



THE NAV-LIGHT



THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF RIO VISTA
ESTABLISHED AND INCORPORATED IN 1954

Volume 13 Issue 5

Feb. 2012



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"CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATION"



Rio Vista residents surpassed themselves preparing their homes and their properties for **Christmas, 2011**. Never before have the streets been so bright or so tastefully decorated. On the evening of December 22nd members of the **Rio Vista Board** criss-crossed our community in an attempt to decide on the winners of our **Holiday Light Extravaganza**. After some discussion and deliberation the participating members of the **Board** decided:

Jackson Street wins the prize for Most Illuminated Street. EVERY house had some sort of lighting display. **Congratulations.**

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"ONCE ON THIS ISLAND"

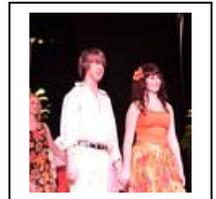
Another Hit!!



"ONCE ON THIS ISLAND" Ho Hum. Poor choice. Never heard of it. After three years in a row of real hits, it finally ends. Oh well, all of their stars graduated last year anyway. Maybe next year. These were my thoughts when I first learned about the St. Michaels High School annual presentation. Why not something more recognizable, something we could hum or whistle for a few days before we see it. Oh well, I'll go anyway. It is a night out and besides, I know lots of the kids.



I went. **It was spectacular!** There were few spoken lines, but the captivating story of a native Caribbean girl and a rich city boy whom she saves from death is cleverly done in song and dance. The leading roles were acted by junior, Melissa Einhorn and freshman, Stewart Mitchell. They were naturals and played their parts to perfection. The supporting cast was equally as good and many were underclass mates including seven members from the seventh grade. Costumes and sets reflected many hours of planning and many more hours of skilled labor. Music was



done by a live orchestra.

Three students who live in **Rio Vista** had important roles and contributed heavily to the overwhelming success of the production. **Bailey Swann**, junior, played **Asaka**, Mother of the Earth Goddess; **Krystle Ashman**,



junior, played **Agwe**, Goddess of Water and **Julie Swaine**, sophomore played **Mama Euralie**, TiMoune's Mother.

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From the President's Desk

A belated Happy New Year to all. Hopefully everyone survived the holidays and New Year's celebrations and is well into achieving our new years' resolutions. I hope everyone found the time to ride through the neighborhood to look at the really outstanding Christmas decorations. I think I have never seen so many homes brightly decorated during the holidays. I talked with several residents who thought Rio Vista was one of the best communities showing holiday spirit this year. Thanks to all who participated and especially to those who really went over the top with their decorating.

The community finished 2011 in excellent financial condition. Expenses for the year were under budget even though a lot of projects were undertaken and completed. Your Board of Directors worked hard during the year and I thank each of them for a job well done.

The new year will be a challenging one. There are a number of projects and tasks that need to be completed. The ongoing fight against erosion at the picnic area and the boat dock area continues. Plans have been approved to replace two of the old picnic tables and to complete erosion control and grass seeding projects at the picnic area. Replacement of the fence and gate is being considered. You will see that the County completed rip rap work along Landing Road to stabilize the shore line as well as the road bed.

There are a number of properties in the community with For Rent signs. The covenants (Deed Restrictions) contained in everyone's deed prohibits short term rentals. Long term (generally a year) rentals are allowed. Talbot County requires a landlord to obtain a permit for short term rentals. As of this writing, the County has one permit on record for 2012. The Board is in contact with that homeowner and is seeking a resolution.

The Extension of the Restrictions in the Deed and Agreement should be submitted for approval to Talbot County sometime in the next few months. We have exceeded the minimum number of homeowner approvals required, but would still like to encourage anyone who has not signed to do so. It only takes a few minutes, and we can come to your home at your convenience to get your signature. Call me at (410) 745-2461 or Jan Burke (410) 745-9768 to set up an appointment.

The Nav-Light is the primary method we use to let everyone know the news about Rio Vista. If you are receiving the Nav-Light by mail, please consider giving us your email address. It looks a lot better in color on the website. We keep email addresses confidential.

