

THE NAV-LIGHT



THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF RIO VISTA
ESTABLISHED AND INCORPORATED IN 1954



Volume 15 Issue 11

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Rio Vista's Yearly Potluck/Meeting

Mark your calendars!



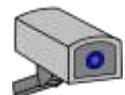
November 9, 2019

**Visit with your neighbors, meet the new residents
and make new friends!**

Bring your favorite dish to pass!



New Speed Cameras in St. Michaels



For the safety of children and residents, the Commissioners of St. Michaels have approved the use of speed cameras on Talbot Street adjacent to St. Michaels Elementary School. Cameras have been installed and the "School Zones" being enforced within St. Michaels will be designated by very visible signs

***By Authority of the Commissioners of St. Michaels
and the St. Michaels Police Department***

In an effort to enhance safety within St. Michaels School Zones, the Town of St. Michaels has approved the use of Automated Speed Enforcement Systems. In October 2009 the State of Maryland approved the use of these systems which are currently being utilized in many communities throughout Maryland. After a four year period the Montgomery County program has reported a 30% reduction in collisions and a 40% reduction in collisions causing injury or death near sites using speed cameras.

The speed enforcement cabinet will be equipped with a radar camera programmed to capture a series of photographs of vehicles exceeding the posted speed limit by more than 12 mph. These digital images will be used to identify the vehicle's registered owner and will appear on the citation along with a \$40 fine. Superimposed on each photograph is the date, time, location and speed of the vehicle when the violation occurred. This citation is not considered a "moving violation." It is a civil citation holding the registered owner or lessee responsible for the violation (similar to a parking ticket). No points will be assessed for this type of violation and it will not raise your insurance rates.

A common misconception is that speed cameras monitor all vehicles within the enforcement zone. In reality, the cameras only record vehicles exceeding the posted speed limit by more than 12 mph. Law abiding citizens are unaffected by this type of enforcement because it is only activated by vehicles passing the camera at an excessive rate of speed.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.....



Summer is in full bloom with plenty of warm weather and great opportunities to spend our time enjoying the great outdoors. There are a lot of walkers, runners and children about. Please be extra vigilant and obey the posted speed limit while driving around the community.

Hunter Plog, our **Dock Master**, is making great progress re-decking the community dock. Hunter is doing the difficult work himself. I know all of the slip holders as well as every Rio Vista resident appreciates all that he is doing. And, be assured the community dock and water access positively enhances the value of everyone's home. Thank you Hunter!

Due to very limited parking space, we are asking those who use the dock area to walk if possible and to remove boat trailers immediately following launching. For those who must drive, the vehicle front must be facing the Miles River in a manner that allows parallel parking for additional vehicles.

The mosquito spray by the Maryland Department of Agriculture began in June with applications made about every two weeks. Weather affects the ability to spray, especially wind and rain. We should get about a dozen applications during the summer, weather permitting.

We are continuing our plans to stabilize the creek side of the access road. It is more than an effort to obtain the proper permits to get the work done. The picnic grounds have been seriously impacted by unusual high tides, rising water levels and erosion. We will persevere.

The community board is continuing the effort to provide kayak storage at the community dock. The county has informed us we will need to have a survey completed and will have to apply for an exemption before a permit will be issued. A surveying firm should complete the survey sometime in June. In the meantime, **I need to reinforce the board decision that kayaks can no longer be launched from the picnic area.** Kayaks may only be launched at the dock area using the boat launch ramp. **Never launch from the shore or through existing grass areas.**

As most of you know, the annual meeting/potluck social scheduled for June was cancelled due to unpredictable weather concerns. The annual meeting will be rescheduled for a date in early November. Last year the November date seemed to be preferable to many members who attended.

If you have not shared your email address with us yet, please do so. We use your email to send the Nav-Light and to advise of any significant or emergency events within the community. We also use the email to alert every one of any security occurrences that you should be aware of. Your email is treated in confidence and is **not shared with anyone**. Sending the Nav-Light by email saves a lot of money spent on postage, and the Nav-Light looks so much better in color.

