

The NAV-LIGHT

The Newsletter of the Rio Vista Community Association

Established and Incorporated - 1954



Summer 2026
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SEAPLANES??



Earlier this summer, there was (and still is) the threat of a company called Coastal Seaplanes using the Miles River as a landing strip.

As a result, we have received inquiries from concerned property owners and emails have been sent to MD officials. We are requesting a public forum so that our residents and others along the Miles River near the Town of St. Michaels can express their concerns.

A sample letter/email can be found on page 13 of this issue. Here are the contacts to whom you may wish to submit your feedback regarding **not** granting Coastal Seaplanes a permit to land on the Miles.

1. **Governor Wes Moore:**
<https://md.accessgov.com/governor/Forms/Page/cs/contact-the-governor/1> (to submit a message, choose "Environment" and submit your message)
2. **MD Senator Johnny Mautz**
johnny.mautz@senate.maryland.gov / 410.841.3590
3. **Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA): Mr. Shawn Hammer, A.A.E.** Shammer@bwairport.com
4. **Delegate Tom Hutchinson:**
tom.hutchinson@house.maryland.gov
5. **Delegate Chris Adams:**
christopher.adams@house.maryland.gov
6. **U.S. Representative Andy Harris:** Send him a message (Contact) on his website: <https://harris.house.gov/> or send to the Washington, DC office: 1536 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515 / 202.225.5311
7. **Coastal Seaplanes** customerservice@CoastalSeaplanes.com
757.206.2919 Mail: 821 Railway Rd., Yorktown, VA 23692

As a special note, the Talbot County Council has sent a letter to the MAA voicing opposition to seaplanes in St. Michaels. See the article in the Star Democrat [HERE](#).

From the President's Desk

By Jack Davis

First, let me welcome Chrissy Katz as a member of the Rio Vista Community Association's (RVCA) Board of Governors. Prior to the June board meeting I appointed Chrissy as a board member to fill one of the two openings on the board. As per the by-laws, she will complete this term and be eligible for election at the November annual meeting.

Your RVCA board remains very busy working through the issues at hand and I am happy to report good progress is being made. Of particular note, take a look at our entrance sign at Rte. 33 & Madison Avenue. The sign was looking poorly until Kevin Walsh worked hard to clean it. It looks brand new now. New Board member Chrissy Katz, chair of the Neighborhood Watch and co-chair of the Events Committee, has scheduled a number of events for the rest of the year. The Music in the Park event at the picnic area drew a large number of attendees. The music was great, the pizza and brownies were tasty and everyone had a fun evening.

Lots of projects are underway. Projects include a review of the current by-laws to update and ensure they are in compliance with current Maryland HOA rules and regulations. Also, assessment and planning to replace the picnic tables and review the erosion status of rip rap at the picnic grounds and to make a plan to address any deficiencies. Review is underway to identify and improve homeowner compliance with architectural covenants/restrictions and procedures. An effort to have more homeowner events is currently in progress which will, hopefully, help all of us to get to know one another better. There are also plans to improve the curb appeal of our community by upgrading the entrance at Madison Avenue. With the dock's aging, the Dock Committee is currently working to determine how and when to replace the existing community dock.

Continuing emphasis is placed on shoreline preservation, dock maintenance/management and landscape/ curb appeal of our properties. In addition, we are monitoring the Talbot County Council and Talbot County departments and their appointed boards. At the same time, the board is tasked with complying with a number of complicated mandates by state government such as the infrastructure reserve law and the Maryland HOA governance guidelines.

Often, we are asked "What do you do with our information? Is it sold to mailing lists, etc." Rest assured - we do not share your personal information with anyone and only use the information to keep you informed of important issues and to forward the quarterly Nav-Light. Please ensure that we have your current contact information. If you get this Nav-Light by email, this is the address we use to contact you about important community updates as well as billing. If you prefer to use a different email, please contact RVCAinformation@gmail.com.

We are financially sound with no outstanding debt at this time. There are a number of challenges (e.g.: erosion prevention, community dock maintenance and replacement, etc.) that your board is proactively addressing, and they appear to be manageable.

And lastly, I would like to point out a new initiative in the Nav-Light. The "Member Spotlight" was established to recognize those individuals that have gone above and beyond to support the community through their efforts or financial support. Please join me in recognizing Donny Gowe and Ralph DeMarco for their efforts.



