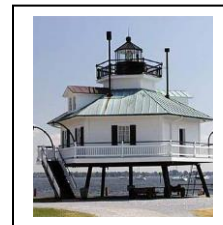




THE NAV-LIGHT



THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF RIO VISTA

ESTABLISHED AND INCORPORATED IN 1954

Volume 16 Issue 1

February 8, 2022



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Thanks, Jack Davis, as Past President, you’ve led this Community for nearly a decade and things couldn’t be better. Our Community looks good and “feels good.” We hear that a lot from the new residents and our neighbors. With an effective and hard working Board, you and the others have kept our dues low and the accomplishments many. We’re very fortunate that you will be staying on as our Treasurer! Many thanks from all of us for a job well done as President!



Talbot County Council Report
By
Monica Otte

The County Council is currently conducting its bi-weekly public meetings in a virtual mode. All meetings are streamed live for public viewing. If you can’t watch the meeting in real time, an online recording is posted after the meeting.

Upcoming Council public meeting dates are February 8 and 22, March 8 and 22 and April 12 and 26. The meetings begin at 6 PM. To see the agenda and learn how to view the meetings, click on the photo of the County Council members at www.talbotcountymd.gov. You can also find out how to participate in the public comment section of the meetings.

Dr. Maguire, the Talbot County Health Officer, provides periodic reports to the Council about COVID-19 cases in the County, the state of Maryland’s emergency measures, and the availability of testing and vaccines for County residents. Information about testing and vaccines is available at <https://talbotcovid19.org/> or by calling 410-819-5641.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...Judy Sandground



Yes, there is a new name and face here.

As Jack reported in his last President's message, he has decided to stay on the Rio Vista Board as Treasurer (whew – we need him!) but step away as President. At our December Board meeting, I was elected to fill his big shoes and Jan Burke, our former Secretary, was elected to fill my old slot of Vice President. We added two new board members which RVCA members will elect at our next face to face association meeting (hopefully in June). The two new board members are Jan Swigert who will be our new Secretary and Maura Majeski who will be pursuing special projects - the first of which is to consolidate and streamline our member databases.

I am honored to step back into this position and look forward to carrying on the good work that Jack has accomplished during the past ten years. Here are a few highlights from Jack's presidency:

- Recruited Sandi Droege to lead our Neighborhood Watch program
- With Jan Burke finalized the extension of our Deed & Agreement and filed the necessary papers with the County
- Chaired the Erosion Control Committee to save our shoreline
- Defended our short term rental restriction and worked with Monica Ott to shape the new legislation
- Protected our community from mosquitoes by obtaining seasonal sprayings
- Monitored real estate transactions in Rio Vista to ensure each new owner receives our community documents
- Managed our landscaping services
- Responded with humor and concern to many member issues and questions

Our goals for 2022 include:

- Improving performance of our website and updating its content. If you haven't visited it for awhile, please do. I am happy to report that it is lightening fast!! Check it out at riovistacom.org. Thank you to Sandi, Droege for working on this and making sure that it is as fast as can be. We will be updating the content this spring
- Consolidating all the sources of resident information so that we have an accurate database to serve our residents
- Establishing liasons between committees and the board for better communication
- Holding an annual in person community meeting as soon as we feel safe to do so

If you have questions or concerns, please contact me or any of the board members. Contact information is on our website. My email is jsandground@me.com. We look forward to your ideas and input.

Enjoy this season in our beautiful community,
Judy



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

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 the RVCA 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 Winter or 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 or metal) and it is not the same material, color 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. RVCA setbacks must be shown;
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!

Architectural Report
Cont. on page 4

TREASURER'S REPORT



The community's financial condition continues to be good. There are no outstanding liabilities at this time. Annual fee collections have been better than expected considering the current fiscal climate of the country. This has allowed us to meet all financial obligations in a timely manner. One bright spot was rental of the slips at the community dock. All were rented this season. Planned expenditures for erosion prevention and for the mosquito program were under budget, but anticipated future requirements are expected to increase.

Climate change has greatly affected our erosion prevention plans as the tide levels continue to increase. High water conditions have been occurring more often than in past years. Living shoreline plans at the community dock and the picnic ground are still being considered. The cost to install living shorelines is prohibitive and the regulatory hurdles are substantial. We will persevere!

