

The Islander

Your Rumsey Island Residents Association Publication



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Dianna Guthrie
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February 2009

2009 Meeting Dates

All R.I.R.A. Membership Meetings are held at the Joppa Library beginning at 6:30 p.m.

- **March 19, Thursday**
- April 16, Thursday
- May 21, Thursday
- June 18, Thursday
- July 16, Thursday
- August 20, Thursday
- September 10, Thursday
- October 15, Thursday
- November 18, Wednesday
- December 10, Thursday

2008 Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Congratulations go out to these Winners!

Single Homes

1st Place – 103 Beacon Pt
2nd Place – 663 Towne Center Dr.

Towne Homes

1st Place – 510Anchor
2nd place – 4 Neptune

Thanks to all the residents that lit up our Island during the holidays!!

Block Captain Needed

We are in need of a block captain to deliver R.I.R.A. newsletters to Court Drive. If you are interested, please call Rose Marie Vaccaro at 410-679-8801.

2009 Membership Drive

It is time for the Rumsey Island Resident Association membership drive. Your participation is one way to support all the community activities that will be taking place this year. Support the drive this year, and encourage your neighbors to join in as we work together in building a safe and healthy community that you will be proud to call home.

Copies of Covenants Now Available

The Association will now provide residents with a copy of the Rumsey Island covenants for a small processing fee. You may obtain your copy by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope, along with a check made payable to R.I.R.A for \$10.00, to:

R.I.R.A., P.O. Box 196, Joppa, MD 21085

Next Yard Waste Pick Up

April 25, 2009

R.I.R.A. MEMBERS ONLY

The Association is billed for the amount of debris removed on collection day. Membership Dues must be paid by May 1st in order to participate.

Next Rumsey Island Yard Sale

May 9, 2009

Why not get creative! Get your kids involved and donate some of the funds to their favorite charity!

Look For These Upcoming Events in 2008

Crab Feast
Fall Yard Waste Pickup -
(R.I.R.A. Members Only)
Fall Yard Sale
Holiday Decorating Contest

Baltimore Examiner Publishes Final Issue

The Baltimore Examiner has published its last issue. The free tabloid that launched less than three years ago as Baltimore's second daily newspaper printed its last issue on Sunday Feb. 15th. The Island will no longer be cluttered with these newspapers. Hooray!

County Councilman Dion Guthrie reports:
Shore Drive/Town Center – Road Modifications

This project has been delayed because the citizens in the immediate area did not like the original design, so we basically sent the County back to the drawing board. Jeff Stratmeyer, from the Harford County Department of Public Works, is working on this project and these drawings. They have finalized their drawings on this project and are having those drawings reviewed by the "powers-to-be". When they are approved by the County, we will have another meeting, for the interested parties, to review the latest updates for their approval or rejection.

Waste-to-Energy Plant

This facility is of great concern to both Joppatowne and Edgewood as it will be constructed at the end of Rt. 152 where Rt. 152 goes into Aberdeen Proving Ground. There is an existing waste-to-energy plant there now. The existing facility capacity is about 360 tons a day. The new facility, which will be built right alongside the existing facility, will expand to an additional 1,500 tons a day. This is a "large" facility. The cost of this facility will be somewhere in the \$400 million range. My concerns are traffic in the area and how it will be increased and the County's ability to cut in another road off of Rt. 24, which will help to eliminate some traffic on Rt. 152. The Bill has not been approved as of this date. It is on holdover until March, 2009.

New Franchise Agreement for Verizon

The Verizon franchise agreement was approved Tuesday night, February 17, 2009, and Verizon is welcome to our County. This agreement will last 15 years and will provide the famous "FiOS" for our citizens who would like to have it. Don't get too excited as it will not happen overnight; however, finally there is some competition for Comcast and that competition can only help our citizens.

Meeting with David Cordish

On Monday, February 16, 2009, I met with David Cordish (himself) at the Edgewood Shopping Center to discuss both the Edgewood Shopping Center and the Joppatowne Shopping Center as to "when" we can expect to see an update of these shopping centers. Especially since C-Mart has vacated the huge facility in Joppatowne is causing great concern among our citizens. Mr. Cordish says that they are looking at that facility and are contemplating breaking that building up into smaller units that may be easier to rent during these tough economic times. Edgewood Shopping Center is a disaster. That facility has 24 stores in it and 16 of them are vacant. In addition, you would be hard pressed to find a vacant store anywhere on Rt. 40; however, in this shopping center there are plenty. The reasons are obvious. Its other three out-buildings, on the parking lot, are in deplorable condition. The roofs are rotting away, rain spouts are dangling and siding has blown off the buildings. Those buildings need to be demolished. They cannot be fixed. Mr. Cordish has agreed to do so, if, at some time in the future, he will still be able to rebuild on those two sites. I have agreed to try to get him legislation that will do that. He also has agreed to put a complete facelift on the entire shopping center, starting no later than late spring or early summer. I certainly will stay on top of both of these issues with the hope that Mr. Cordish will be a man of his word. I think at this time we have the "pressure" that we need because, as you know, he is trying to get a slot machine facility somewhere in the State and he doesn't want this negative press.

Edgewood Train Station

The rebuilding of the Edgewood Train Station is still moving forward though delayed. The State is waiting for AMTRAK to produce the documents they need to move forward with the process. They are hoping to have the final bids out in six months with a completion in 15 months.

NOW ACCEPTING 2009 MEMBERSHIP DUES

WHY JOIN RIRA ?

RIRA Membership is open to all residents, both homeowners and renters. Membership dues support community activities, landscape maintenance, fund our growing web site, and pays advertising costs for seasonal yard sales. In addition a membership allows you to purchase a discounted ticket to the Annual Crab Feast and to participate in the Yard Waste Pickup twice a year. RIRA annual membership dues of \$25.00 are payable each calendar year and are in effect from January to December of that year.

!.....Cut along the dotted line and mail in with your membership dues.....!

Enclose \$25.00 payment for annual membership dues.

**R.I.R.A.
Box 196
Joppa, Md. 21085**

Name _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

YES! Send me notification of meetings and upcoming events via E-mail