Best wishes for you and your families for the new year. Please let us know your concerns and suggestions for Rio Vista in the coming year.

Jack Davis



TREASURER'S REPORT

The Rio Vista Community Association finished 2011 in good financial condition.

All vendor invoices and billings have been paid and there are no outstanding liabilities at the end of the year. The cash position of the Association is healthy and the outlook for 2012 is also healthy. Most homeowners have paid the annual association fee of \$50.00 as of December 31.

The Board has approved a balanced budget for the new year that is in keeping with past years budgets and will accomplish the goals set forth by the Board for the coming year. Those goals include continuing erosion control, two new picnic tables, maintenance of the common areas (grass cutting; tree trimming) and other repairs and replacements.

ARCHITECTURAL'S REPORT



Are you planning to make changes or additions to your home? Click on the map icon found on the lower half of the Rio Vista Web Site home page: www.riovistacom.org for the form needed to present your ideas to the Rio Vista Board.



Click on the icon @ also found on the Rio Vista Web site (on the lower half of the home page) to send an e-mail to the Architectural Chairman



Thank you!

A special "Thank you" goes to all of our Rio Vista Residents that have e-mail addresses and have added them to the community list. This cuts the cost of printing and mailing the quarterly publication of the Nav-Light.



Forgot the Rio Vista Web Site Address?
www.riovistacom.org

DOCKMASTERS REPORT



Unbelievably, **boating season** is just around the corner. For those who are new to **Rio Vista**, the community has a dock which is reserved for the use of the residents of the community. The dock is located on **Spencer Creek**, off Cove Road. If anyone is interested in reserving a slip, contact me or download a slip agreement from the home page of the **Rio Vista web-site**, www.riovistacom.org, (in lower half of page) complete it and return it to me.

Last year there were approximately 15 slips rented for the season. In a few weeks we will be sending out rental agreements to those who had slips reserved last year. Please complete them in a timely manner and forward them to me along with the payment. This year the rate will remain the same as it was last year, **\$175 for the season**.

As soon as the weather warms a bit, I will conduct my **annual inspection** of the screw pile pilings. Last year approximately 5 required replacement. If any slip holders are aware of broken pilings, please let me know.

Hopefully the up-coming boating season will be **safe and enjoyable** for all of us. **Best wishes to all!!!**

Don Parks, Dockmaster
(410) 745-0468

For those wishing to reserve a boat slip but do not have access to the Rio Vista Web Site, please call:

Don Parks @ (410) 745-0468
Jan Burke @ (410) 745-9768

Happy Easter



Wishes from your Rio Vista Board

OLD PROBLEM REVISITED



This writer has been a part of this Community since the early 1980's and active on the Board since the late 1980's. The present Board, for the most part, deals with the same problems that have been dealt with in the past with different Boards; i.e. erosion, appearance, safety, untagged vehicles, unleashed pets etc., etc.. These are re-occurring and as the new residents move in, issues of human concerns and human frailties, most will re-occur again and again. Case in point; **short term rentals**. This was discussed at great length at a recent Board meeting. Looking back at old **Nav-Lights**, the following was published in the **February, 2001 issue**;

"The recent ruling by the Talbot County Office of Planning and Zoning concerning short-term rentals sparked a lengthy discussion followed by a discussion having to do with the authority of our Deed and Agreement. Let us assure you that **short-term rentals are not** permitted in Rio Vista; ref. Restriction #11: **"No hotel, boarding house, cabin camp, factory, or any other commercial enterprise of any kind shall be carried on in the development except for those lots comprising Sections U, M, V and W (along Rt. 33)**. Residents, when they settled for their property, agreed to abide by the conditions of the Deed and Agreement. Your Board of Governors, elected by the residents of the Community does not have the authority to overlook violations".

In 2007-2008 an ad hoc committee was formed whose charge was to research and up-date all prior records and put them in a single, well organized document. The final document was passed by the membership and distributed to each home-owner. It reads as follows:

Article XI, Restriction #1: No hotel, boarding house, cabin, camp, factory or any other commercial enterprise of any kind shall be carried on in this development except those lots specifically designated as commercial lots. And Article XI, Restriction #3: Rentals for terms of less than one year are not permitted.

