

The Riverdale Park Town Crier

November 2018

Volume 48, Issue 10

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Town of Riverdale Park Contact Information

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road 301-927-6381 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Department of Public Works

5012 Queensbury Road 301-864-1803 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Police Department

5004 Queensbury Road 301-927-4343 24-hours

Bates Trucking and Trash Collection

Bulk Trash Collection BY APPOINTMENT ONLY 301-773-2069

*Residents must contact Bates by 2 p.m. on Tuesday for a Wednesday pickup. Residents may request a bulk trash pickup online at www.batestrucking.com. Click on Customer Center and complete the Request Service form.

Thank you to our Riverdale Park Day 2018! sponsors

Burtons Grill & Bar

Riverdale Park Dental

Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA)

Ernie's Lock Co. Inc.

Geppetto Catering

Peake Technology Partners

Veterans Day Ceremony

Sunday, November 11th 11:00 a.m.

Veterans Monument

(Located between Lafayette Avenue and Natoli Place)

Refreshments following Ceremony



Council Actions

Legislative Meeting on October 1, 2018

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items: - Approved

- 1. Fence Permit Application: 5012 Oglethorpe Street, 6-foot privacy fence in backyard (Ward 3)
- 2. Diversity and Inclusion Policy Statement
- 3. Minutes from August 27, 2018 Public Hearing
- 4. Minutes from August 27, 2018 Work Session
- 5. Minutes from September 10, 2018 Legislative Meeting

Legislative Action Items:

- 1. Introduction of Ordinance 2018-OR-12 regarding revisions to Ethics Ordinance **Introduced**
- 2. Introduction of Ordinance 2018-OR-13 amendments to Chapter 23 Charges and Fees **Introduced**
- 3. Motion to approve Resolution 2018-R-15 regarding Competitive Negotiated Sale Process **Approved**
- 4. Motion to designate 4603 East West Highway as property no longer needed for a public purpose and the property will be made available to interested parties through the Competitive Negotiated Sale Process **Approved**
- Motion to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter to the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners opposing the Special Entertainment Permit Application for El Sitio Restaurant located at 5837 Riverdale Road - Approved
- Motion to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter expressing the Town's opposition to the Maryland Traffic Relief Plan - Approved
- Motion to establish the Centennial Celebration Committee and approve appointments of CM Faulx and CM Richardson -Approved
- 8. Motion to approve Mayor Thompson and CM Dixon as the Town's representatives to Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) **Approved**
- 9. Motion to approve nomination of CM Lingua to serve on the ATHA Governing Board **Approved**

New Business:

 Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign an addendum to contract with VMP Construction Inc. for Roadway Improvements for Riverdale and Queensbury Roads, Contract 18-0001 - Approved

Stay up-to-date with all of the happenings in Town:

- ✓ Check out the new Town website at www.riverdaleparkmd.gov
- ✓ Like the Town's Facebook page
- ✓ Read the Town Manager's Status and Information Report

Town of Riverdale Park

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Mayor

Alan K. Thompson akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Council Members

Ward 1 – Marsha Dixon, 301-531-4230 *mdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

Ward 2 – Aaron Faulx, 860-970-7776 *afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

Ward 3 – David Lingua, 301-779-3849 *djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

Ward 4 – Christopher Henry, 301-910-9855 *chenry@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

Ward 5 – Colleen Richardson, 240-646-6457 crichardson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 6 – Vacant

Administration

John N. Lestitian, **Town Manager** *jnlesititian@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

Jessica Barnes, **Town Clerk** *jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

Kevin Simpson, **Development Services Director** *ksimpson@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

Paul Smith, Finance and Employee Services Director

psmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

David Morris, **Chief of Police** dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356
Brian Carpio, Fire Chief
Eng7twr@yahoo.com;
info@riverdalevfd.com;
www.riverdalevfd.com

The Town Crier is also available on the Town's Website: www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Submission deadline: 15th of each month

Send submissions to: towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Fair Summary of Ordinance 2018-OR-12

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2018-OR-12.

Ordinance 2018-OR-12 would repeal Ordinance 2018-OR-01 and revise conflict of interest and financial disclosure provisions of the Town's ethics ordinance to comply with requirements of Maryland law.