"As a reminder, open fires, such as campfires, leaves and yard debris burning, are not permitted within Rio Vista at any time. Fireworks are illegal and violators will be reported to Talbot County."

Mark your calendars for the
RVCA Annual Meeting
Saturday, November 14th
9:30 am – 11:30 a.m.
St. Michaels Community Center

Jack Davis

*President, Board of Governors,
Rio Vista Community Association*

Treasurer's Report

By Barry Burke

As RVCA begins the 2nd quarter of the fiscal year, the association is in good financial standing. Invoices went out to all property owners in late January (email or by USPS mail). All invoices were due within 30 days of the invoice date, and a 15-day grace period is provided. If you have not paid at the end of the 15-day grace period (this year not received by 3/17/26) a \$30 late fee was assessed to your account. The Board depends on prompt payment of the annual fees to operate efficiently.

A special Thank You to those that added an additional contribution for Shoreline Preservation!

For the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget we will be asking for community input regarding projects you would like for the board to consider in our budget deliberations. These can be repair or new initiatives. In addition, our budget process will include input from committees. This process will assist the board in developing a 3-5 year budget based on input we receive. Please let us know your thoughts on how we can serve our community.

And lastly, we are exploring the idea of sending the annual invoices by text (a few have already requested this option) so that it is more convenient for you to view and pay your annual fees. If you would also like this option, you'll need to provide us with us a cell phone # that accepts texts. If you received your invoice this year by USPS mail and have a working email, or would like the texting option, *please let us know* at RVCAinformation@gmail.com.

And lastly, as we seek to get community input on the FY2027 budget, we will inform all residents of any changes to the annual fees by November 15, 2026 (45 days as required in the by-laws) for invoices to be emailed, mailed, or texted by January 15, 2027.



Boating Season is HERE!

The Rio Vista Community Dock is a major capital investment, and an ongoing concern that the DockMaster and Board are always busy working to improve. The cost to replace the dock in today's dollars is steep, so we work to find remedies on how to proceed. Original cost estimates for a dock replacement were high and we determined that we must save more money. The dock should last for a couple more seasons before it will need significant repair or even replacement.

Slip rentals went fast this year. Currently we have 2 slips available to rent for the 2026 season. This is a result of fewer non-resident rentals and limits on non-resident commercially licensed boats. If you would like to rent one of these slips, please complete the 2026 Slip Rental Agreement on the website at <https://riovistacom.org/dock/>

Rio Vista residents - please keep an eye on the picnic area and marina area. Please report any suspicious or criminal activity by calling 911 and non-criminal activity to the Sheriff at **410-822-1020**.

Your 2026 Rio Vista Board of Governors

“Welcome to Chrissy Katz on her appointment to the RVCA Board of Governors”

We often get questions about the RVCA Board. How and when are they elected and how long do they serve. Each year at the RVCA Annual Meeting, new and renewing Board members are elected by homeowners in attendance who are in good standing (all fees are current). Each elected board member serves a three-year term beginning on January 1 and ending on December 31st of the 3rd year and may serve consecutive terms.

The by-laws state that the board member's terms should be staggered so that approximately 1/3 of the members' terms expire each year. The board reexamined the terms in December 2025, and in February 2026 approved modified terms so that we meet the 1/3 per year expiration date schedule in the by-laws.

The following revised terms apply to the current board:

Board Member	Term Ends
Jack Davis	12/31/26
Chrissy Katz*	12/31/26
Lloyd Anderson	12/31/27
Barry Burke	12/31/27
Kevin Walsh	12/31/27
Monica Otte	12/31/28
Hunter Plog	12/31/28
Judy Sandground	12/31/28

** Chrissy Katz was appointed to the Board to fill a vacancy and will fill out the current term. She may then run to be elected to a full three-year term.*



2026 RVCA Board of Governors & Committee Chairs

Officers (effective 1/1/2026):

President	Jack Davis	410-745-2461
Vice President	Judy Sandground	703-408-1890
Secretary/Treasurer	Barry Burke	301-253-5113

Contact any of the Board members by email:
RVCAInformation@gmail.com

Board Members*/Committee Chairs*:

