For Kids/Metro DC*, a local non-profit organization that is recognized as one of the finest small non-profits in the DC area for their mentoring and physical activity program tailored especially for children (Find out more on the web: *www.tfkmetrodc.org*). TFK provided bikes, tools, sponsorship, insurance, and management expertise to get the co-op up and running which, in turn, gave TFK an opportunity to expand its successful program into P.G. County. Out of this partnership comes a win-win-win situation: MountRainier residents get a bike repair facility; TFK gets a stake in P.G County and a place to hang their hats (or "helmets"); and area children have another outlet for physical activity, and an opportunity to learn the do's-and-don'ts of bicycling. All three facets of this partnership were first put into play last March as MRBC and TFK sponsored a bike hike along the Northwest Branch Trail, a family-oriented event that featured kids and their parents on an easy-

Volunteer bike mechanics from Trip for Kids work on a young resident's BMX bike prior to the Co-op's March 25 bike hike.

As the ride gets under way, participants line up for a group photo.

going ride and picnic along the nearby Northwest Branch Hiker/Biker Trail.

Since the announcement of the Maryland Municipal League award, the co-op has been busy on a number of fronts:

- On April 17, 17 children from the Sursum Corda housing project in D.C. visited the co-op through arrangements made by co-op president (and founder) PJ Parks. They learned that bicycling is healthy, practical, and good for the earth, as well as the importance of wearing a helmet and having a bike lock. They also learned how to patch an inner tube, successfully predicting that there would be bubbles in the bucket of water at the location of the tiny hole in the tube! Each child was fitted with a helmet and rode a bike up and down the alley, and they each want to return to the next TFK/MRBC co-sponsored bike hike.

- The Co-op will participate in MountRainier Day activities on May 20th, including fielding a team of bicyclists of all ages in the parade, hosting a bike rodeo, and raffling off a BMX bike to generate funding and promote cycling.

- The MountRainier Business Association has committed $500 for T-shirts that will be given to children who participate in the bike parade.

The Co-op is located just off the downtown traffic circle at 3409 Rhode Island Avenue, behind City Hall (just enter from the alley between the bus terminal and the library, and look for the garage). Our hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturdays. And joining couldn't be easier – just fill out our membership and liability forms and pay a $5.00 per family fee that is good for a six month renewable term. With the community's support, Mount Rainier and the surrounding Port Town communities can have a first-class repair shop with expanded hours that could be staffed by adults and teens who could earn a rebuilt bicycle through their volunteer efforts. This type of "recyclery" has been successful in D.C., New York, California, and a number of college campuses (just Google "bike co-op"). If they can pedal it, so can we!

Let's ROLL!

Little Friends for Peace Announces Summer Peace Camps 2006

The summer peace camps will be held on July 17–21 at Cora B. Woods Senior Center in Brentwood and August 14–18 at Mount Rainier Nature/Recreation Center.

For more information, contact MJ Park at 301-927-5474 or send an e-mail to *mjpeace@gmail.com* for brochure and application.

Co-op president and co-founder P.J. Park helps out with a spring tune-up.

Schedule for Community Emergency Response Team in Prince George's County

Training will be conducted by the DelMarVa Search and Rescue Group

Registar by calling Calvin Hawkins
301-583-1899

Friday, May 12   7–9 p.m.
Saturday, May 13   8 a.m.–4 p.m.
Sunday, May 14   8 a.m.–4 p.m.

Accelerated CERT Training
Bunker Hil Fire Station
Mount Rainier, MD

Future dates at the same site
Friday, July 7–Sunday, July 9, 2006
and
Friday, Sept. 8–Sunday Sept. 19, 2006

City of Mount Rainier Businesses

The City is proud to provide the following list of Mount Rainier businesses. There are over 80 businesses located throughout the City that offer a wide variety of products and services. Products and services that range from fresh pastry, home made ice cream, Chinese, Salvadoran, Mexican and American cuisine, insurance, antiques, car and truck rental, storage supplies, hair supplies, beauty and spa supplies, hair salon services, barber shop services, arts and crafts, tax preparation, accounting services, digital communication solutions, auto supplies, security services, medical services, beverages, and many other items.

Help support the Mount Rainier economy and stop by one or many of the local businesses listed below. Stop by a business today and say, *"I saw your business in the May Message."*

The City of Mount Rainier is excited about several new businesses that will open in the near future. Stay tuned as plans are on the way for a full service restaurant on Rhode Island Avenue and two Café's that will provide a great cup of coffee or specialty teas combined with arts and entertainment.

