



THE NAV-LIGHT



THE COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER OF RIO VISTA
ESTABLISHED AND INCORPORATED IN 1954

Volume 15 Issue 6

August 6, 2016



Welcome back to school!

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What is Neighborhood Watch

The Neighborhood Watch Program draws upon the concern of average citizens, asking them to lend their neighbors a hand and fight against crime. Everyone in Rio Vista is a member of Neighborhood Watch. Everyone will learn how to identify and report suspicious activities, people, and vehicles. The Rio Vista Block Captains are visiting/helping you to recognize suspicious activities and sounds, to record the information and immediately report it to the Sheriff's Office **410-822-1020** or **911** (anonymously if you wish).

Herons Fight for Territory in Rio Vista

by
Judy Sandground

Photos
by
Jan Burke



For a very long time – neighbors cannot remember how long exactly but most think it has been at least ten years – a large heron has made the Miles River shoreline in Rio Vista its favorite hunting place. From the picnic area to the docks and yards along the river, he was seen almost daily. We know it was the same heron because he was unique – part of his foot was missing. The injury did not seem to impact his hunting and survival.

Several years ago, we began to notice a smaller, younger heron hanging around. Most neighbors assumed it was an offspring of the older Heron. The two did not interact but the smaller bird watched the larger older one from a distance.

See Herons Fight
on page 4

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK.....



A few months ago, during the winter, I complained about the cold and wrote I was looking forward to complaining about the heat. WELL, it's hot and I'm complaining! The weatherman reported today would be a bit cooler; only 89 degrees. Oh well.

The Board has had a very active and productive year with numerous projects getting done and new ones being thought about. I consider myself lucky to have six other residents who have volunteered their time to help our community be a better place for us all. They make a difference. Thank you all.

You may have been following the newspaper articles about short term vacation rentals in Easton and in Talbot County. The discussion of the appropriateness of daily and weekly rentals of homes in residential areas is just starting and will probably get pretty heated. AirBnB and VRBO sites have over 450 listings for rentals in Talbot County. Meanwhile, the County has issued only about 100 licenses for short term rentals. The County can't monitor what it doesn't know about (or even those residences they do know about!) and they sure can't collect the taxes and fees that are due. The thing to remember is that one of these residences could very easily pop up next to your home. Goodbye quiet nights on the deck.

It took over four years of hard work, reams of correspondence, numerous meetings with the County and many, many disruptive days and nights for the neighbors of one such residence in Rio Vista. Finally, the County refused to issue a short term rental license for 2016. Even so, there have been about 50 or 60 nights apparently rented this year. We do not want this type of disturbance in our community. **We must let the Talbot County Council know this at every opportunity.**

Sandi Droege has headed up the revitalization of our Neighborhood Watch program. She has gotten volunteer block captains and will be conducting refresher training for them. You will probably be hearing from your block captain asking for an update to the information we already have on file. This will help us to be more effective in making the community a safer place to live.

On a good note, I understand the crab season has been pretty good; nice fat crabs have been found in Spencer Creek. Hope you are getting your share.

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 everyone 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

The fishing season is well under way and hopefully Rio Vista slip holders are having a good time. Last fishing report I saw said that hardheads (croakers) and blue fish were in the Bay and Choptank River. The arrival of blue fish means that we are getting into the fall fishing pattern.

I have been trying my luck at fishing and crabbing with some luck. For Father's Day my wife and I took a trip out to the Bay Bridge. We caught a couple of throwback striped bass on blood worms. Experience pays when it comes to catching. We watched a charter boat back up to the piling we were at throw four rods in the water and pull out a keeper striped bass. I have been out crabbing many times this year. Since the water temperature has been in the upper 80's it seems the crab catch has slowed down. Earlier this year I caught 19 crabs and not a one was less than 7 inches.

It would seem that some are having luck catching fish. I would ask all Rio Vista residence to dispose any of fish carcasses responsibly. I have noticed down by the marina, disposal of razor clams, dead crabs and fileted fish bodies. Let's please keep our public areas clean so that all can enjoy the community and as always keep an eye out for any suspicious activities down at the marina or the picnic area.

