

# NEWS FROM THE GLEN

**Newsletter of Glen Allen**  
[www.glenallen.org](http://www.glenallen.org)  
**Bowie, Maryland**  
**Fall 2008**

## **Neighborhood Watch Reactivated** **By Dave Nixon,** **Neighborhood Watch Chair**

Glen Allen is attempting to bring back our old Neighborhood Watch program and restore it to full efficiency. The process has already begun, and we want to have full participation from the entire community.

Some in our community have experienced some measure of criminal activity in recent weeks and months, just as we are ramping up our Watch program. Neighbors have had their homes burglarized, vehicles damaged or stolen, and property trespassed upon. Many of our neighbors have already begun to band together in local meetings on neighborhood streets to declare that everything legally possible will be done to keep this community free from such unwanted activity. In a recent community meeting on Artesian Lane, most of the neighbors got together with the Bowie City

Police Department and Mayor Robinson to discuss plans to eliminate such problems on the surrounding streets. This part of our community is on high alert and is learning how to respond.

But we can't stop there, we want to build on that momentum. The key point of the Neighborhood Watch program is awareness and getting to know the neighbors around you. This is much the same as what has been accomplished in these local meetings. When neighbors get to know each other, they can look out for one another. As the Neighborhood Watch program goes along, we want to get to know our neighbors and raise the awareness of our surroundings to each member of the community. We want to have an informed community, so we will work to share information and try to provide local crime statistics to members of the Watch program.

In the near future, we hope to have a fully functional Neighborhood Watch program that will work in conjunction with local police to provide constant surveillance of our  
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community. We will work with Prince George's County Police and Bowie City Police to receive the proper training on safety, prevention and appropriate responses to illegal activity taking place around us. Look for coming opportunities to get involved.

Together we can maintain this community as a safe and enjoyable place to live. If you would like to help out with the Neighborhood Watch committee or just need more information about it, contact Sherry Jones of ProCom on 301-261-0777, x100 or via email at [sjones@procomgt.com](mailto:sjones@procomgt.com).

## **Architectural Guidelines Update for Solar Panels**

**By Charles Brown,  
ARC Chair**

We are reading many news articles concerning rising energy costs and the need to conserve energy by using alternative applications. Installing solar panels is increasing popular. The appearance of solar panels is much improved since ten years ago. The panels are more compact, they blend in with the roof's color scheme, and some panels can be installed that look like shingles. Therefore, it is appropriate that the Glen Allen architectural guideline on solar panels be amended to remove the street side location restriction. This amendment, to be voted on at the September board meeting, will change the Guideline from: "Solar panels are not permitted on the side of the roof facing the street and any other location must be approved by the ARC." to "The location of solar panels to the residence will be approved by the ARC on a case by case basis." If passed, detailed pictures of the proposed solar panel installation will have to be submitted with the ARC application in order to obtain a fast decision by the committee.

## **Bowie's Backyard Habitat Program**

The Bowie Backyard Habitat Program is one of 12 environmental action plans proposed in the City's [Environmental Infrastructure Action Strategy \(EI\) Plan](#), approved by the City Council in September 2007. Bowie already has over 40 National Wildlife Federation (NWF) certified backyards and would like to have at least 150 by 2012. These backyards provide habitats for small wildlife and birds. This includes food sources (native plants and feeders), a water source (even a birdbath counts), cover or shelter, and sustainable gardening (using practices that promote native plant species and the natural balance of the land and watershed).

Wildlife is attracted to yards that have native plants and fewer chemicals ([www.nwf.org/backyard/](http://www.nwf.org/backyard/)). Native plants are hardy and drought-resistant so they require less water and need little to no care [www.mdflora.org/](http://www.mdflora.org/). They are generally more tolerant of native insects and diseases and they are better for the environment as well as easier and less expensive to maintain because they require no chemical treatment. Fewer chemicals in the yard means fewer chemicals in the soil and in stormwater runoff. Removing invasive plant species from the environment allows natives to flourish and increases biodiversity of fauna and flora. ([www.invasive.org/eastern/midatlantic/](http://www.invasive.org/eastern/midatlantic/)).