Architectural (ARC)	Lloyd Anderson*	540-327-2437
Communications	Barry Burke*	
Nav-Light	Barry Burke*	
Facebook/CANVA	Scotty Bruce*	
Government Affairs	Monica Otte*	410-745-8397
Recording Secretary	Monica Otte*	
RVCA Engagement/Events	Chrissy Katz*	973-476-2000
Co-Chair	Paula Preston*	
Curb Appeal/Landscape	Kevin Walsh*	240-603-4148
DockMaster	Hunter Plog*	443-786-2051
Finance Committee	Barry Burke*	301-253-5113
Neighborhood Watch	Chrissy Katz*	
Shoreline Preservation	Monica Otte*	

RVCAArchitectural@gmail.com
RVCAInformation@gmail.com
RVCANavLight@gmail.com
RVCAInformation@gmail.com
ottemonica@gmail.com

gillespiehill@me.com
plpty@comcast.net
kw1254@comcast.net
boaterfamily0305@gmail.com
RVCAInformation@gmail.com

Would you be interested in serving on a committee? Please contact us at
RVCAInformation@gmail.com

LANDSCAPE & CURB APPEAL

By Kevin Walsh

Welcome to Summer 2026! Time to fire up the mowers and boats and dust off the bicycles.

Spring was relatively standard for this area with some early warm days followed by a few days of cold and windy weather. Now we can tend to our lawns and gardens, including weed control. Regarding weed control, all Rio Vista residents are relatively close to the Miles River and various creeks that flow into Chesapeake Bay. As far as I can tell all storm water runoff goes into drainage culverts and piping and directly into the Miles River and then the Chesapeake so please be careful with what you are using on your lawns and gardens as some are more environmentally friendly than others.

One area of concern is any tree on your lot. As you know, the owner is responsible for property upkeep including the trees. Trees with dead branches should be trimmed and dead trees

taken down, and all debris that won't be stacked as firewood removed from the property in a timely manner. If you have trees on your property that are close to power lines, you may want to contact the power company before doing anything. I recently had a tree that was clearly on my property with branches around power lines. I called the power company, and a rep came out within 2 days and explained exactly what they would and would not do and within a week, a crew came out and took the tree down, chipped and removed all the branches, cut the trunk into 16" pieces and stacked it for firewood. All of this was at no cost to me.

There is tape and some fencing along parts of the shoreline at the picnic area. This is to protect the new shoreline grasses that were planted to help control erosion.

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Neighborhood Watch

By Chrissy Katz



Sheriff Gamble and Lt. Hall gave a very informative presentation at the Library in April with approximately fifteen people attending. This meeting gave residents opportunities to ask questions and to be more informed about topics that affect our lives. If there are speakers from whom you would enjoy hearing, contact the Neighborhood Watch (NW) committee @ gillespiehill@me.com.

The block Captains have been scheduling their 'Getting to Know You' parties. These gatherings are for you to get to know how your Block Captain helps in your neighborhood. Chrissy had one in April with approximately ten people in attendance. Many had no idea of the extent of what is entailed and the support our Captains give to the residents of Rio Vista. Please feel free to reach out to your Block Captain for any questions or help. If you are not familiar with who your Captain is, contact Chrissy Katz @ gillespiehill@me.com

The NW Committee is in the beginning stages of forming the "**Neighbors Helping Neighbors Assistance Program.**" This initiative would be to aide residents by offering a helping hand in times of need. If a resident were to be incapacitated or unable to care for particular home issues, volunteer residents can step in to offer help. The Neighborhood Watch Captains will be able to help in recruiting resident volunteers.

HOW CAN I HELP?

Areas of assistance include:

- ✓ Landscaping maintenance: Snow removal, grass mowing
- ✓ Watering plants, filling bird feeders, etc.
- ✓ Starting a food chain or preparing a few meals for those incapacitated.
- ✓ Providing transportation for shopping, medical appts, and/or pets to vets.

If you are interested in such a program, please contact your Block Captain or Neighborhood Watch @ gillespiehill@me.com

Shoreline Preservation

By Monica Otte

This spring the Shoreline Preservation Committee has been working to strengthen shoreline resiliency at the community picnic area. We've coordinated with the Landscaping Committee, chaired by Kevin Walsh, to clear away brush so that we can plant cordgrass, patens and switchgrass at the water's edge. These native grasses develop root systems that help to hold the soil against the effects of wave action and high tides. You may see us at the picnic area over the next few weeks during low tide, when we will be planting "plugs" of grasses at vulnerable shoreline spots. The Shoreline Preservation Committee has also filled holes in the rip rap on the Miles River side of the picnic area, to help maintain the rip rap as a defense against high water.

