

THE NAV-LIGHT

THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF RIO VISTA
ESTABLISHED AND INCORPORATED IN 1954



Volume 15 Issue

May 8, 2021

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St. Michaels votes to keep outdoor mask mandate in place.

The commissioners of St. Michaels voted unanimously April 29 to keep an outdoor mask mandate in place, despite Gov. Larry Hogan's lifting of the statewide pandemic restrictions a day earlier.

The Town's outdoor mask mandate, which is required within six feet of another person, would apply for the next 30 days unless the commissioners decide to revise it. The town will vote again in a month to keep the mandate in place or lift it.

Commissioner Tad DuPont said St. Michaels attract a large number of tourists, so keeping the mask mandate in place was necessary.

*Brad Dress, "St. Michaels votes to keep outdoor mask mandate in place" Sunday Star (May 2, 2021) A1

Rio Vista's Paper Roads

by

Judy Sandground and Monica Otte

On the original 1954 Rio Vista plat, you will find some street names that you won't see today as you drive or walk through the neighborhood. These "paper streets" were recorded on the plat but never became functional roads. Today they exist as swaths of grass, trees and sometimes wet areas running through Rio Vista. As a reminder, **all Rio Vista property owners have the right to maintain and use the paper streets.** An abutting property owner (one whose lot is next to a paper street) may not block or obstruct the paper street, or prevent others from using or maintaining it.

1. Adams Street (this portion is commercial and runs along Route 33 in the area between Lincoln and Madison); there is an open grassy area and then an area with many trees.
2. Adams Street (the portion that runs between Madison and Bush Terrace; this area is overgrown with bushes and trees.
3. Monroe Street (the extension of the paved Monroe Street between Lincoln and Cleveland); this is a wide grassy area.
4. Van Buren Street (runs between Lincoln and Cleveland and is located after Jackson but before Harrison as you drive up Lincoln from Route 33); this is a wide grassy area with some bushes.
5. Calvert Avenue (runs behind houses on Monroe, Lincoln and Riverview Terrace and was intended to connect with the paved Calvert Avenue in Bentley Hay); this is overgrown with bushes, trees and is wet most of the time.

For more information about Rio Vista's paper streets, see the article in the August 2017 Nav-Light at <https://riovistacom.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/navlight-2017-08.pdf>

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.....



Hi All!

Spring has sprung and life has moved outside after a seemingly too long and too cold winter. I am happy to hear lawn mowers and smell freshly mowed lawns. Sail and power boats are again present on the Miles. Riding around the community reveals a lot of activity taking place with members doing spring cleaning, and lots of renovations and improvements being made. And, many of our summer neighbors are again spending time with us.

Everyone should take the opportunity to drive or walk around the neighborhood. You will notice the many immaculate properties and the changes that took place during the off season. A number of homeowners took advantage of being home bound to invest time to get those honey-do lists taken care of.

I happily received a report that litter and pet droppings have diminished noticeably. Our plea for pet owners to take care of their pet's droppings seems to have been taken to heart. Many of our residents regularly pick up litter at the community picnic grounds and have addressed community issues voluntarily. Thank you all!

Community projects have been difficult to get underway due to the limitations made necessary by the pandemic. But, in partnership with Talbot County Roads we did complete a drainage project at the end of Cove Road and we were able to beef up the rip rap along the access road to the community dock. We are hoping Talbot County will partner with us to address the serious flooding following heavy rainfall. The roads department did complete a major upgrade to the drainage ditches along Madison Avenue.

Many of our friends and neighbors are having a tough time. Check on them from time to time and give comfort, and assistance, if you can.

There are a number of projects we hope to complete during 2021. Erosion prevention and repairs to the roadway and parking area at the community dock are among the most important. We plan to continue the mosquito spray program during the summer months.

The board has not been able to meet in person for some time. God bless email as it lets us continue to remain in contact and make plans. Hopefully we will be able to have a regular annual meeting in November. The annual report for 2020 was included in the Nav-Light. In accordance with provisions in the by-laws, board members whose terms expired in 2020 have been asked to continue serving until there is a proper meeting held.