You can learn more about the Backyard Habitat Program on [www.cityofbowie.org/green/backyard\\_habitat.htm](http://www.cityofbowie.org/green/backyard_habitat.htm). To become a part of the program, fill out the NWF Habitat Certification Application online at [www.nwf.org/certify](http://www.nwf.org/certify) or download the application and mail it in.

## Xtreme Teens

Through the Xtreme Teen program, Prince George's County Department of Parks and Recreation offers opportunities to explore and enjoy the arts, nature, sports, travel and other healthy, fun, interesting recreational pursuits. Socialize with peers, participate in workshops, volunteer, perform, learn new skills and gain a greater familiarity with the extraordinary parks and recreational opportunities available throughout the county.

Log on to [www.pgxtremeteens.com](http://www.pgxtremeteens.com) or call 301-699-CALL to learn more about the Xtreme Teens recreation activities (ages 13-17) and the Xtreme Pre-Teens recreation activities (ages 10-12). Have fun visiting parks, nature centers, trails, museums, performing arts venues, swimming pools, ice skating rinks, golf courses, gymnastics centers, a disc golf course, and more.

## HOA Contacts

### ProCom, Inc.

Sherry Jones: 301-261-0777

### HOA Board of Directors

Karen DeFazio, President: 301-249-7463

Charles Brown, Vice President:  
301-351-1396

Cary Hithon, Treasurer: 301-218-1956

Gary Goldberg, Secretary: 301-249-2271

Dorothy Morrison, At-Large: 301-390-2841

### City Council Member, District 4

Isaac Truth: 301-249-0707

### Committees and Chairs

Architectural Review, Charles Brown

Grounds and Maintenance, Joe Brust

Hospitality, Gary Goldberg

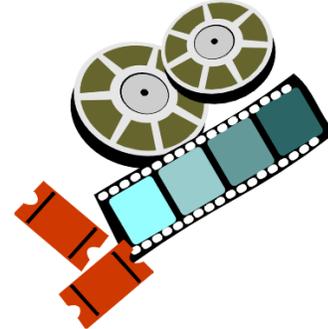
Neighborhood Watch, David Nixon

Newsletter: Karen and Bob DeFazio

Website: [www.glenallen.org](http://www.glenallen.org)

## Movie Night Sept 13<sup>th</sup>

By Gary Goldberg,  
Hospitality Chair



Weather permitting, the Glen Allen HOA is proud to sponsor the next community Movie Night on Saturday, September 13th, 2008 at twilight, at the commons area near the intersection of Arden Forest Lane and Atlantis Drive. The featured presentation will be **Alvin and the Chipmunks**, rated PG, and starring Jason Lee and David Cross, with the voice of Justin Long (the Mac Guy in the Apple ads) as Alvin. **Alvin and the Chipmunks** is 92 minutes long, and is a great family film for everyone to enjoy.

Popcorn and cold drinks will be served, and glow-in-the-dark necklaces will be free for all children under 16. Come out and meet your neighbors and enjoy a movie under the stars on the BIG two-story projection screen. Bring a lawn chair or blanket per person, and please -- don't just send the kids! Come out yourself and have some fun. Part of your homeowner association fees pay to make this possible, so please make sure we're spending it wisely with your attendance.