The Shoreline Preservation Committee is considering other protective measures for the picnic and dock areas. We're looking at installing

coir logs as another way of slowing down erosion. What are coir logs? They are cylindrical erosion control logs made from natural coconut fibers. Coir logs can be anchored along vulnerable shorelines to help stabilize soil and prevent erosion. They are biodegradable, don't pollute the environment, and have a life span of up to 5 years.

The community picnic area and dock enhance the value of all our Rio Vista homes. The Shoreline Preservation Committee is looking for your participation and suggestions. Please contact us at rvcainformation@gmail.com with your ideas and let us know if you would like to help in this important work.

The Shoreline Preservation Committee –
Scotty Bruce, Jack Davis, Ralph DeMarco,
Monica Otte

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The **Events & Engagement Committee (EEC)** is very excited to begin our Summer/Fall season. There are upcoming events scheduled and we hope that many of you can attend. Be looking for the RVCA email blasts in your inboxes!

We were pleased with the Spring events, including the 250th Birthday of America Celebration, the Be Well, Be Happy Chat at the new St. Michaels library, as well as the America 250 decorations at the Madison Avenue entrance. Upcoming events include the “September Pot Luck Event” and the “Fall RVCA Yard Sale.

A special thanks to Scotty Bruce for creating EEC flyers and posters. These announcements will be seen on our newly acquired sandwich boards, located in strategic areas for your viewing. All announcements will be placed a few days prior to an event. The Community Events Calendar is posted on our Bulletin Board by the picnic area on Landing Road. We hope to be seeing you soon at many of the Summer and Fall events.

I would like to introduce and welcome our new co-chair, Paula Preston. She has amazing energy, not to mention a plethora of wonderful

ideas. Her support and that of committee member Kit DaMonte have been incredibly invaluable. If any resident is interested in volunteering (even for a few hours) for the EEC decorating team or would like to join our committee, please let us know.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 8: BBQ Blow Out **CANCELLED**

SEPTEMBER 6: RVCA Community Pot Luck

Sunday 1 pm – 3pm Picnic Area

Residents bring a dish to share and bring your recipe to share (if you want). Baked goods by Leila will be on sale, Corn Hole and Tic Tac Toe lawn games as well as refreshments will be provided by the EEC.

SEPTEMBER 26: Annual Fall YARD SALE

Saturday 9 am – 3pm (Rain date 9/27)

ALL participates will be given 2 balloons as their ‘Sale’ indicator to be placed by their mailbox or driveway. Please contact Chrissy Katz at gillespiehill@me.com to participate & receive your balloons.

NOVEMBER 14: RVCA Annual Meeting & RECOGNITION OF VETERANS!

Saturday 9:30 am – Noon

StM Community Center

If you are a veteran, please contact Chrissy at gillespiehill@me.com by October 30th.

Rio Vista – A Great Place to Live!

Established in 1954, this deed-restricted neighborhood has earned a reputation for its peaceful atmosphere, mature landscaping, pride of ownership, and convenient location near the Miles River.

Rio Vista offers a blend of year-round residences and second homes, making it attractive to retirees, families, boating enthusiasts, and those seeking a quieter Eastern Shore lifestyle. The community consists of more than 220 residential lots and has maintained its original vision through carefully preserved deed restrictions and an active community association.

Residents appreciate the wide streets, mature shade trees, and friendly neighborhood atmosphere that make Rio Vista one of the area's most established communities.

Contributed by Glory Bee Costa



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Bright MLS Information from 11/12/25 to 2/25/26

Active	List Price	Sold Price	Settle	Days on Market
1215 Washington Dr.	\$ 525,000			147/147
1211 Washington Dr.	\$ 525,000			147/147
204 Lincoln Ave.	\$ 598,000			90/90
104 Madison Ave	\$ 459,900			1/1
Active Under Contract				
602 Landing Rd.	\$1,725,000	\$ 1,650,000	9/15/26	60/60
Pending				
601 Cove Rd.	\$3,250,000		12/10/26	1/1
Closed				
1206 Washington Dr.	\$ 425,000	\$ 425,000	6/15/26	28/28
314 Cove View 5B	\$ 498,000	\$ 465,000	6/12/26	4/4



The Board of Governors of the Rio Vista Community Association (RVCA) encourages property owners to improve their homes and properties to maintain and increase property values in the community. By the RVCA Deed & Agreement (1954) residents making exterior modifications to their property must submit a one-page form (called a CARF) to receive community approval **before** county permitting is requested.