Thanks,
Hunter Plog

TREASURER REPORT

Financially, the community is in excellent condition. Payment of the annual fee for 2016 has been exceptionally good and has allowed for us to meet all fiscal obligations in a timely manner. The major commitment to completing the rip rap work along the dock access road has still to be started. We need to get the permit from the State Department of Natural Resources to begin the work. Hopefully that will happen soon.

There are a few late payers and I hope they will take the time to bring their accounts up to date. The completion of the community projects is dependent upon all of us making this effort.

While there are a number of expensive projects that will need to be addressed in the near future (ie: shoreline preservation), the Board of Governors will continue to manage expenditures responsibly. The current \$50.00 annual fee has been in place for over 10 years. There is no plan to change the fee at this time.

ARCHITECTURAL REPORT

Handy Reference Guides for Talbot County Code Requirements.

Please note: RVCA Architectural Guidelines are in some cases more stringent than County Codes. RVCA Guidelines take priority over County Codes (setbacks and fence requirements.) This can be found on the Rio Vista Web Site: www.riovistacom.org

Please be sure to check with the Permits Office to ensure that you have the latest version, as Building and Environmental Codes are subject to change without notice. PERMITTING and INSPECTIONS GUIDES:

<http://www.talbotcountymd.gov/index.php?page=Guides>

(Pressing the Control Key and clicking on the above link with left mouse button will take you to this link)

Neighborhood Watch

by
Sandi Droege

On behalf of the Rio Vista Board I wish to thank the residents of the Rio Vista Community. A few weeks ago I initiated the daunting project of recruiting Block Captains for the neighborhoods. To my surprise I found myself knocking on doors and introducing myself (a stranger) but leaving as a friend. Everyone without exception was welcoming and realizing the need for the Neighborhood Watch.

The Block Captains will be knocking on the doors of their neighbors and asking for information that will help all of us to know when something is out of the ordinary. Your Block Captain will help each of you become an individual Block Captain" for your street. Their job is merely to spread the ability of observing and reporting. This is an undertaking that requires team work.

I have lived here well over 20 years and only now have I realized what great neighbors live in this entire community.



Herons Fight

from page 1



Then in mid-June, the younger bird struck. The fight began near the shoreline in Sandground's yard (on Landing Road next to the picnic area) and moved over to the yard next door. It was a terrible sight to see the younger bird pecking on our dear friend. Finally, the younger bird moved to the Sandground's dock as if to say, "This is my hunting place now." The older bird was very still and then finally struggled to move away. Phone calls were made to various government offices to find someone to come and help the injured old heron.

The situation became more desperate as the injured bird tried to move farther away from the interloper. As he moved, vultures began circling. By this time, the Millers and Jan Burke were on the scene. We all agreed to stay with our heron friend until the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) came to get him and take him to a bird sanctuary in Delaware where injured wild birds are helped.

Finally, after several hours of keeping watch over the bird, the DNR arrived. Meanwhile, the young heron stayed on the dock watching and waiting. Our old heron did not want to go easily but after a bit of a chase he was finally cornered and placed in a box designed for capture of wild turkeys. Chris from DNR assured us that he would be well cared for and released back into the wild when he was well.

The younger heron does not come around very much anymore. Maybe he knows how unpopular he is. We miss our old friend.



Future Problems Fueling Up Your Boat?

According to flash sent out by **Boat U.S** department of **Government Affairs** the EPA is requesting that the nation's gasoline supply for 2017 be changed from 10% ethanol to 15% ethanol.

The flash states:

- o "E15 has been proven to damage boat engines and so it is prohibited in marine engines. It is also illegal to use E15 in snowmobiles, motorcycles, small engines like lawnmowers, and leaf blowers, as well as any car or light-truck made before 2001."
- o "E15 and higher ethanol blends can now be found in 23 states, often at the very same pumps as E10 gasoline. A sticker on the pump mixed in with all the other labels may be the only warning for E15 gasoline."
- o "This creates a huge potential for mis-fueling and puts boaters at risk of using fuel that will damage their engines."

Fortunately, we have one gas station in Easton that carries no-ethanol gasoline. The CROWN near Easton Hardware has ethanol free gas. (currently costing over \$5.00/gal.) To get a list of stations carrying no-ethanol fuel go to pure-gas.org

Contact your government officials and the EPA about the effect E15 will have on your engines!