## Crime Statistics for Glen Allen and Surrounding Area

	June	July	Aug.
<b>Homicide</b>	0	0	0
<b>Rape</b>	1	0	0
<b>Commercial Robbery</b>	0	0	0
<b>Residential Robbery</b>	0	0	0
<b>Citizen Robbery</b>	2	3	0
<b>Carjacking</b>	0	0	0
<b>Assault</b>	3	5	1
<b>Commercial Burglary</b>	0	1	4
<b>Residential Burglary</b>	4	1	2
<b>Theft</b>	31	25	17
<b>Theft from Autos</b>	12	17	7
<b>Stolen Autos</b>	4	6	3

## Police Calls for Service in Glen Allen June, July and August, 2008

Residents in the Glen Allen community requested a total of 20 calls for service in June, 22 calls for service in July, and 28 calls for service as of August 22, 2008. The police responded to seven false burglar alarms in June, four burglar alarms in July, and eleven burglar alarms in August. Seven of the burglar alarms in August were in the same neighborhood, suspects have been identified. The police wrote three reports in June, four in July, and one in August. The table below indicates the number of reports by type of call for service.

Glen Allen Calls for Service					
June 2008		July 2008		August 2008	
Call Type	Number	Call Type	Number	Call Type	Number
Vandalism	2	Res. Burglary	1	Chk person	1
Theft f/Auto	1	Stolen Auto	2		
		Vandalism	1		

Both the City of Bowie PD and the Prince George's County PD answer calls for service from our community. This arrangement will continue until the Bowie PD is sufficiently manned to perform all of the policing functions.

Continue to be aware of your surroundings and report all suspicious activity to the police. Please use the handout on page 5 for reporting these activities.

# REPORT CRIME TO POLICE

**911**

Emergency Situations and In Progress

**301-333-4000**

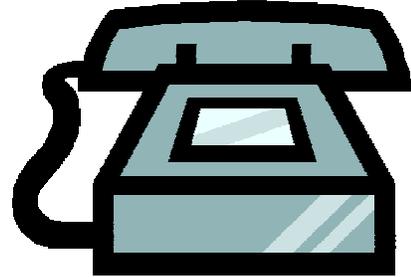
Non-Emergency Situations  
(with caller identification)

**301-390-2100**

Prince George's County Police Department  
Bowie Station  
(no caller identification)

**301-390-2161**

Citizen's Satisfaction Manager  
If you want to discuss the service/response



## INFORMATION MOST OFTEN NEEDED BY POLICE

- ✓ What happened?
- ✓ When did it happen?
- ✓ Where did it happen?
- ✓ Was anyone injured?
- ✓ Vehicle license number and vehicle description
- ✓ Direction of travel
- ✓ Description of person(s) including clothing. Notice age, race, sex, gender, height and weight if safe. Compare your own weight and height with the person(s). Pick out any unique characteristics such as scars, tattoos, and/or jewelry that will help you identify the person(s) in the future if necessary.

# Old Eddie

It happens every Friday evening, almost without fail, when the sun resembles a giant orange and is starting to dip into the blue ocean. Old Ed comes strolling along the beach to his favorite pier. Clutched in his bony hand is a bucket of shrimp.

Ed walks out to the end of the pier, where it seems he almost has the world to himself. The glow of the sun is a golden bronze now. Everybody's gone, except for a few joggers on the beach. Standing out on the end of the pier, Ed is alone with his thoughts....and his bucket of shrimp.

Before long, however, he is no longer alone. Up in the sky a thousand white dots come screeching and squawking, winging their way toward that lanky frame standing there on the end of the pier. Before long, dozens of seagulls have enveloped him, their wings fluttering and flapping wildly. Ed stands there tossing shrimp to the hungry birds. As he does, if you listen closely, you can hear him say with a smile, 'Thank you. Thank you.'

In a few short minutes the bucket is empty. But Ed doesn't leave. He stands there lost in thought, as though transported to another time and place. Invariably, one of the gulls lands on his sea-bleached, weather-beaten hat - an old military hat he's been wearing for years. When he finally turns around and begins to walk back toward the beach, a few of the birds hop along the pier with him until he gets to the stairs, and then they, too, fly away. And old Ed quietly makes his way down to the end of the beach and on home.