The chair of the Architectural Review Committee is Lloyd Anderson. He can be reached at RVCAarchitectural@gmail.com.

All Architectural Forms have now been updated. The following documents can be found on the RVCA website <https://riovistacom.org/architectural/>

- ✓ **Construction Approval Process Flowchart**
- ✓ **Overview of Architectural Standards & Requirements**
- ✓ **Construction & Architectural Request Form (CARF)**
- ✓ **Talbot County Setbacks-Town Residential (TR) which Rio Vista is zoned as.**

A friendly reminder that homeowners are required to have home improvement projects approved by submitting a CARF first, then if applicable, you or your contractor should obtain a Talbot County Building Permit.

The most frequently asked question is whether a CARF is required for a given improvement. Here is a list of the most common improvements and when a CARF is required, or not. A flowchart is available on the website to help (see link above).

1. If you are planning to add/replace a shed in your yard (and you are not on the water*), a 25' setback from front and rear property lines is required by Talbot County. *If the shed is less than 300 square feet, then a 12.5' setback from the rear property line is allowed.* A CARF **is required**. *NOTE: If waterfront, other rules apply for auxiliary structures.
2. If you plan on painting the exterior of your house **or** putting on a new roof, garage door or storm door or adding a stone façade, a CARF application is required only if you are changing the colors or style;
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,

Quick CARF Checklist

What you'll need when submitting a CARF for review and approval:

- ✓ **Completed & signed CARF**
- ✓ **Plat showing location and setbacks of the project.**
- ✓ **Colors and styles (URLs of colors and styles accepted)**
- ✓ **Exterior Elevations**
- ✓ **Annual Fees are current (paid thru 2025)**

a CARF application **is** required. All fencing should only be installed, after a permit is obtained from Talbot County AND a staked survey is completed. RVCA setbacks on the plat must be shown. (Note- In Talbot County and RVCA the height of a fence may not exceed 6').

4. The Architectural Review Committee (ARC) asks when planning an exterior improvement, that neighbors are briefed on the project so that they can understand its scope as well as what to expect in terms of contractors coming and going.
5. Paper Streets. Reminder to those located next to one of the paper streets. Access must not be restricted in any way. We encourage grass cutting but it is not required.
 - a. Not permitted on the paper streets: Dumping trash or yard debris, installing any structure or landscaping, Tree removal without approval from Rio Vista.
 - b. Sheds and structures on your property must meet the 25' plat noted setback to the paper street.

The following requests for Architectural approval have been reviewed by the ARC and action taken:

RECENT (2026) ARC DECISIONS

1025 Riverview	Windows/Doors/Siding – Approved
223 Madison	New Shed – Approved
109 Bush	Shed Revision – Approved
515 Tennant	Garage Conversion – Approved
514 Tennant	New Shed - Approved

As always, we appreciate your support of the process, and should you have suggestions or feedback for improvement, please contact the Architectural Review Committee at: RVCAarchitectural@gmail.com

Thinking of selling your property? Now is the time to talk with the Architectural Committee for a Compliance Letter to be used at closing to avoid issues that delay your sale (or purchase).

Contact us for help or assistance in submitting the information necessary for approval – we are here to help!

RVCAarchitectural@gmail.com

Rio Vista Featuring Edith Knoblick

"Meet the Neighbors" 3rd in Series

Our past features have been on long-time Rio Vista residents, but now we turn our attention to a more recent neighbor. Edith Margaret Knoblick has led a most interesting life prior to moving into our community. She has combined caregiving with adventure and made both 'work' simultaneously. Born and reared in Rockland County, NY she took a detour out to Denver on the advice of a friend. Soon she returned to NY state to assist with the care of her uncle who had cerebral palsy. At the age of 49 and never married, she was working in the Ramapo College (NJ) library where she encountered a student who decided to introduce her to his single father. Henry Knoblick, along w/his parents, (also adventurous), had lived in NJ, CA and FL. He came from a boating family and at the time of his acquaintance w/Edith he had been living aboard *Providence*, his 46' motor sailboat for ten years, berthed at Liberty Landing in NY Harbor.