We are in the process of reviewing/updating the Nav-Light email list. If you are not receiving the Nav-Light by email, please send us your contact information. 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

TALBOT COUNTY COUNCIL



Talbot County is the first county in Maryland to reach the milestone of having 50% of its residents receive at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. All Marylanders age 16 and up are now eligible for the vaccine. To find out how to get vaccinated, go to the Talbot County COVID website at <https://talbotcovid19.org/> or call the Talbot COVID hotline at 410-819-5641.

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 our updated website <https://riovistacom.org/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 about an upcoming spring exterior renovation – here are a few of 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. 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.

A friendly reminder that you are required to 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.

Contact architectural@riovistacom.org to get assistance in submitting the information necessary for approval – we are here to help!

The following CARF requests for Architectural approval have been applied for and action taken recently:

2021

515 Tenant Cir	Outdoor fireplace/Patio – approved
229 Madison Ave	Shed - approved

2020

1023 Monroe Ave	Fence Extension	- approved
1014 Riverview Ter	Shed	- approved
1014 Riverview Ter	Shed Modification	- approved
1114 Riverview Ter	Roof Replacement	- approved
230 Madison Ave	Pergola	- approved
506 Tenant Cir	Fence replacement	- approved
1026 Riverview Ter	Fence	- approved
1205 Jefferson Ave	Solar Panels (on roof)	approved
1107 Jefferson Ave	Greenhouse	- approved
231 Madison Ave	Paint exterior brick	- approved
1113 Jefferson Ave	Paint front door	- approved
1014 Riverview Ter	Deck and fencing	- approved
1114 Riverview Ter	Porch and deck	- approved
1213-14 Wash. Dr	Shed	- approved

Architectural Report

Continued on Page 4

DOCK MASTER'S HELM



I am pleased to announce we have rented out all of the marina slips this year! I think we are all tired of COVID-19 and really want to enjoy this summer to the fullest. In addition to our HOA fees the marina provides a great revenue source to aid in project funding.

Like every beginning to the boating season, I look forward to spending time fishing or crabbing. I hope to see everyone down at the marina enjoying themselves this year.

I would like to remind all RVC residents that if you come down to the marina, please park with your vehicle facing the Miles River. This will allow the most vehicles to park. Please no trailer parking down at the marina

Thanks everyone for your cooperation.

Hunter



**The Eastern Shore's small-town,
producer-only market.
April 10th – November 20th**

The St. Michaels Farmers Market (SMFM) is an independent, non-profit, producer-only farmers market in the tidewater town of St. Michaels on Maryland's Eastern Shore.

On Saturday mornings from April through November, we seek to support local farmers, foster community, and provide access to fresh food in Talbot County.

Grab your tote bags. Bring your friends and family. We can't wait to see you.

The Little Free Library
by
Lori Ramsey



If you've driven around Rio Vista lately, you might have noticed a new addition to Tenant Circle. A few months ago, a Little Free Library was installed, as a way for neighbors to share books with each other. The first Little Free Library book-sharing box was built in 2009 in Wisconsin. Today, there are 100,000 registered Little Free Libraries in all 50 states and 108 countries, from Argentina to Zambia.

Neighbors are asked to take a book or leave a book that they would like to share. After a book stays in the library a bit, the stewards of this library (Kristen Greenaway & Lori Ramsey), usually removes them to leave room for new donations. Little Free Libraries are a great way to increase community and perhaps spur some discussion.

To find out more about how you can create your own Little Free Library, please click this link:
<https://littlefreelibrary.org/>

Enjoy your summer!



410-745-3200

"Thank you" Larry Poore of the Poore House for your support of the Rio Vista Community!

RVH's
(Rio Vista Helpers)

Introducing to you is just one of our many RVH's, Elaine Lanzon, who you may see working to give Rio Vista a "cared-for" look. Residents are seen picking up trash and/or poop, carrying for the paper roads behind their homes, and making their yards look as though they have come out of Home Beautiful. Thank you, Rio Vista Residents.