Eating Places
Caribbean Market, 3213 Queens Chapel Road
Frances Salvadorean and Mexican Food, 3852 34th Street
Grand China Restaurant, 2300 Arundel Road
Island Style Ice Cream Parlor, 3856 34th Street
Joe's Carryout Restaurant, 3185 Queens Chapel Road
Joe's Seafood Carryout, 3183 Queens Chapel Road
Mannie's Carryout, 2305 Varnum Street
Pan Lourdes Latin Bakery, 3237 Rhode Island Avenue
Potomac Fish House, 3221 Rhode Island Avenue
Terminal Snack Bar, 3405 Rhode Island Avenue
Tortilla Kitchen, 3231 Rhode Island Avenue

Flower Shops
Margaret's/Mount Rainier Flower Shop, 3407 Perry Street
Oscar's Flower and Gift Shop, 4006 34th Street

Barbershop, Hair Salon, Beauty and Spa Supplies
Beauty Depot, 3171 Queens Chapel Road
Color's By Tangie, 3800-B 34th Street
Hands on Barber, 3811 34th Street
Kaywood Unisex Salon, 2309 Varnum Street
Ms. Cee's Beauty Parlor, 2307 Varnum Street
Phil Y's Barber Shop, 2319 Varnum Street
Shear Creation Barber Shop and Salon, 3201 Rhode Island Avenue
Tracey's Hair Studio, 3848 34th Street
Urlyana's Hair Studio and Spa, 3237 Rhode Island Avenue
Crown of Glory Salon, 4004 34th Street
First Beauty Nail Salon, 3215 Rhode Island Avenue

Convenience, Beverage and Dollar Stores
Check Cashing Services, 3211 Rhode Island Avenue
La Pequenita Grocery, 3840 34th Street
Chuck's Liquors, 3416 Rhode Island Avenue
Marie's Variety Store, 4002 34th Street
Erika's Grocery, 3237 Rhode Island Avenue
Money Marts/Checks Cashed, 3213 Queens Chapel Road
Family Dollar, 2201 Varnum Street
Party Time Liquors, 3307 Rhode Island Avenue
Family Dollar, 3179 Queens Chapel Road
7-11 Convenience Store, 3310 Chillum Road
Habesha International Market, 2311 Varnum Street
7-11 Convenience Store, 2310 Varnum Street
Kaywood Liquors, 2305 Varnum Street
K' Food Mart, 3233 Rhode Island Avenue
Kaywood Supermarket, 2303 Varnum Street

Auto Services; Gas/ Fuel; Supplies
Eastern BP Amoco, 4501 Eastern Avenue
Advance Auto, 3191 Queens Chapel Road
A&P Wholesalers, 3501 37th Street
Thrifty Car Rental, 3210 Rhode Island Avenue

Child Care Services
Gateway Child Development, 3833 34th Street
Mount Rainier Early Learning Center, 4001 33rd Street

Taxes and Accounting Services
Anchor Finance Company, 3200 Otis Street
Jabeez Solutions, 3200 Rhode Island Avenue
Jackson Hewitt, 3207 Rhode Island Avenue
Crown Insurance Agency, 3615 Rhode Island Avenue

Security Services/ Professional Services
Abacus Corporation, 3501 Perry Street
C.A. Mayo and Associates, 3403 Perry Street
H&W Printing, 3616 Oak Lance

Books; Natural Healing; Coops
Dar Es Salaam, 4000 34th Street
WWCG Books, 3847 34th Street
Glut Food Coop, 4000 34th Street

Arts and Crafts; Antiques; Arts and Entertainment
Bazaar San Antonio, 4010 34th Street
G&A Discount, 3813 34th Street
Joe's Movement Emporium, 3802 34th Street
Latin American Folk Institute-LAFI, 3400-A 34th Street
Nisey's Boutique, I Got It At Nisey's, 4006 34th Street
Textures and Tones, 3705 Rhode Island Avenue
Odd and Even Thrift Shop, 3400 Rhode Island Avenue
Oldies Music, 3219 Rhode Island Avenue
Virgo Company Dollar Store, 3221 Rhode Island Avenue
World Arts Focus, 3810 34th Street
Community Vision, 3808 34th Street
Digital Nth, 3200 Rhode Island Avenue
El Palenque Disco Centro, 3414 Rhode Island Avenue
Mount Rainier Antique Shop, 3815 34th Street

General Contractors/ Building Services/ Real Estate
Built Up Roofing, 3711 Wells Avenue
Charles K. McConkey & Sons, 3314 Perry Street
Metro Metal Company, 3700 Otis Street
PDSystems, 3808 34th Street
Reynold's Real Estate School, 3239 Rhode Island Avenue

Health; Medical Services, Books
Dr. Sukumaran Arqangat, 3308 Perry Street
Dr. Raman Tuli, 3503 Perry Street, Suite B
Dr. Suresh Gupta, 3503 Perry Street

Other Products and Services
Bunker Hill Laundromat, 3846 34th Street
LaCasita Furniture and Bedding, 3235 Rhode Island Avenue
Queens T. Custom Cleaners, 3111 Chillum Road
Standard Pressing Company, 3299 Queens Chapel Road

Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Rate Tuesday, May 23, 2006 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, 2006, the estimated real property assessable base will increase by 8.8 %, from $237,315,491 to $258,239,213

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 8.8 % resulting in $165,297 of new real property tax revenues.

3. In order to fully offset the effect of increasing assessments, the real property tax rate should be reduced to $0.726, 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 8.8 % higher than the constant yield tax rate and will generate $165,297 in additional property tax revenues.

A public hearing on the proposed real Property tax rate increase will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 23, 2006 in the City Council Chambers – Upper Level at Mount Rainier City Hall, One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD

The hearing is open to the public, and public testimony is encouraged.