They met on New Year's Eve 2006 and were married the following November. Thus, began both a romance and many unexpected journeys. He was so taken w/her that he soon bought an old house and moved down the road from her family home. She describes them as being like an old married couple before they even wed. They had a love for long drives, antiques, historic homes and of course boats and marinas. They opened their own antiques shop in Sloatsburg, NY, which was a precursor to their relocating to the Bay Hundred.

But first, Edith shared one of their most unique ventures. On a trip to FL they discovered

Pumpkin" a 34' American Tug, not to be confused with a working tug. (She even had a washer/dryer on board.) They determined that *Pumpkin* would afford them their next exploratory opportunity. They spent three months piloting her through the ICW (Intercoastal Waterway). After 1900 nautical miles they reached the Hudson River. Edith recalled that they encountered one frightening rogue, wild wave but that the most challenging part for her was being at the helm, navigating to the berth while Henry disappeared to the head!

A 2015 chance meeting up in St Michaels with Maryland friends led to their falling in love with the Chesapeake Bay region. That weekend, they decided that they wanted to live in the area permanently. They found yet another historic property in need of attention- a house and The Old Sherwood Store in Sherwood, on the way to Tilghman Island. It fulfilled their wish to live in the area and to open another antiques store. Not forgetting her uncle who was still in their care, they also purchased a home for him nearby and brought him along. The store became a weekend gathering place for local, like-minded area residents.

Sadly, Henry passed away in August of 2022 and Edith's uncle thereafter. She did not feel that she could or wanted to run the business herself, so she sold the properties and her search for a new residence led her to Rio Vista where she and her pets are very happy being a part of our community.



Communications Report

By Barry Burke



MEMBERSHIP DATABASE

Changes/updates to your email, phone, billing address or names & contact information for renters, should be sent to

RVCAInformation@gmail.com. If you prefer to get your updates by text messaging, please send us your written "consent" to receive notifications by text (SMS, etc.) to the above email.

WEBSITE

A NEW & improved website is still in the forecast for the coming year. This update will be to eliminate redundancies and add new features. If you have ideas for the new website, please send your ideas by email and we will work to incorporate them.

Earlier this year, pages for [Resident Renters to update their information](#), a Resale Packet for Homeowners and Real Estate Professionals and other improvements were added. They can be accessed [HERE](#).

The website has been steadily getting more and more "hits" each month. This is a good sign that it is getting used by residents as well as those looking to find out more about our community.

LANDLORDS & RESIDENT RENTERS

If you are a landlord, the By-laws require that you provide tenant contact information (name, email & phone) to RVCA for purposes of the Neighborhood Watch initiative and emergency messaging. If you have not updated the information for the renters of your properties, please send the updates to RVCAInformation@gmail.com. Our Neighborhood Watch System depends on this information!

EMERGENCY EMAIL BLAST CONSTANT CONTACT

As most of you are aware, RVCA uses and email blast system to get the word out about items and issues of importance to property owners, residents and resident renters. The system we use is called "Constant Contact." When we first started using the system, RVCA opted for the use of texts for those that opted in to receive the notifications. Out of 223 properties, seven opted in, and of those seven, five completed the process by confirming with Constant Contact that you had opted in. The cost for those five was not cost effective, and thus it was cut from the budget. IF you would like for the Board to revisit this, please send us an email (yes an email to start) with your name and mobile # to RVCAInformation@gmail.com indicating your preference to receive the email blast and/or the Nav-Light via text. We will only use your mobile # for these purposes and we do not share this information for commercial purposes.

RVCA Facebook – Have You Seen The Latest?

If you haven't visited the page recently, now is the time to take a look. You'll be astounded at the photography and posts from our residents & others. Click the screenshot on the right or search "Rio Vista Community Association MD" in the search bar on Facebook. Many thanks to Scotty Bruce for managing the page (not to mention his photos!)

Be sure to click on Like!