Architectural Report

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2019

1020 Riverview Ter	Front Door Replacement - approved
1103 Harrison Ave	Fence - approved as submitted
1112 Jefferson Ave	Fence - approved as submitted
1026 Riverview Ter	Addition - approved as submitted
1106 Riverview Ter	Deck - approved as submitted
1101 Riverview Ter	Porch - approved as submitted
601 Cove Rd	Attached Garage-approved as submitted

Please note: If your improvements are not listed above, please contact Barry Burke at architectural@riovistacom.org



**Talbot County Students Wanted
New Design for Talbot Co Goes Purple**

Winning design for stickers (Middle Schoolers), T-shirts (High Schoolers). Top two designs will go to a vote and winners receives \$300. For measurements write to talbot-goespurple@gmail.com

Deadline: August 28,

Tree Ducks and Osprey Geese?

by
Scotty Bruce



What?! Yes, you heard right. Tree ducks. It's a thing! Osprey geese too, but we'll get to that later. Firstly, let's tackle those ducks in your tree. A couple seasons ago I discovered two mallards hopping around the large branches of my oak tree near the water. It was early spring, and they were nibbling on early tendrils of greenery, so I just thought they were foodies. After the full leaves began to fill in, the mallards continued to frequent the oak tree. They were always looking around. It was like they were looking for a place to nest. Well, they were! It turns out that it is not unusual for mallards to find suitable nooks in large trees for nest-building. My mallard pair decided on a shady spot under the tree, but neighbors have hosted a mallard pair in one of their waterfront trees for years. Trees provide safety from ground-based predators like foxes, but with that elevation comes some risk. The nest is open to attack from crows and other birds of prey, and often eggs are stolen from the nest. Also, it's a long way down for baby ducklings to fall to the ground. Ducklings usually survive the fall but not always. Those that survive their involuntary flight soon discover that the nomadic, floating life of a duckling on the Miles River has an entirely different set of risks!

Duckling attrition in the first weeks ranges dramatically from 30-90% and depends on factors such as predation (from fish, amphibians, mammals and birds), weather (hot and cold extremes), food availability, and the parenting skills of their mother. It is common here in Rio Vista to see broods of 10-12 ducklings dwindle to 5 or 6 in the short 60 days it takes them to grow to the size of their mother and take flight. Keep an eye out for nest-building mallards. If they choose a spot in your yard, just let them be. The hen may fly away as you go about your routine, but don't worry, her maternal instinct is strong, and she'll return to her eggs eventually. Remember, each time she departs the nest, her eggs are vulnerable. So, it's best to give her a wide berth whenever possible, and before long you'll find trains of ducklings floating the cove and Spencer Creek!



So, two Canada geese and two adult ospreys go into the boxing ring to fight for the right to use a move-in-ready nest - who wins? The talon-wielding ospreys of course, right?! Or no? I lost money on this one, so be careful. In fact, the geese often win these turf battles, and that's what's happening right now on the osprey platform near the community picnic area at Landing Road. This spring eggs were in the nest. The ospreys swooped down aggressively, and the geese flew away. But as soon as the ospreys left, the geese returned. Well, it turns out that the ospreys never physically attack geese for fear of injury themselves. Geese are large and mean. So yes, the geese often win these "battles" of the will! Mother Goose is sitting on the platform right now as I type. The osprey pair can be seen frequenting the neighborhood, but I've yet to see if they've found another nesting place. There are a number of unused platforms around the creek, so hopefully they'll nest before it's too late. Or maybe they'll return next year more determined to reclaim their nest. Stay tuned.

UPDATE: The intruders are now proud parents of 2 or goslings.



A MESSAGE FROM THE YMCA

by
Tracy Eutsler, Executive Director

The St. Michaels Running Festival will be held this year on Saturday, August 21st. The events will be a 5K, 10K (returning to the race line up) and the half marathon. I am actually the volunteer coordinator here locally for this event and I am looking for volunteers to help with parking, water stations and course marshals. If you could also include something on this. here is the website link: <https://www.runstm.com/> or, interested volunteers can email me directly at tracyeutsler@gmail.com

Employment Opportunities

Perkins Family YMCA

Would you like to work for the YMCA? We sure would love to have you on our team! We are currently looking for friendly, outgoing, service-focused individuals to work in the following areas:

- Member Service Representative – early morning and weekend shifts
- Summer Camp Staff – staff will work with our Summer Learning Academy Camp for 5 weeks in July

A MESSAGE FROM THE YMCA

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A MESSAGE FROM THE YMCA

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For more information or to apply, please visit our [website](#). For any other questions that cannot be answered by browsing the employment page on our website, please contact [Tracy Eutsler](#).