The board is currently reviewing our financial and administrative reporting protocols with the goal to design/purchase software applications that are consistent with current best practices. All data collection software needs to be consolidated into a readily available resource to manage the community in an effective and timely manner.

Treasurer's Report
Cont. on page 4

DOCK MASTER'S HELM



With snow covering our boats not a whole lot to discuss. I have been contacted by many RVC members who are proud new boat owners looking for slips. I am a boat owner who is happy to have sold a boat. Every spring I look forward to the new boating season.

We have several projects in the works down at the marina. Soil erosion is a constant battle, we will more than likely lose the point on Spencer's creek if we do not continue to rebuild the rip-rap. The road down to the marina will need to have the stones added. The high tides have taken a toll on the road. I have been contacted by a RVC resident who has volunteered his company's services to repaint (stain) the dock this Spring. Soon I will be contacting last years slip renters to get an idea of how many open slips I will have this year.

Please remember that the marina and the picnic area are for RVC residents. Please pick up any trash and monitor these areas for activities.

Architectural Report

cont. from page 3

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

2021

- 515 Tenant Cir Outdoor fireplace/Patio – approved
- 229 Madison Ave Shed – approved
- 1107 Harrison Ave Fence – approved
- 234 Tyler Ave New Roof -approved
- 1105 Harrison Ave Front Porch/Deck- approved
- 403 Lincoln Ave New Roof -approved
- 210 Cleveland Rd Garage Addition – approved
- 221 Madison Ave Swimming Pool/Fence – approved
- 1214 Jefferson Ave Handicap Ramp – approved
- 1019 Monroe Ave Fence/Pool – approved
- 218 Madison Ave Shed – approved
- 508 Tenant Cir Replacement Fence – approved
- 209 Tyler Ave Replacement Fence - 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

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 @

architectural@riovistacom.org



410-745-3200

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

Treasurer’s Report

Cont. on page 5

The anticipated expense may be substantial considering the limited budget currently approved for 2022.

Annual fee invoices were mailed in November. The fee is due to be paid by December 31. We appreciate the majority of members who submit payment by the due date. It allows the board to plan more efficiently and to accurately determine which projects can be safely funded.

The current \$50.00 Annual Fee has been in place for over 10 years. **There are no plans to change the annual fee at this time.**

Rio Vista’s Realtor Review



	Price	DOM	CI/Date	Price
ACTIVE				
None on the market at this time				
PENDING				
1215 Jefferson	\$330,000		12/14/22	
313 Cleveland Rd	\$335,000		12/29/21	

Typically by Jan. 15th, homeowners began to put their properties on the market for sale, but many may be holding off due to the snow and temperatures. I am sure your Realtor will tell you the buyers are still looking to purchase. Comparing Jan. 2021 and 2022, Rio Vista had one closing from Jan. 1st to Jan. 30th, 2021, and this year in the same timeframe, there have been no closings.

US house prices increased by record levels in the second quarter of 2021, according to quarterly figures from the National Association of Realtors (NAR). As per Market Watch, housing prices rose in 2021 by approximately 20%. The fast pace may slow, but many experts feel prices, in general, are still likely to go up. The National Association of Realtors predicts housing prices will climb 5.7% in 2022, while Realtor.com says it’s more like a 2.9% rise.

Provided by: Our Resident Realtors

- Laura Anderson Coldwell Banker
- Gloria Bee Costa Keller Williams Select Realtors

The RioVista Dues at Work





Escape the Winter Doldrums at the Theater

By
Monica Ott

Looking for something different during this long cold winter? Don't want to travel far? Try escaping the winter blues with a performance by the Tred Avon Players at the nearby Oxford Community Center. The Tred Avon Players have been providing entertaining theatrical experiences in Talbot for 40 years. From February 17-27, TAP will perform *The 39 Steps*. The play has been described as "absurdly enjoyable," mixing elements of a mystery and a spy thriller with a dash of Monty Python.

Later this year, TAP will present the Agatha Christie mystery *And Then There Were None* (April 21-May 1), the Lerner & Lowe musical *Camelot* (August 18-28), and the comedy *The Savannah Sipping Society* (October 27-November 6).