SAMPLE SEAPLANE LETTERS

As the Board of Governors of the St. Michaels community of Rio Vista, we are writing to express our objection to the granting of a permit to enable Coastal Seaplanes to operate landings and takeoffs in the Miles River, due to noise levels and safety. . Granting this permit/license will also be unsafe for the many boaters, commercial watermen, other recreational watercraft users (such as jet skiers, kayakers, paddleboarders), and tourist boats in operation by multiple commercial entities. Boat traffic is often heavy not only in the St. Michaels harbor, but also in the areas of the Miles extending outside the harbor, such as the riverfront footage in our Rio Vista community. We also have great concern for the safety of participants in the frequent sailing and log canoe races which are such an attraction for our way of life. In addition, both the noise and the activity will endanger and hamper the flight and nesting patterns of both the permanent and migratory waterfowl in our flyway, as well as being a danger to the seaplane.

On June 2nd, a test was performed for a seaplane to land and take off from a section of the Miles River in St Michaels (Talbot Co) MD. While we were trying to be open-minded, a significant number of residents indicated that the noise level was louder than expected. We were also surprised that the landing and takeoff was on the other side of the Miles River (not on the town side), so any noise measurements were basically non-representative of the actual noise level that would be expected on a multiple times daily or weekly basis. In addition, residents also indicated that the Talbot County official doing the sound testing left before the landing and takeoff had been completed – further invalidating any useful noise readings from the testing.

Since our Rio Vista residential community is directly impacted by not only the noise but other safety and environmental issues involved, we wish to register a strong objection to the MAA approving this endeavor as we have not yet been afforded this opportunity. We request a public forum so that our residents and others along the Miles River near the Town of St. Michaels can express their concerns.

Sincerely,
The Rio Vista Board of Governors



Send Comments to Governor Wes Moore (Contact Page click [HERE](#)) to submit a message. Choose “Environment” and submit a message that is similar to this plus any of your own thoughts:

Recently a test was performed for a commercial seaplane to land and take off from a section of the Miles River in St Michaels (Talbot Co) MD. Since our Rio Vista residential community is directly impacted by not only the noise but other safety and environmental issues involved, we wish to register a protest to the MAA approval of this endeavor as we have not had another opportunity to address this publicly. We have heard from our residents (property owners) that they would like to provide feedback on these issues. Could you please advise to whom we (Board of Governors and residents) should address our many concerns and disapproval?



CALENDARS FOR ST. MICHAELS EVENTS

July thru December 2026

<https://www.stmichaelsmd.com>



TALBOT COUNTY FREE LIBRARY - ST. MICHAELS

The St. Michaels Branch of the Talbot County Free Library has reopened at 106 Fremont Street. For details, visit www.tcfl.org

ST. MICHAELS MUSEUM at St. Mary's Square

Open May-October

Walking Tours, Museum/Store & Collections

Friday 1pm – 4pm, Saturday 10am – 4pm

Sunday 2pm – 4pm

Admission Free (donations appreciated)

201 E. Chestnut St., St. Michaels, MD

<https://www.stmichaelsmuseum.org/>



SMCC CONCERT IN THE PARK

Every Thursday, 6-7:30pm, Muskrat Park

<https://www.stmichaelsmd.com/signature-events/>

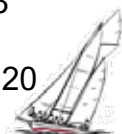
CHESAPEAKE BAY LOG CANOE RACING

MRYC - Labor Day Series: September 12-13

Higgins & Commodore Cup: September 19

Bartlett Cup (Hosted w/CBMM): September 20

<https://www.logcanoeracing.com/>



CHESAPEAKE BAY MARITIME MUSEUM

Click the Links below to see upcoming Events

WATERMAN'S APPRECIATION DAY

August 9, 2026: 10am – 4pm

<https://cbmm.org/event/watermens-appreciation-day/>

CHARITY BOAT AUCTION

September 5: 8am – 1pm

<https://cbmm.org/event/charity-boat-auction/>

YOUTH PROGRAMS:

[SUMMER CAMPS](#)

[LIGHTHOUSE OVERNIGHT ADVENTURES](#)

[SCIENCE SATURDAYS](#)

PUBLIC PROGRAMS:

[SPEAKER SERIES](#)

[APPRENTICE for a Day SHIPYARD PROGRAMS](#)

[EXCLUSIVE MEMBER OPPORTUNITIES](#)

[ON THE WATER PROGRAMS](#)

[MARITIME MODEL GUILD](#)

Visit the [CBMM website](#) for details & costs

RVCA VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- **NAV-LIGHT:** *An Editor in Chief is needed to take over layout of the quarterly newsletter. Volunteers are also needed to help produce the Nav-Light 4 times per year. Time commitment is about 2 hours for each issue. One or more persons with MS Word experience to do layout.*
- **CURB APPEAL:** *Volunteers needed to help with small landscaping projects. Time commitment about 2-3 hours depending on special projects.*
- **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:** *Volunteers to represent your street as a Block Captain and point of contact. Volunteers will get training and meet with the Neighborhood Watch Chair 2-3 times per year.*

Contact RVCAInformation@gmail.com

RVCA Mosquito Control –Spraying Information

At the November 2025 RVCA Annual Meeting, those in attendance recommended to the Board of Governors (by vote) to continue the mosquito spraying again for the 2026 season. Following the meeting, the RVCA Board voted to continue the spraying by including the cost in the FY26 budget.