Since the '80s there have several attempts to violate these restrictions, each attempt resolved amicably.



St. Michaels Running Festival

Saturday, May 19, 2012

St. Michaels Running Festival Promotes Exercise, Entertainment & Fun

The First Annual St. Michaels Running Festival, sponsored by the YMCA of the Chesapeake, in partnership with Eastern Shore Endurance Events, LLC, will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2012 in historic St. Michaels, MD. This event is a family oriented recreational and sporting event, based on promoting community health, physical fitness in the Bay Hundred area.

Festival participants will enjoy **St. Michaels Main Street charm** while experiencing its colonial past. Included in the Festival activities will be a **half marathon** on a soon-to-be certified USATF course, a **10K run** and a **5K run/walk**. The races and the walks are open to people of all fitness levels and abilities. A **day-long festival**, following the races and walks will feature a variety of vendors, including restaurants, businesses and nonprofit organizations, along with live music and presentations

The **Festival** will benefit the local businesses and nonprofit community. A portion of the proceeds from this community-wide event will benefit the **St. Michaels Family YMCA** for its new building fund and the **St. Michaels Community Center** for its summer youth programs, as well as **other area nonprofit organizations**. Administrative support is provided by **Running Maryland**. To register for the **Festival**, visit www.stmichaelsrunningfestival.com.



A Hearty Welcome to Our New Neighbors!



Rio Vista Residents

Gina & John Lomax	108 Bush Terrace
Amilar Eola, LLC	233 Madison Avenue
Maria Elena Itzep	208 Lincoln Avenue



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Dates to Remember

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| February 21 | Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper,
5 - 7 pm@Christ Church Parish
Hall (410-745- 9076) |
| March 11 | Daylight Saving |
| March 17 | St. Patrick's Day |
| March 20 | 1 st . Day of Spring |
| March 23 | Fabulous Fish Fry Fiesta to benefit
Orphanage in Honduras. Two
seatings: 5-6 pm and 6:30-
7:30 pm @Christ Church Parish
Hall (410-745- 9076) |
| April 8 | Easter Sunday |
| April 13 - 14 | Flower Show@Parking Lot of St.
Luke's Methodist Church |
| April 14 | Pit Beef served 10 am - 2 pm @
Parking Lot of St. Luke's
Methodist Church (410)745-2534 |
| April 20 | Rummage Sale (7 - 2) @ Christ
Church Parish Hall |
| April 21 | Rummage Sale (8 - 12) @ Christ
Church Parish Hall |
| April 27 - 28 | Art Show sponsored by the St.
Michaels Art League@St. Lukes'
Methodist Church (410)745-2534 |
| Every Wednesday | Senior Luncheon/Gathering 10:30 am
- 12:30 pm@ St. Michaels
Community Center (410)745-
6073 |
| May 19 | St. Michaels Running Festival ,
Union Methodist Church -(410) 745-2784 for schedule. |

"ONCE ON THIS ISLAND"

From
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Make note that along with **Melissa** and **Stewart**, these young entertainers will all be back next year and we again will benefit from their talents. A **special thanks** to our neighbors, **Bailey, Krystle and Julie** for sharing their talents with us and to all the cast and supporting staff for a **delightful production**.



"CHRISTMAS ILLUMINATION"

From
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The best Front, Back and Side Award goes to The Sickles Family at 210 Madison Avenue.

For **Most Traditional**, we had two winners:
1103 Riverview Terrace The Seymours
507 Tenant Circle The Caplans

Best Inflatables winners, once again, are the Prettymans at 1109 Jackson Avenue - an amazing collection.

The **Legacy Award** for those homes which are consistently in the top tier goes to three homes:

404 Lincoln Avenue	The Estrellas
409 Lincoln Avenue	The Finneyfrocks
1023 Riverview Terrace	The Burkes

For a lovely scene in the trees, we chose 220 Tyler Avenue as **Most Pictureque**. A new resident of Rio Vista, Donna Pierson, is responsible for this lovely display.