To find out more about TAP and to buy tickets, go to www.tredavonplayers.org. TAP currently requires audience members to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination and wear a mask. Check the website for any updates to the COVID policy.



St. Michaels Community Garden

(410) 745-6073

The St. Michaels Community Garden began in 2012 on land leased through the Town of St. Michaels and with support of an Eagle Scout project, and is located between Fremont and Conner Streets. The garden has also received support from numerous organizations, including the [St. Michaels Rotary Club](#), and the [Waterboyz for Jesus](#).

The St. Michaels Community Center serves as fiscal agent for the community garden, with the \$5 per year/per bed rental fee and other donations helping to maintain the property year-round.

The garden includes 40, 4-foot by 14-foot beds rented on a yearly basis. A dedicated group of community members maintains paths, raised beds, and shared equipment, while always recruiting new volunteers. The community garden provides water, hoses, and gardening tools, with participants including St. Michaels in Bloom and Critchlow Adkins Children's Centers, among other groups and individuals.



PERKINS FAMILY YMCA AND BAY HUNDRED SENIOR CENTER

(410) 7456-5963

Full Service Senior Center, for anyone in the community age 60 and over, operated through Upper Shore Aging, and co-located within the YMCA. Center provides congregate meals, arts enrichment, educational seminars, and access to services. Membership to the YMCA is NOT required to participate in the Bay Hundred Senior Center programs and activities.

Programs Included:

Arts and Humanities
Camping and Outdoor Enrichment
Before School, After School, and Early Learning
Food
Family Strengthening
Health and Well-being
Sports and Recreation
Youth and Teen Developme

*The YMCA are hiring for lifeguards and will be hiring for summer camp staff!

Rio Vista's Wintry Months





WHY DON'T BIRDS GET COLD FEET?!

by
Scotty Bruce

Actually, birds do get very cold feet: the surface temperature of their toes may be barely above freezing even as the bird maintains its core body temperature above 100°F (38°C). But most birds don't succumb to frostbite because there is so little fluid in the cells of their feet, and their feet are mostly tendons and bones with little muscle or nerve tissue.

The small amount of blood in their feet doesn't freeze because the design is a cold (and warming) miracle. The blood vessels are very close together and have counter-current flow. The warm blood flowing to the feet actually passes close by the cold blood flowing to the body. This helps warm the colder blood flowing from the feet back to the body and helps prevent the bird from getting chilled by the returning blood flow. Add to this the fact that birds have a high rate of circulation so blood in the feet doesn't remain long enough to freeze.

Birds may also alternate standing on one foot at a time, pulling one up into their warm downy feathers, while the other stands in the cold, and then reversing them. And when birds perch they can lower their bodies down to cover their feet, keeping their feet warm with their feathers. Yes, it's amazing!

Our New RV Board Member



I have lived in Rio Vista since 1992 with my husband. My 2 kids and 3 grandkids live locally as well. I retired from my job about 4 years ago from the healthcare profession. I keep busy with the grandkids and doing volunteer work at Habitat for Humanity. Hobbies include walking, riding my bike, sewing, crocheting, reading and playing in the dirt (gardening!).

We have enjoyed the St. Michaels community as it is a combination of rural and urban living reminding me of my midwest roots minus the water!

It has been interesting watching the changes in our community and St. Michaels. I hope I can assist the board in following years and help keep Rio Vista a wonderful place to live.

Rio Vista President, Judy Sandground



Judy Sandground has lived in the Washington DC area since graduation from college. Her career was spent in marketing for communications companies. After retiring as Director of Marketing from Cable & Wireless Communications and taking several years off she went back to work as a consultant managing advertising campaigns. Her hobbies have always been travelling, finding great restaurants and wines, cooking and entertaining. She enjoys kayaking and playing bocce.

Judy, her husband and two golden Retrievers came to St. Michaels in 2001 when they bought a weekend house on East Chestnut Street in town. But Mark wanted to be on the water so in 2004 they found a beautiful site in Rio Vista and built their current home on Landing Road. That same year, Judy joined the RVCA Board and has been a member since. In St. Michaels she has been active at Christ Church - St. Michael's Parish and currently co-chairs their Outreach Committee and their Back to School program and chairs the semi-annual rummage sales to raise funds for local charities. Judy has two step-sons and four grandchildren who love to visit St. Michaels.