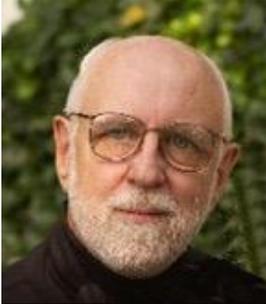
Ethanol and Small Engines Water Condensation

Ethanol attracts water and water is absorbed into the ethanol – gasoline fuel mixture. This moisture tends to slowly deteriorate metal parts of the fuel tank and carburetor. This problem can be averted by using fresh fuel or by using additives if water condensation is suspected.

If the fuel you are using smells sour or smells like nail polish, it is stale. Don't use it!



Can you identify "YOUR" BLOCK CAPTAIN?



Roger



Crystal



Doug



Chris & Kari



Donny



Kay



Glory Bee



Jim



Pat



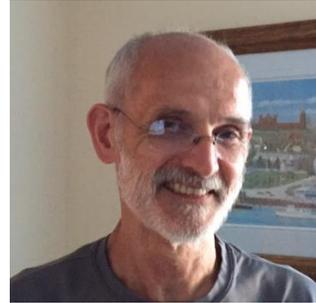
Sue



Eric



Val



Larry



Christie



Sharon



Mary



Theresa



Mike



Marge



JUST FOR LAUGHS



1. A boat has a ladder that has six rungs, each rung is one foot apart. The bottom rung is one foot from the water. The tide rises at 12 inches every 15 minutes. High tide peaks in one hour. When the tide is at its highest, how many rungs are under water?
2. What is the significance of the following: The year is 1978, thirty-four minutes past noon on May 6th?
3. Is half of two plus two equal to two or three?

Are you driving 25 MPH when in Rio Vista?



Slow Down!

Residents are seen driving over the speed limit! Please stay within 25 MPH! School is about to start and there will be more children to watch out for. Will you be the first to cause an injury to one of our residents?

Answers for questions above:

1. None, the boat rises with the tide.
2. The time and month/date/year are 12:34, 5/6/78.
3. Three. Well, it seems that it could almost be either, but if you follow the mathematical orders of operation, division is performed before addition. So... half of two is one. Then add two, and the answer is three.



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“Thank you” to Larry Poore of the Poorehouse for his support of Rio Vista Community! They have expanded with an office in Easton.

st.40 = St. Michaels’ Fire Station #

The Star Democrat published the announcement that **The St. Michaels Fire Department** would not host a carnival this year because the carnival company it had hired had gone out of business. The search for another carnival was not successful.

According to the Star Democrat, “The SMFD’s operating budget comes from several sources, including appropriations from the town, county and state. The remainder of the department’s operating budget must be raised through community donations. Fundraising events, such as chicken barbecues; food sales from the department’s food trailer at events, such as Waterman’s Appreciation Day at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum; and from the carnival and raffle, have helped to fund the department’s operating budget in the past. But because the carnival and the raffle were the biggest draw, their funds will be considerably lower.”

The next Chicken BBQ will be on **Saturday, August 20th** starting at 10:00 AM. Pit Beef and Turkey

The SMFD’s Annual Pig Roast and Crab Feast will be held on **October 22, 2016**. Enjoy **all** the steamed crabs, BBQ pork, cold beer and other fixings for one price. Advance tickets will be \$45 each and tickets at the door will be \$50 each. To reserve your seats now, call 410-745-9393 or find them on the web at: **www.stmichaelsfd.org**. Food is served until 5:00 PM.

Sandwiches will be served on **Saturday, Sept 17th**



St. Michaels Fire Dept. needs our support!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Christ Church
Rev. John F. Keydel
(410) 745 - 9076
info@christsmichaels.org

WEEKLY

Tuesdays, 8 AM - 9 AM
Sunday Readings Bible Discussion Group at
Blue Heron Coffee (W. Chestnut St.)

Wednesdays, 11 AM - 12:30 PM
Wednesday Book Discussion Group

Thursdays, 10 AM
Mommy, Music & Me

Thursdays, 8 PM
AA Meetings

These are monthly on-going ...