Ordinance 2018-OR-12 is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

RIVERDALE PARK TOWN COUNCIL

BY: JESSICA BARNES, TOWN CLERK

*Also published in the *Enquirer-Gazette* on October 4, 2018.

Fair Summary of Ordinance 2018-OR-13

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2018-OR-13.

Ordinance 2018-OR-13 would revise the schedule of certain charges and fees imposed and collected by the Town of Riverdale Park.

Ordinance 2018-OR-13 is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

RIVERDALE PARK TOWN COUNCIL

BY: JESSICA BARNES, TOWN CLERK

*Also published in the *Enquirer-Gazette* on October 4, 2018.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan K. Thompson

Halloween is past, and the weather is starting to truly get chilly, so the holiday season must be lurking in the near future. I look forward to it as a time to spend with family and friends, savoring the time I have with them.

Election 2018

Just as a reminder, there will be elections for County and State offices (including Governor, State Senate, State Representatives, County Executive, County Council, and School Board) on November 6. I hope everyone will turn out to vote — elected officials notice where people vote, so the town will benefit if we have high turnout!

Ward 6 Council Representative

I had still not heard back from some potential candidates for the vacant Ward 6 seat, so was unable to make an appointment to fill the vacant Ward 6 seat at the October 1st meeting. I will make an appointment at the November 5th legislative meeting, and am enthusiastic about the people I have interviewed.

Riverdale Park Day

As is always true, I enjoyed Riverdale Park Day in October! It was great to see some new sponsors, such as Burton's Grill, at the event, along with long-term attendees like the Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department (with their always-perfect burgers and hot dogs). Sadly, the funnel cake vendor was not there because of a conflict with another event, so I will have to wait for my annual funnel cake (and the powdered sugar) until June of 2019, when we will have *another* Riverdale Park Day (we are shifting the date in anticipation of the Town's centennial in 2020). I did learn a lot from the information booths, and had great discussions with residents of town!

Reporting Concerns to Town Government

Last month I discussed the Town's new web site, and this month I want to focus on a fabulous new feature – reporting a concern! A few times a week (at least) residents contact me to report a concern, whether it's about a sign that needs to be replaced, a request for additional police enforcement, or a question about heavy trash schedules. I work very hard to stay on top of these requests, but sometimes it can take me a day or two to forward it on to the appropriate member of the staff. On the new web site, you can fill out an

online form that town staff monitor several times a day, and perhaps get your request addressed sooner. The form is at

http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov/citizen_request_cente r/index.php You should of course feel free to contact me (or other town staff) via e-mail or phone – this is just another way to express your concern. We are still figuring out how to keep residents updated on progress with their concerns, but I think it's a great new way to contact us.

Visitors from Ipala

As you may remember, I visited our sister city, Ipala, Guatemala, in July. A group of teachers from Ipala will be visiting us here in November as part of a program to teach public school students about the language and culture of the indigenous people that lived (and live) near Ipala. The Town will have a reception on November 26th at 7:30 p.m., prior to the Council Work Session, to welcome our visitors from Ipala. All are invited to attend!

Towing Lawsuit

In my report in the July-August Town Crier, I mentioned that the Town had lost a lawsuit brought by Greg's Towing, and that I would not discuss it further because post-trial motions were not yet decided. In late September, the judge in the lawsuit vacated (overturned) the judgement, finding in favor of the Town. Greg's Towing has indicated that they will appeal this decision, so I will again have to wait until the legal process is complete to discuss the lawsuit.

Purple Line Construction

I typically only get a few weeks (at best) of advance notice on Purple Line activities, so it is best to sign up for announcements directly from https://www.purplelinemd.com/construction/. That being said, construction will continue to ramp up where East-West Highway crosses underneath the Baltimore Washington Parkway (the current bridge will be replaced as part of the project). As I'm writing this article, River Road is scheduled for some short-term lane closures (but by the time it reaches print, there is likely to be something new). If you have immediate questions or concerns about construction, you can call the project help line 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 240-424-5325 or send e-mail to outreach@pltcllc.com.