If you were sitting there on the pier with your fishing line in the water, Ed might seem like 'a funny old duck,' as my dad used to say. Or, 'a guy that's a sandwich shy of a picnic,' as my kids might say. To

onlookers, he's just another old codger, lost in his own weird world, feeding the seagulls with a bucket full of shrimp. To the onlooker, rituals can look either very strange or very empty. They can seem altogether unimportant....maybe even a lot of nonsense. Old folks often do strange things, at least in the eyes of Boomers and Busters. Most of them would probably write Old Ed off, down there in Florida.

That's too bad. They'd do well to know him better. His full name: Eddie Rickenbacker. He was a famous hero back in World War II. On one of his flying missions across the Pacific, he and his seven-member crew went down. Miraculously, all of the men survived, crawled out of their plane, and climbed into a life raft. Captain Rickenbacker and his crew floated for days on the rough waters of the Pacific. They fought the sun. They fought sharks. Most of all, they fought hunger. By the eighth day their rations ran out. No food. No water. They were hundreds of miles from land and no one knew where they were. They needed a miracle.

That afternoon they had a simple devotional service and prayed for a miracle. They tried to nap. Eddie leaned back and pulled his military cap over his nose. Time dragged. All he could hear was the slap of the waves against the raft.

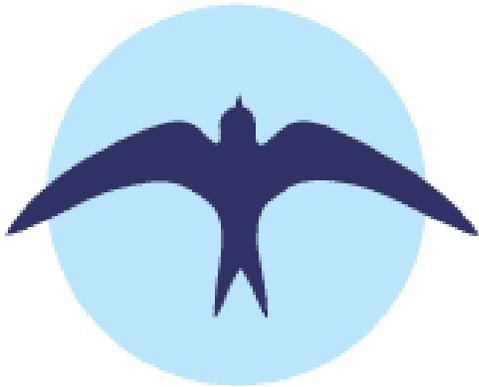
Suddenly, Eddie felt something land on the top of his cap. It was a seagull! Old Ed would later describe how he sat perfectly still, planning his next move. With a flash of his hand and a squawk from the gull, he managed to grab it and wring its neck. He tore the feathers off, and he and his starving crew made a meal - a very slight meal for eight men - of it. Then they used the intestines for bait. With it, they caught fish, which gave them food and  
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more bait.....and the cycle continued. With that simple survival technique, they were able to endure the rigors of the sea until they were found and rescued. (after 24 days at sea...)

Eddie Rickenbacker lived many years beyond that ordeal, but he never forgot the sacrifice of that first lifesaving seagull. And he never stopped saying, 'Thank you.' That's why almost every Friday night he would walk to the end of the pier with a bucket full of shrimp and a heart full of gratitude.

(Max Lucado, In The Eye of the Storm, pp.221, 225-226)

PS: Eddie was also an Ace in WW I and started Eastern Airlines.



## Cooking With Bob

### Spaghetti Alio e Olio with Broccoli

#### Ingredients:

1 lb.	No. 8 Spaghetti
1/2 cup	Olive or Vegetable Oil
6 cloves	Fresh Garlic
	Red Pepper (to taste), a 1/4 t might be a good start
	Salt (to taste)
_ cup	Grated Parmesan Cheese
12 oz.	Broccoli Florets (fresh or frozen)
	Parsley (chopped for a garnish)

Cook the spaghetti in boiling water until your preferred degree of tenderness. Recipe is best if spaghetti is "el dente" (slightly firm). Reserve \_ cup of spaghetti water. Drain spaghetti, rinse well and set aside.

Cook the broccoli until tender and set aside.

Heat the oil in 12 to 16 inch skillet on medium heat until a cube of bread begins to brown. Split the garlic cloves and cook them with the red pepper in the oil until they are brown. DO NOT LET THE GARLIC BURN. Remove the garlic when browned and discard.

Place the spaghetti in the heated oil and toss gently until spaghetti is well coated. Add the broccoli, salt and Parmesan cheese; toss a few more times. If the spaghetti seems dry, add the pasta water. Place on a warm platter, sprinkle with parsley and serve immediately. Recipe serves 5-6.

Bob DeFazio



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