Persons with questions regarding this hearing may call 301-985-6585 for further information.

Fiscal Year 2007 Budget Calendar

DATE	EVENT
Tuesday, May 2, 2006	Work session on budget; decide proposed tax rate
Friday, May 5, 2006	*Port Towns Gazette* deadline for submission of May 11, 2006 display ad on constant yield tax rate, and variable tax rate; public hearing Tuesday, May 23, 2006.
Tuesday, May 23, 2006	Public hearing on Constant Yield Tax Rate, Variable Tax Rate, and on budget (revised summaries available). First reading of FY 2007 Budget Ordinance
Tuesday, June 6, 2006	Second reading and vote, FY 2007 Budget Ordinance

Mount Rainier Cable Television— Channel 71

PROGRAM SCHEDULE
- 4 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursday, and Fridays (repeat of videotaped meetings, events, etc.)
- 7 p.m., Tuesdays (1st and 3rd), 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 e-mail: *gcarbonell@mountrainiermd.org* or *gcarbonell@joinme.com.*

"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 Mount Rainier Cable TV Department for more information or call 301-985-6585 and leave a message.

Spotlight Yard Winners

The Beautification Committee is pleased to announce the winners for 2006 Spotlight Yard Contest Winners.

Week One Winners
Ward 1: 4213 34th Street
Ward 2: 4222 30th Street

Week Two Winners
Ward 1: 3502 Bunker Hill Road
Ward 2: 4407 30th Street

Community and Economic Development Workshop Series

Home Ownership and Home Improvement Concurrent Workshops

- City Hall, One Municipal Place, Mount Rainier, MD
- Tuesday, June 13, 2006 from 2:30– 6:30 p.m.

As part of an ongoing series of Community and Economic Development workshop, the City of Mount Rainier will host concurrent workshops on home ownership (first-time buyers, financing, re-financing, finding the right home, etc.) and home improvement (financing, selecting a contractor, city codes and permit process, how-to tips, etc.)

Representatives from the Prince George's County Housing and Community Department, Home Ownership Initiative, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, local real estate agents, building contractors, and mortgage consultants will be available to answer your questions and provide information on available services.

All Are Welcome To Attend. Refreshments will be available.

To RSVP for this event, please send an e-mail to Council Member, Alta Morton, at *altamm1@yahoo.com* or to Assistant City Manager, James Booth, at *JBooth@mountrainiermd.org* or call City Hall at 301-985-6585 to RSVP.

Public Hearing on 30th Street Park, Tuesday, May 23, 2006 at 8:00 p.m., City Hall, Mount Rainier

City will take public comment on restoring the basketball court at 30th Street and Arundel Road. Maryland–National Capital Park and planning Commission submitted a proposal to the Mayor and Council a few months ago for the 30th Street Park that included redesigning the park with more greenery, restoring asphalt paving, replacing the existing fence, adding more park benches, and creating additional seating areas. The new play equipment will be aimed at elementary school aged youth through early adolescence. Public Comment will be heard for this site as well. The current plans submitted by M–NCPPC.

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

Beautification Committee—3rd Mon., 7:00 p.m., City Hall

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

Friends of Library (mtrainierfol.org)—Mon., 7:30 p.m., Community Vision, 34th St.

Gateway Municipalities CDC—2nd Thurs., 7:00–9:00 p.m., 4102 Webster St.

MRBA—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.

May–June

calendar

May 1	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
May 3	Regular Trash Pick Up
May 5	Recyclables Pick Up
May 8	Yard Waste Pick Up
May 10	Regular Trash Pick Up
May 12	Recyclables Pick Up
	May 12, National Bicycle Greenway: Mayor's Ride. 9 a.m.
May 15	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301 985 6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
May 17	Regular Trash Pick Up
May 19	Recyclables Pick Up
May 22	Yard Waste Pick Up
May 23	Public Hearing on Constant Yield Tax Rate, Variable Tax Rate and on budget (revised summaries available). First Reading of FY 2007 Budget Ordinance
May 24	Regular Trash Pick Up
May 26	Recyclables Pick Up
May 29	Memorial Day Holiday (Public Works and City Hall Closed)
May 31	Regular Trash Pick Up

June 2	Recyclables Pick Up
June 5	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301-985-6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
June 7	Regular Trash Pick Up
June 9	Recyclables Pick Up
June 12	Yard Waste Pick Up
June 14	Regular Trash Pick Up
June 16	Recyclables Pick Up
June 19	Bulk Trash Pick Up (By appointment only, call 301-985-6558) Yard Waste Pick Up
June 21	Regular Trash Pick Up
June 23	Recyclables Pick Up
June 26	Yard Waste Pick Up
June 28	Regular Trash Pick Up
June 30	Recyclables Pick Up

As of March 2006, every Monday will be Yard Waste Pick Up, No appointments necessary. Please have all bulk trash out by 7:00 a.m. on bulk trash day and all appointments made before 12 noon on the Friday preceding pick up day.

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

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
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)

Postal Customer
Mount Rainier, MD 20712

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