As a reminder, open fires, such as yard debris burning, are not permitted within Rio Vista at any time.



Jack Davis

DOCK MASTER REPORT



Just a couple of reminders to all RVC residents that the public spaces (picnic area, marina) are every ones responsibility. This means picking up after your pets and making sure that litter is picked up. I only mention this because a community member was dumping fileted fish down at the marina. I understand that he thought that he was feeding the wildlife. The issue is at low tide or when caught in the rip-rap it is a smelly mess. The smell or sight of rotting fish is not very inviting for other RVC members. We live in a beautiful community!

Also, during the summer season many folks come down to the dock area. We are trying to institute a better way to accommodate everyone. We are asking everyone to park with the front or rear of their vehicle facing the river against the rip-rap. We are also asking that you take your boat trailer home and return only with your car (if necessary).

Thanks,
Hunter Plog

ARCHITECTURAL REPORT



The Board of Governors for the Rio Vista Community Association (RVCA) encourages property owners in Rio Vista to improve their homes and their properties to maintain and improve the property values in the community. Therefore, a simple one-page form (called a CARF) is provided to obtain approval BEFORE county permitting is requested.

As always, we appreciate your support of this process, and should you have suggestions and feedback for improvement, please contact the Architectural Committee at: architectural@riovistacom.org

Additional forms may be found at <http://www.riovistacom.org/homeowner-support/architectural> A handy flow chart is available online that can help determine if you need to submit the Construction and Architectural Review Form (CARF) for RVCA approval.

For those of you thinking of a summer exterior renovation during the coming months – here are a few items to keep in mind when planning:

1. If you are planning to add a shed to your yard (and you are not on the water), a 25' setback from the front and rear are required by Talbot County, *unless the shed is 300 square feet or less.*

If the shed is less than 300 square feet, then a 12.5' setback from the rear property line is allowed;

2. If you plan on painting the exterior of your house OR putting on a new roof, a CARF application is required only if you are changing the color;
3. If you are updating your fence (e.g. from wood to vinyl) and it is not the same material or style, a CARF application is required. Also, all fencing should only be installed, after a permit is obtained from Talbot County AND a staked survey is completed;
4. And a friendly reminder that **you should get your home improvement project approved by submitting a CARF first**, then if applicable, you or your contractor should obtain a Talbot County Building Permit.

The Architectural Committee asks that **when planning an exterior improvement, that neighbors are briefed on the project so they can understand its scope as well as what to expect in terms of contractors coming and going.**

MOSQUITO SPRAY REPORT



We are now fully into summer which also means fully into mosquito and tick season. This year we are getting spraying for mosquitos and evidently some people are uncomfortable with it being done.

The spraying offers us significant benefits. Years ago we began to have more and more problems with Lyme Disease and at first they thought it was carried only by ticks. They were incorrect. I never had a tick bite but acquired Lyme Disease from a mosquito bite. It is a devastating disease that can attack anywhere in the body. My toes were attacked with terrible effect.

At the beginning the medical profession thought a simple dose of antibiotics would take care of the disease. The fact is that it may only drive the disease underground for a time. I finally found someone who would attack it strongly enough and eight years of suffering was finally brought to an end although the damage to my toes is permanent.

It is fortunate we can get the spraying and it has important preventive health benefits.

Roger B. Burt



KAYAK, PADDLE BOARD, WATERCRAFT LAUNCHING POLICY

The board has approved a policy governing the launching of kayaks, paddle boards and all watercraft within the community. Considerations to protect our eroding shoreline and State mandated protection of plant and water grasses will prevent the use of the picnic grounds to launch watercraft. **Kayaks and watercraft will only be allowed to launch at the community dock using the boat launch pad.** Causing damage to protected water grasses is a State offense and cannot be allowed to occur. Only Rio Vista residents in good standing are authorized to use the facilities at the community dock. **NO COMMERCIAL BUSINESS OF ANY KIND IS AUTHORIZED TO USE COMMUNITY FACILITIES.**

There is a plan to construct a stand at the community dock to allow residents to store a limited number of kayaks. At this time it appears the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) will not approve any alterations to the shoreline at the picnic grounds to allow launching of watercraft. Talbot County is unclear about the prospect of approving a kayak stand at the community dock. We will continue to pursue a solution that will be legal, approved and beneficial to all Rio Vista residents.