The dilemma that we face is that often we receive a phone call at 9pm or later on the night of the treatment. And even then, the call will indicate “conditions permitting.” One of the biggest concerns of residents is notification so as not to conflict with having pets that are outside. Providing there is enough time, an email blast will be distributed to those that have emails on file to receive the notifications.

It is that season again when spring rains bring out those pesky mosquitos – sometimes it seems like they arrive in droves. For many years, RVCA has contracted with the MD Department of Agriculture and Talbot County

to spray as part of the Mosquito Control Program. There will be 12 spraying events that occur approximately every 2 weeks, June thru mid-October, Monday – Friday between 7:30pm until 6:00 am. We are not assigned a set day of the week. Spraying does not occur during rain, in wind speeds exceeding 12mph or temperatures above 89°F.

Spraying may be modified for waterfront properties so the spray does not drift over the water. The driver will not enter your property to spray, and sometimes your property may get full coverage based on the wind. The sprayers will not spray solely for holiday purposes.

For more information, including MSDS info, go to http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/mosquito_control.aspx

The point of contact for RVCA can be reached at RVCAinformation@gmail.com.

Click [HERE](#) for the MDA Mosquito Control Website.

Antiques on Talbot

Where the Past Meets the Present

- Nautical/Decoys
- Oyster Plates & Cans
- Jewelry/Sterling/Coins
- Furnishings
- Home Decor
- Americana

“Look for the *Blue Canoe*”

OPEN 7 days/week 10am-5pm

New Inventory Every Week!

*Come see our recent acquisitions of
Décor and **Gifts***

Carol Burke* & Carol Kras Proprietors
* Rio Vista Resident

www.AntiquesOnTalbot.com

AntiquesOnTalbot@gmail.com

**211 N. Talbot Street
Saint Michaels, MD 21663
410-745-5208**



Advertise In The Nav-Light!

This Page could be *YOURS!*

Have a business and want low cost but high impact advertising? It is easy, inexpensive and reaches all residents of the Rio Vista Community either through direct email or printed copies. Each advertisement includes the ability to update your content for each issue.

The Nav-Light is available for download on the Rio Vista Community website (<https://riovistacom.org/nav-light-the-newsletter-of-rio-vista/>) enabling those searching for local businesses to see your advertising. All you need for content is to provide either a pdf, jpg, .png or Word document, and we will take it from there.

The Nav-Light reaches over 600 residents, business owners and prospective homebuyers. Have a special for Rio Vista residents? This is the best place to show your support!

“BOGO” INTRODUCTORY SPECIAL!

Send us your ad and get one issue in addition to the rate in the right-hand column – FREE!! Sign up for one year and get one issue FREE.

Valid for new advertisers only.

For more information, contact us at
RVCANavLight@gmail.com

Ad Sizes and Rates

Business card size (3.5" x 2.5" vertical)	\$25/issue or \$75 for 1 year (4 issues)
Business card size (3.5" x 2.5") horizontal	\$25/issue or \$75 for 1 year (4 issues)
Square ad small (3.25" x 3.25")	\$35/issue or \$120 for 1 year (4 issues)
½ Page - horizontal (~5" x 7.5")	\$50/issue or \$150 for 1 year (4 issues)
FULL Back Page – (pending availability)	\$100/issue available for 1-4 issues at a time, renewable priority.
FULL Page – (within newsletter)	\$80/issue or \$300/yr
Pricing good through November 30, 2026	

Publication Schedule

Issue	Copy Deadline
Winter (Dec/Jan/Feb)	November 15
Spring (Mar/Apr/May)	February 15
Summer (Jun/Jul/Aug)	May 15
Fall (Sep/Oct/Nov)	August 15

The Nav-Light

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