3rd Sunday at 5 PM
Dinner Church

1st Monday, 9:30 AM
Caregivers Meeting

3rd Monday, 5 PM
Christmas in St. Michaels Meeting

1st Wednesday, 12:10 PM
Healing Service

DATES

August 14th
9:30 AM Blessing of the Back-to-School Backpacks

September 3rd
1 PM Organ @ 1

Monday, September 5th
St. Michaels Food Pantry & Parish Office Closed

September 8th
9 AM Adult Christian Education (begins weekly)

September 11th
9 AM One service only

September 18th
10:15 AM Kirkin o' Tartans followed by Ice Cream on the Lawn
5 PM Dinner Church

October 2nd
10:15 AM Blessing of the Animals

October 7th & 8th (Friday & Saturday) Rummage Sale
Friday: 7 AM - 2 PM; Saturday: 8 AM - 12 PM
You may drop off articles Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday)

October 10th
St. Michaels Food Pantry & Parish Office Closed

October 22nd
'Together Not Alone'

Sunday, November 6th
9 AM One service only

St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Rev. Tonya McClain
(410) 745-2534
stlukeschurch@verizon.net

MONTHLY

August 7th 3 PM
The Fathers and Sons Quartet Concert

August 13th 10 AM - 4 PM
Craft Show

September 10th, 9AM - 3 PM
16 Annual Book Sale & Craft Show

October 1st 11-4PM
Faith Fest Saturday
Craft Show

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St. Michael's Mission Church
Rev. James Nash, Pastor
Rev. Glenn M. Evers, Associate Paster
(410) 822-2344
www.ssppeaston.org

WEEKLY

Wednesdays 12:00 Noon
Mass & Confessions (before Mass)

Saturdays 5:30 PM
Mass

Sundays 10:15 PM
Mass

.....
Union United Methodist Church
Rev. Dr. William T. Wallace, Sr.
(410) 745-2784
uumc@atlanticbb.net

Union United Methodist Church in St. Michaels is preparing for our Annual Homecoming Celebration on Sunday, August 28th, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. and we are inviting our family and friends to fellowship with us.

This year, our guest preacher is Rev. Dr. Shirlyn Henry-Brown, the Easton District Superintendent. Musical selections will be rendered by the blended voices of the Covenant Gospel Choir, which is a combination of members of all denominations from the area churches.

As always, fellowship will continue with dinner in the parish hall. Please join us in making this a joyous homecoming and we thank you for your continued support. If you would like to be included in our souvenir journal, one quarter page is twenty-five dollars (\$25.00), one-half page is fifty-dollars (\$50.00) and a whole page is one hundred dollars (\$100.00). To be included on the "Patron" or "In Memory Of" page is (\$2.00) per name. The deadline for submitting advertisements by mail and/or to be a patron is July 30th, 2016. **Pass due but could try calling.** Please include your advertisement along with your check. Make your check payable to Union United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 978, St. Michaels, Maryland 21663

Marlus 

The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.....

"Let us not be weary in doing good; for at the proper time, we will reap a harvest if we do not give up". Galatians 6:9

Board of Governors

President	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Vice-President/Legal Liaison	Judy Sandground	(410) 745-5118
Secretary	Jan Burke	(410) 745-9768
Treasurer	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Erosion Control	Jack Davis	(410) 745-2461
Architectural Review	Barry Burke	(410) 745-3885
Nav-Light	Charles Rogers	(818) 207-0007
Finance	Sharri Foy	(401) 745-8622
Landscape	Hunter Plog	(410) 745-5492
E-mail	Rio Vista Association	riovistamd@riovistacom.org

Committees

Architectural E-mail	Barry Burke (architectural@riovistacom.org)	(410) 745-3885
	Doug Gibson	(410) 745-9487
	Patrick Kennedy	(410) 745-2800
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	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
Community Events	Ann Davis	(410) 745-2461
	Sandi Droege	(410) 745-6572
Dock	Hunter Plog	(410) 745-5492
	Jan Burke	(410) 745-9768
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	Jan Burke	(410) 745-9768
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	Hunter Plog	(410) 745-5492
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	Dick Cooper	(410) 745-5233