Exercise at Home

When you can't make it in to the Y for exercise, let the Y staff help you at home! We are continuing our virtual and live streaming weekly workouts both on Facebook and Zoom.

Please see the schedule below. If you are interested in participating in the classes offered on Zoom, please contact Tracy Eutsler to obtain the necessary link.

Facebook Live Streaming – YMCA of the Chesapeake
Facebook page:

- Mondays: Cardio Kickboxing with Tracy @ 8am
- Tuesdays: Senior Strength with Barb@ 9am
- Wednesdays: Interval Training with Amy@ 9:30am
- Fridays: Interval Training with Tracy @ 8am

Previous classes are available in the newsfeed or in the videos tab on our page. For assistance, please contact Tracy Eutsler.

Zoom Classes – requires class link:

- M/W/F: Strong & Steady level 1 with Janet @ 10:45am
- M/W/F: Strong & Steady level 2 with Janet at 11:40am

Tracy Eutsler
Executive Director

PERKINS FAMILY YMCA
 A BRANCH OF THE YMCA OF THE CHESAPEAKE
 300 Seymour Avenue, St Michaels MD 21663
 (P) 410 745 5963
 (F) 410 745 5978
 (E) teutsler@ymcachesapeake.org
www.ymcachesapeake.org



Hunter Plog for the work you have done in keeping the Rio Vista pier in good condition. Also, thank you, Rio Vista Board, Committees, Block Captains and all of our residents for doing more than your share in helping Rio Vista retain its special quality. Neighbors have been particularly watchful these past months watching and reporting lost pets, jewelry items, or anything out of the ordinary. These are time consuming activities and are greatly appreciated.

Thank you!



Hello friends and neighbors. We are relatively new residents in Rio Vista, having moved onto Riverview Terrance October, 2019. We are Elaine Lanzon, Maura Majeski and Daisy.

While we last lived in West Hartford, CT for the last 25 years, Elaine is originally from Long Island, NY and Maura from the outskirts of Boston, MA. The Mid-Atlantic region is largely uncharted territory for us, so finding St. Michaels – and deciding to move here – was totally unexpected. We were looking for a couple of additional warmer months, a less stressful pace and proximity to water and we found all three here.

Of course, no one anticipated the COVID-19 epidemic to hit a few months after arriving in our new home. While physically unaffected by the virus it isolated us from friends and family that had planned to visit. However, several things conspired to shepherd us through those difficult times. Our dog, Daisy, got us walking outside and meeting our neighbors with and without their own pooch to exercise. The YMCA gave us the means to keep active and introduced us to the wonderful world of pickleball. Volunteering at the St. Michaels Farmers Market and the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum gave us safe outdoor gatherings to be social and interact with both residents and visitors.

As restrictions are lifting, we are looking forward to experiencing the St. Michaels you all know and love – with festivals, boat races, art & musical events. But you kept us sane in the meantime!



We have many new Rio Vista Residents moving into our community and would love to hear about them and how it came about that they moved here.

When you meet our new residents ask if they will write and tell us about their family, interests and a picture so we can add it to the Quarterly Newsletter Nav-Light.

Send it to: sdroege7@msn.com

DATES/EVENTS TO REMEMBER

Christ Church
REV. Steve Mosher
(410) 745 - 9076
info@christsmichaels.org

May 9, 16, 23
8 AM - Inside
9:30 AM - Outdoors on the lawn*

Memorial Day Weekend - Labor Day Weekend
Single Service at 9:30 AM (note new time)
Services will be indoors *with the exception of the following*
May 30, July 4, August 1, September 5

If you would like to be included in Christ Church's weekly eblast which includes information of upcoming events, please call the office at 410-745-9076 or email carol@christsmichaels.org. Or check out our Facebook page! We post our weekly eblast on there too - Christ Church + St. Michaels.