The **Best Overall** is a great display of lights and figures at the Ruzickas at 245 Madison Avenue.

Seven homes received **Honorable Mentions**:

1119 South Talbot Street	The Guschkes
1117 South Talbot Street	The Sadlers
527 Tenant Circle	The Butlers
1113 Jefferson Avenue	The Robinsons
1204 Jefferson Avenue	The Harrisons
1118 Jefferson Avenue	The Fontaines
307 Lincoln Avenue	The Piersons

Congratulations to all and **thank you** to everyone who made our neighborhood brighter and merrier this season.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!



Holiday Light Extravaganza



Presented by the residents in Rio Vista

THANK YOU



FOR YOUR GENEROSITY



Saturday, May 19th, there will be a St. Michaels Half Marathon. The route for the race will partially wind through Rio Vista. The organizers are looking for volunteers to man a water station (about 5 volunteers needed) and to act as race marshals (about 10 volunteers) to direct the runners and to help with traffic. You can find information about the event at www.stmichaelsrunningfestival.com.

If you can spare some time on May 19th, call Sandi Droege (410-745-6572) or Ann Davis (410-745-2461). The hope is this Will become an annual event that will showcase in St. Michaels. Please help if you can!



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Impressed with the new Rio Vista Signs located at each of the three entrances into our community? We have Kottwitz Graphics to thank for the great workmanship!

Kottwitz.graphics@comcast.net

All three signs are displayed on the Rio Vista Web Site In News & Report. www.riovistacom.org

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poorehouse1@verizon.net

"Thank you" to Larry Poore of the Poorehouse for his support of Rio Vista Community!

Today's Chuckle

Several days ago as I left a meeting at our church, I desperately gave myself a personal TSA pat down. I was looking for my keys. They were not in my pockets. A quick search in the meeting room revealed nothing.

Suddenly I realized, I must have left them in the car. Frantically I headed for the parking lot. My wife, Diane, has scolded me many times for leaving the keys in the ignition. My theory is the ignition is the best place not to lose them. Her theory is that the car will be stolen.

As I burst through the doors of the church, I came to a terrifying conclusion. Her theory was right. The parking lot was empty. I immediately called the police. I gave them my location, confessed that I had left my keys in the car, and that it had been stolen. Then I made the most difficult call of all, "Honey," I stammered. I always call her "honey" in times like these. "I left my keys in the car, and it has been stolen."

There was a period of silence. I thought the call had been dropped, but then I heard Diane's voice, "Ken," she barked, "I dropped you off!" Now it was my time to be silent. Embarrassed, I said, "Well, come and get me." Diane retorted, "I will, as soon as I convince this policeman I have not stolen our car!"



The Redhead Riter

Board of Governors

President	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Vice-President/Legal Liaison	Judy Sandground	(410) 745-5118
Secretary	Jan Burke	(410) 745-9768
Treasurer	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Erosion Control	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Architectural Review	Barry Burke	(410) 745-3885
Nav-Light	Ken Bridges	(410) 745-5980
Finance	Peter Paris	(443) 819-1346
Landscape	Hunter Plog	(410) 745-5492
E-mail	Rio Vista Association	riovistamd@riovistacom.org

Committees

Architectural E-mail	Barry Burke (architectural@riovistacom.org)	(410) 745-3885
	Doug Gibson	(410) 745-9487
	Patrick Kennedy	(410) 745-2800
Communications	Ken Bridges	(410) 745-5980
	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
Community Events	Ann Davis	(410) 745-2461
	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
Curb Appeal	Ken Bridges	(410) 745-5980
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-9768
Dock	Don Parks	(410) 745-0468
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-9768
	Ken Bridges	(410) 745-5980
Document Review	Judy Sandground	(410) 745-5118
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-9768
	Ken Bridges	(410) 745-5980
Erosion Control	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
	Bernie Grove	(410) 745-6154
	Roy Droege	(410) 745-6572
Finance	Peter Paris	(443) 819-1346
Landscape	Hunter Plog Jan Burke	(410) 745-5492 (410) 745-9768
Neighborhood Watch	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
Web Masters	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
	Sharon Miller	(410) 745-2140