For the past six years she has spent some or all of the winter months in Key West, Florida where she enjoys the sun and sand, plays bocce and takes painting lessons. She is looking forward to stepping back into the president's role and continuing the work of her predecessor, Jack Davis, to improve and maintain our beautiful Rio Vista community.

St. Michaels' Events

- Feb. 12-14 Valentine's Day and Winter Romance
- March 5 ChocolateFest
- March 17 St. Patrick's Day
- April 2-3 Eastern Shore Sea Glass & Coastal Arts Festival
- April 2-3 Daffodil Days
- April to Nov. Farmers Market
- May 1-9 Taste of St. Michaels Restaurant Week & Tasting Crawl
- May 1 May Day Basket Competition

DATES/EVENTS TO REMEMBER

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

Weekly Calendar Events

Sundays 719

8 AM & 10:15 AM: Holy Eucharist

Wednesdays

10:30 AM: Book Discussion Group via zoom
12 Noon: Holy Eucharist & Liturgy of Healing

Thursdays

9 AM: Thursday Morning Bible Study Group
7 PM: AA Meeting

Monthly Calendar Events

1st Monday

9:30 AM: Caregivers Support Group

2nd Tuesday

2 PM: Life After Loss Support Group

3rd Monday

9 AM: St. Michaels Art League Meeting
4 PM: Christmas in St. Michaels Meeting

4th Thursday

11 AM: Men's Cancer Support Group

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 20
4:00 PM: Music Recital

Sunday, February 27
One Service
9:30 AM: Holy Eucharist: Rite II
10:30 AM Annual Meeting

Carol A. Osborne
Parish Administrator

Temple B'Nai Israel
The Satell Center
for the Jewish Life on the Eastern Shore
RABBI PETER E. HYMAN, MAHL, DD,
7199 Tristan Drive, Easton, MD 21601
410-822-0553

[B'nai Israel Easton \(bnaiisraeleaston.org\)](http://bnaiisraeleaston.org)

We welcome all who seek connection with the Jewish community. We provide a warm community for worship, education, lifelong learning, celebration and comfort.

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Pastor Brett Sherwood
(410) 745 – 2534

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

St. Michaels Mission Catholic Church
Rev. James Nash, Pastor
Rev. Michael A. Angeloni, Associate Pastor
(410) 822 – 2344

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

Weather Notifications

In the event of inclement weather, which could have impact on our Mass Schedules, Schools, Religious Education classes and parish meetings, please check the following for the latest information:

- 1.The Parish Website
- 2.WCEI Radio Station 96.7 F
- 3.The Parish Facebook Page

Additionally, we will attempt to send an e-mail blast to all parishioners. We are also looking into a program which will send a text message directly to your cell phone. Both of these require that we have your latest email address and cell phone number in our files.

If not please forward them to

lhaas@sspeaston.org

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



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



Feb.14, 10 AM – 3 PM Feb. 18 -19, 10 AM – 2 PM

SMCC's Treasure Cove Thrift Shop is run by Karen Moaney and a great group of community volunteers.

Our little store is always in need of clean, in-season clothing, gently used furniture, and usable household goods. Every penny we earn from your purchases and donations goes toward underwriting the programs and operating expenses of the St. Michaels Community Center.

We also use donated goods to help our community in times of extreme need; such as homelessness, fire, flood, etc. Open 10-2, Mon. - Sat.

Board of Governors

President	Judy Sandground	(703) 408-1890
Vice-President/Legal Liaison	Jan Burke	(410) 745-8736
Secretary	Jan Swigert	(443) 239-9607
Treasurer	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Erosion Control	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Communication	Monica Otte	(908) 759-6572
Architectural Review	Barry Burke	(301) 253-5113
Special Projects	Maura Majeski	(860) 305-9231
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
Committee Members	Ralph Bowers	Douglas Dean
	Chip Heartfield	Harold Klinger
	Lori Ramsey	Donna Reichert
	Steve Shimko	Jim Swigert
Nav-Light	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
Nav-Light (Mailing Hard Copies)	Jan Swigert Deborah Shule	(433) 239-9607 (703) 969-1111
Community Events	Ann Davis	(410) 745-2461
	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	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
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	Becky Thornton (Dr. Computer)	(410) 822-8568
	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572