St. Michaels Community Center
103 Railroad Avenue St. Michaels, MD 21663
(410) 745-6073
trish@stmichaelscc.org
<http://www.stmichaelscc.org>

The St Michaels Community Center has been helping our neighbors during the Covid 19 Pandemic. SMCC has provided over 20,000 take-out meals and deliveries, and has provided nearly 17,000 bags of groceries since last April. Our doors are open to all on Mondays from 3:00-5:00, Wednesdays from 3:00-5:00, and on Fridays from 11:00-3:00.

Good News! SMCC Summer Concerts in the Park are back every Thursday from 6:00-7:30 at Muskrat Park beginning June 17th! Listen to Southbound, Three Penny Opera, Bay Jazz Project, Saved by Zero, Blues Deville, Chris Noyes, and many others!

Coming Soon! SMCC Artisan Showcase on Saturdays, beginning in mid-May. Please call Trish at 410-829-3883 to reserve a table for \$25. Or come and browse among the talented local artisans of jewelry, soaps, candles, lotions and health products and more.

Kids Summer Fun! Beginning in July!
Check www.stmichaelscc.org for details!

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Pastor Brett Sherwood
(410) 745 - 2534
<http://www.stlukes-umc.org/>

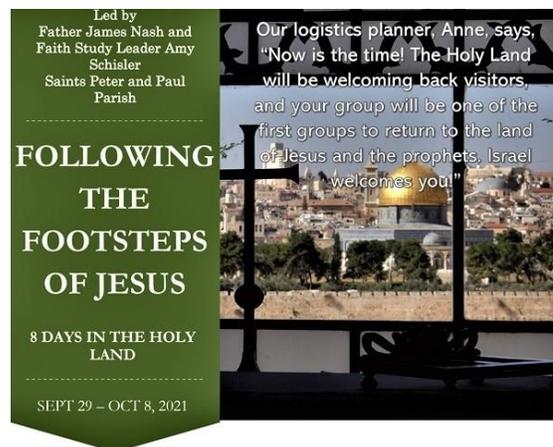
St. Luke's United Methodist Church of St. Michaels returned to their original 2 services which started on Sunday, April 18, 2021.

8:30 casual service in Fellowship Hall and

10:am traditional service in the sanctuary. Covid precautions will be followed at both services.

This format will continue through the month of August. |

St. Michaels Mission Catholic Church
Rev. James Nash, Pastor
Rev. Michael A. Angeloni, Associate Pastor
(410) 822-2344
<https://www.ssppeaston.org>



Saints Peter and Paul parish is planning a trip to the Holy Land for this fall. This will be the perfect opportunity to visit ahead of the crowds, and the people of the Holy Land need us! Tourism is crucial, especially for the Christians in the area. Our pilgrimage will begin on Wednesday, September 29 and end on Friday, October 8, 2021. For more information, see our parish website, or contact Amy Schisler at 410-725-1693 or amyschisler@me.com. Join us as we Follow in the Footsteps of Jesus.

Union United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. William Wallace
(410) 745-2784
uumc@atlanticbb.net
<http://www.unionstmichaels.jigsy.com>

Board of Governors

President	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Vice-President/Legal Liaison	Judy Sandground	(703) 408-1890
Secretary	Jan Burke	(410) 745-8736
Treasurer	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Erosion Control	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Communication	Monica Otte	(410) 745-8397
Architectural Review	Barry Burke	(301) 253-5113
Finance	Sharri Foy	(410) 745-8622
Dock Master	Hunter Plog	(443) 786-2051
E-mail	Rio Vista Association	riovistamd@riovistacom.org

Committees

Architectural E-mail	Barry Burke (architectural@riovistacom.org)	(301) 253-5113
	Ralph Bowers	
	Harold Klinger	
	Lori Ramsey	
	Donna Reichert	
	Steve Shimko	
	Jim Swigert	
Nav-Light	Sandi Droege Lori Ramsey	(410) 745-6572 (919) 428-0973
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	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
Dock	Hunter Plog	(433) 786-2051
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-8736
Document Review	Judy Sandground	(703) 408-1890
	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	(410) 745-8622
Landscape	Hunter Plog	(443) 786-2051
Neighborhood Watch	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
	Hunter Plog	(443) 786-2071
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-8736
Web Masters	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572