St. Michaels Chapel

This year we are celebrating the 50th Anniversary of our neighbor – the St. Michaels Catholic Chapel.

A Celebratory Mass will be held this fall on October 6th.



Friday, October 18 - 20

Thank You!



"Thank you" to Andrew Henckel for his newly acquired volunteer job towards the beautification of the Rio Vista Community!

Meet & Greet for
RV Board, Block Captains and New Residents



..... including Olive





Talbot County Council News

The problems caused when storm water runoff gets into Rio Vista’s sewer system drainage pipes was discussed by County Engineer Ray Clarke at the Talbot County Council meeting on July 9.

Our storm water runoff flows into roadside ditches and ultimately into Spencer Creek or the Miles River. Our household wastewater (from laundry, bathing, etc.) flows into the underground sewer system pipes.

You probably remember that last summer the Video Pipe company conducted inspections of the sewer system, using cameras to look for cracks or other vulnerabilities in the drainage pipes. Some of the manhole covers that provide access to the pipes are located in Rio Vista ditches, and the inspectors discovered that some of these covers have leaks that allow storm water to flow into the drainage pipes. When this happens, storm water can exceed the pipes’ capacity and silt and debris can form clogs, resulting in possible flooding, costly repairs and water service disruption. The County Engineer’s office is working on raising and/or sealing our manhole covers where necessary to prevent this from happening.

The County Engineer also identified a county-wide problem with “illicit connections” to the sewer system pipes. An illicit connection occurs, for example, when a property owner connects a crawl space sump pump to the sewer system pipes. The County Manager will prepare an ordinance to address the problem of illicit connections.

The County Council meets every other Tuesday evening at the courthouse in Easton, and the meetings are open to the public. For more information about what your County Council is doing, visit http://www.talbotcountymd.gov/index.php?page=County_Council.



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



Deborah and Jim Schule

We are from Arlington, VA where we’ve been living for nearly 40 yrs. We have 3 grown daughters and a brand new granddaughter! All live and work in the Washington, DC area. Jim is retired from the TV News business and Deborah has a small advertising and marketing firm. The plan is for Deborah and Jim, and their pup, Olive, to move full time to St. Michael’s this month.

We have been visiting friends in the area for years, so we were familiar with St. Michaels. When we sold our family home on the Eastern End of Long Island, we were looking to find a similar water-community, that was in closer proximity to the DC area, our children and my work. We were not familiar with Rio Vista, but after searching homes from Tilghman to Royal Oak, being in the St. Michael’s area, and in view of the Miles River, we were sold – Rio Vista checked all the boxes. We look forward to joining the community and meeting our neighbors.



Annual Watermen’s Appreciation Day

On Sunday, August 11, 2019, 10 AM – 5 PM. The 10th annual Watermen’s Appreciation Day comes to the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels, Md., featuring a spirited boat docking contest, steamed crabs and other regional food, live music, beer, boat rides, family activities, and more.



New Volunteers for the Rio Vista Community!

- Laura Anderson – Block Captain
- Lisa Felts – Block Captain
- Jean & Bruce Grissom - Block Captains
- Ann Rondabush – Block Captain
- Renee Thompson – Nav-Light
- Linda Frank – Nav-Light

Assigned streets for Block Captains may be found on riovistacom.org. Resident Info..Neighborhood Watch.

Interested in joining the Rio Vista Volunteer Team? Call Sandi @ 410-745-6572.

We Love Our Dogs – On and Off Their Leashes



by Judy Sandground

It's the scenario you fear the most: you're on a walk with your pooch when an off-leash and seemingly aggressive dog approaches. An encounter with an off-leash dog can come about in a variety of ways: a dog dashes out an open front door or escapes from an otherwise-secure yard, for example.