Contact Me

If you have any questions or comments about any aspect of Town government, please contact me by email (akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov) or phone (301-237-0632). I will get back to you as quickly as I can, but please remember that while I love being Mayor, I have a full-time job during the day with an associated commute (as do the other members of the Town Council), and it may take me a little while to get back to you. If you leave me a voice mail (and please do if I don't answer!) I'd be grateful if you could let me know what times are good for me to call you back. Thanks!

Look for me here again in November, when we will mark the 100-year anniversary of the end of World War I, and start the holiday season!

Ward 3 Report

Council Member David J. Lingua

First off, an appreciative "Thank you" to the volunteers, town staff, and sponsors for producing and supporting this year's Riverdale Park Day. As the early fall is a busy time for many, it was with this in mind that the decision was made to shift the celebration back to June. Originally, the June date was chosen to mark the town's incorporation date of June 14, 1920. As well, in the past the event planning and production was handled almost exclusively by residents of the town. To the extent staff was involved was with the disbursement of funds along with day-of support and participation. While staff is happy to lend a hand, it is imperative the event's organization returns to residents who are willing and able to volunteer to do so. To any who read this and are so inclined to lend a hand, please, step right up. You can contact yours truly, the mayor, or the councilmember for your Ward.

Speaking of 1920, a Centennial Committee has been established and is being formed with Councilmembers Richardson and Faulx working towards its organization. Like Riverdale Park Day, volunteers among the town's residents willing and able to do so are needed and will be appreciated greatly. For a celebration like this, many hands will be needed to help make light work of it all. Please, do consider becoming involved.

During October, I had the fortunate opportunity to attend the Maryland Municipal League's Fall Conference. Held in Annapolis, the three day event was

especially informative; with seminars on addressing blighted properties, developing Public Information Officer skills for non-PIOs, climate change adaptation, as well as collaborative approaches to municipal challenges. Of particular note was the seminar on municipal hot topics; covering the aforementioned blighted properties and stormwater management concerns, annexation and land use issues, and an update on small cell tower ordinances. MML's priority will be advocating against state preemption of local authority to site small cell infrastructure this upcoming legislative session. They will also oppose attempts to diminish municipal authority through legislation, regulation, or otherwise. Suffice it to say, there were more than three good ideas to bring back to Riverdale Park to work towards implementing.

November in Maryland is Municipal Government Works Month; a time to promote citizen's awareness of and interest in their municipal government. Among the month's activities, staff is planning a visit to Riverdale Elementary to talk about municipal government.

Best wishes for a memorable Thanksgiving and safe travels to wherever the holiday takes you.

Public Works

Holiday Trash Collection

Regular trash **will be** collected on Monday, November 12th, the observance date for Veterans Day 2018.

Regular trash **will not** be collected on Thursday, November 22nd in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. The next regular trash collection will be on Monday, November 26th.

Saturday Bulk Trash Drop-Off

The fall/winter schedule for drop-off of bulk trash is: November 17 and December 15. Town residents may deliver residential bulk trash items to the Department of Public Works from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Please contact the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803.

As a reminder, residents may also schedule a bulk trash pick-up through the Town's contracted trash collection provider, Bates Trucking and Trash, by calling 301-773-2069 or visiting their website, https://www.batestrucking.com/customer-center/request-service/.

Trash Tote Repair/Replacement

To coordinate the replacement of damaged trash totes, residents should call the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803. The Town's contracted trash service provider will replace the damaged totes. Please note that a replacement tote will not be delivered if the damaged one is not there for pick-up. Replacements will take place on Thursdays.

Leaf Collection

Leaf collection officially begins on November 5th and runs through January 15, 2019.

To make the leaf collection process work as efficiently as possible, residents should adhere to the following:

- Do not put bagged leaves out with regular trash or mix them household trash.
- Put leaves in paper bags or containers clearly marked as "Yard Waste" and place them at the curb on Wednesdays as part of regular yard waste collection.
- Rake leaves to the curb and pile leaves away from cars and storm drains as the leaf vacuum cannot reach around cars.
- Be sure to remove tree limbs, rocks, and other debris from leaves to be vacuumed or collected as yard waste. These items can damage equipment and cause delays.