But trouble can also start when an off-leash dog darts away from a pet parent to greet another dog. The off-leash dog may not always act as friendly as his owner expects and if an altercation starts, the owner is frequently too far away from her fast moving canine to intervene.

And it might not be the off-leash dog who is the aggressor in this situation. The on-leash dog may react defensively or aggressively even if the off-leash dog is friendly. Here's why: leashes interfere with dogs' normal social interaction.

Picture in your mind when **two dogs meeting and greeting, off-leash**. They engage in a social dance – advancing, retreating, moving around each other, sniffing various body parts, giving body language signals intended to keep the interaction civil. Sometimes the movements are slow; sometimes they are quick. If one dog is cautious or fearful of the other, he can retreat as he wishes, using social distance to keep himself safe.

Now picture those **same two dogs meeting on-leash**. The dance is stilted, inhibited by the restraint of the leash. One dog tries to circle the other, and the leash tangles around his legs or the owner's legs – not a good situation! The cautious dog would like to retreat to safety, but knows the leash restricts his movement, and elects to act out his second option to increase distance – a growl and a snap to signal to the other dog to move away – who cannot, because he is leashed. Finally, picture those **two dogs meeting when one is on-leash and the other is not**. This situation becomes even more uncomfortable and potentially dangerous because the leashed dog feels more vulnerable as the unleashed dog has freedom of movement.

Leash laws are in place to protect dogs and people. In Talbot County, an animal must be on the owner's property or under the immediate physical control of a responsible person capable of physically restraining it.

Off-leash freedom should be exercised only with reliable dogs in designated and confined areas. If you allow your dog to be off-leash in your yard, you must have a physical fence or an electric dog fence to restrain him and to ensure that he does not leave your property endangering other dogs or people.

Let's keep our children, our dogs and their handlers safe by always being in control of our dogs.



Since opening last month, our membership staff has been busy helping to connect and welcome the community to our YMCA. We've introduced 176 new members to our Y family and have welcomed back many Y members that traveled to Easton for their health and wellness needs. We are listening to our membership and the greater community to identify areas for new programs and expanded services, while maintaining our existing outreach work.

Perkins Family YMCA and Bay Hundred Senior Center 410 745 5963

300 Seymour Ave, (Behind the St. Michaels' Schools)
St. Michaels
21663 MD

Hours:

Mon - Thu: 5am-9pm
Fri: 5am-8pm
Sat: 7am-6pm
Sun: 11am-6pm

Bay Hundred Pool Hours of Operation:

Monday – Sunday: 12 – 6 pm
Lap Swim: T/H 11 am – 12 pm
Water Aerobics: M/W/F 11 am – 12 pm

LUNCH SERVICE

Monday, Tuesday, Friday @ 12 pm

The Bay Hundred Senior Center serves congregational meals during lunchtime at in a group setting. Enjoying lunch with the Senior Center is an opportunity to meet new or old friends and engage in social activities before or after a nutritious meal. The meals are healthy and are designed to meet the nutritional needs of adults 60 or over. Interested?
Call 410-745-5963



Active Listings:

1113 Jefferson Avenue \$ 230,000
403 Lincoln Avenue 349,000

Pending Sales:

206 Lincoln \$ 249,999
1014 Riverview 584,500

Foreclosure Sale:

1006 Riverview Terrace (scheduled for 7/22)

Sales:

210 Cleveland \$ 190,000
527 Tennant 305,000
1026 Riverview 330,000
1023 Monroe 490,000
601 Cove Rd. 1,080,000

Provided by: **Our Resident Realtors**

Laura Anderson Coldwell Banker
Gloria Bee Costa Keller Williams Select Realtors
Chris Young Benson & Mangold

DATES TO REMEMBER

Christ Church
Rev. Steven E. Mosher
(410) 745 - 9076
info@christsmichaels.org

Weekly Events:

Wednesdays, 10:30 AM

Book Discussion Group

Wednesdays, 12 PM

Mid-Week Eucharistic & Healing Service

Thursdays, 8 AM

Sunday Readings Bible Discussion Group
@ Blue Heron Café (West Chestnut St.)

Thursdays, 8 PM

AA Meetings

Monthly Events:

Caregivers Meeting

1st Monday, 9:30 AM

St. Michaels Art League Meeting

3rd Monday, 9:30 AM

Christmas in St. Michaels Meeting

3rd Monday, 5 PM

Life After Loss

2nd Tuesday, 3 PM

Men's Cancer Support Group

4th Thursday, 11 AM

Deadline for Newsletter

10th of each month.

Kirkin O'the Tartans

Sunday, September 29th, 10:15 AM

Rummage Sale

September/October....TBD

Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 6th, 4 PM

Union United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. William Wallace

(410) 745-6572

<http://unionstmichaels.jigsy.com>

Sundays:

10:00 AM Worship Service

St. Michaels Mission Church

Rev. James Nash, Pastor

Rev. Michael Angeloni

(410) 822 - 2344

<http://www.sppdev.com/index.html>

Wednesdays

12:00 PM Weekly Mass

Saturdays

5:30 PM Evening Vigil Mass

Sundays

10:30 AM Mass



Did you know that Saint Vincent de Paul has a Thrift Center? We are open Tuesdays from 1 - 4 pm and Saturdays from 9 am to noon @ 29533 Canvasback Drive, Easton, MD (behind WalMart).

Come and see what's new! (SVdP) We sell clean, unused & gently used men's women's and children's clothing, housewares and Furniture. Find amazing deals in the center and also in The Boutique area, where we offer great bargains in women's designer clothing and accessories. **Items change frequently!** Proceeds benefit the needy in **all** of Talbot County areas.

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

Pastor Brett Sherwood

(410) 745 - 2534

<http://www.stlukes-umc.org/>

8:30 AM

Casual Service in Fellowship Hall, adjacent to the Church.

10:00 AM

Traditional Service in Church Sanctuary, 2nd Floor of main building.

11:00 AM

Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall.



ST. LUKE'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

WELCOMES their new Pastor!

PASTOR BRETT SHERWOOD



Trish Payne

103 Railroad Avenue

(410) 745-6073

www.stmichaelscc.org

The St. Michaels Community Center

proudly hosts the



2019

Concerts in the Park

August 8

Drifter's Union

classic rock

August 15

Anthony "Turk" Cannon

motown and R&B

August 22

New & Used Bluegrass

bluegrass like it oughta be

August 29

Oak Creek Jazz

locally flavored jazz

FREE Concerts - Thursday Evenings - 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Muskrat Park - Willow Street - St. Michaels MD

SHOP LOCAL!

For more information, please call 410-745-6073

Board of Governors

President	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Vice-President/Legal Liaison	Judy Sandground	(410) 745-5118
Secretary	Jan Burke	(410) 745-8736
Treasurer	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Erosion Control	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Architectural Review	Barry Burke	(410) 745-3885
Communications	Roger Burt	(410) 745-6950
Finance	Sharri Foy	(410) 745-8622
Dock Master	Hunter Plog	(443) 786-2057
E-mail	Rio Vista Association	riovistamd@riovistacom.org

Committees

Architectural E-mail	Barry Burke (architectural@riovistacom.org)	(410) 745-3885
Nav-Light	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
	Renee Thompson	(410) 745-6688
Community Events	Ann Davis	(410) 745-2461
	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
Dock Master	Hunter Plog	(443) 786-2051
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-8736
Document Review	Judy Sandground	(410) 745-5118
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-8736
Erosion Control	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
	Bernie Grove	(410) 745-6154
	Roy Droege	(410) 745-6572
Finance	Sharri Foy	(401) 745-8622
Landscape	Hunter Plog	(443) 786-2051
Neighborhood Watch	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
	Hunter Plog	(443) 786-2051
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-8736
Web Masters	Lauri Swaine	(410) 745-6102
	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572