Day of the Week	Regularly Scheduled Services	Leaf Collection Services		
Monday	Trash Collection	Leaf vacuuming in Wards 1, 3, 5, and 6		
Tuesday		Leaf vacuuming in Wards 2 and 4		
Wednesday	Recycling, Metal, and Yard Waste Collection	ALL WARDS as part of regular Yard Waste Collection		
Thursday	Trash Collection	Leaf vacuuming in Wards 1, 3, 5, and 6		
Friday		Leaf vacuuming in Wards 2 and 4		

For more information about these services, please visit our website at *www.riverdaleparkmd.gov* or call 301-864-1803.

Upcoming Riversdale Events

A Taste of Amontillado

On **Saturday, November 3, 7:30 pm**, visit Riversdale after dark for an eerie evening and join us for **A Taste of Amontillado**. Costumed interpreters will guide you on a lantern-lit tour through the early 19th century mansion, with stops along the way to hear ghostly tales inspired by the fruit of the vine. Partake in victuals, wines, and spirits that match each story and enjoy this special twilight Riversdale experience.

For ages 21 and up. Advance registration is required. **Fee: \$15**.

To register: www.pgparksdirect.com (Search Ticketing Code **RM-SPEC-GA-20181103**).

STEAMuseum

On **Sunday, November 11, noon-3:15 pm**, Riversdale House Museum invites families to **STEAMuseum** to learn about science, technology, engineering, art, and math 19th century-style with hands-on activities throughout the house. Falling during Veteran's Day weekend, this year's STEAMuseum theme will focus on the military and ties to the War of 1812. Test out your cannonball launching skills, participate in demonstrations with living history interpreters, spend time in the open hearth kitchen measuring out military rations and cooking a period recipe, take a tour of the museum, and chat with archaeologists about neat military finds!

Girl Scouts, this program fulfills a number of badge & activity requirements; call for details! Patches available for purchase.

Activities while supplies last. This event is **FREE**, but advance registration required by November 2.

Breakfast with Sint Niklaas at Riversdale

Riversdale House Museum invites families to a **Breakfast with Sint Niklaas** on **Saturday, December 8, 2018 at 9 am and 11 am.** Make us a part of your holiday traditions as the kindly bishop as he makes

his annual visit, bringing festive traditions like a Belgian-inspired breakfast and gifts for children. Sint Niklaas visits children in Rosalie Stier Calvert's native Belgium on December 6, filling their shoes with small gifts, coins, and sweets. Riversdale keeps his tradition alive during this cheerful event.

Advance registration is required by **Monday**, **November 26.** Please note this event is very popular program and may sell out before this date. Walk-ins cannot be accommodated for this event.

Fee: Residents of Prince George's & Montgomery County: \$10 child; \$7 adult

Non-Resident: \$13 child; \$9 adult Register online at www.pgparksdirect.com and search ticketing code "RM".

For more information and to register, call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544; email Riversdale@pgparks.com; or visit our website at history.pgparks.com. Follow us on Twitter @Riversdale1801 and find us on Facebook at Facebook\RiversdaleMuseum and Facebook\PGParksHistory.

Riversdale House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road, in Riverdale Park, Maryland. This facility is owned and operated by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County.



Riverdale Park Dental

(301) 927-2840 www.riverdaleparkdental.com

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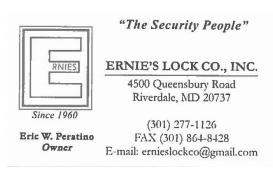


Veterans Day History and Facts

Veterans Day originated as "Armistice Day" on November 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the end of World War I. Congress passed a resolution in 1926 for an annual observance, and November 11 became a national holiday beginning in 1938. Unlike Memorial Day, Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

- Veterans Day occurs on November 11 every year in the United States.
- In 1954, President Eisenhower officially changed the name of the holiday from Armistice Day to Veterans Day.
- In 1968, the Uniform Holidays Bill was passed by Congress, which moved the celebration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. The law went into effect in 1971, but in 1975 President Ford returned Veterans Day to November 11, due to the important historical significance of the date.
- Great Britain, France, Australia and Canada also commemorate the veterans of World War I and World War II on or near November 11th: Canada has Remembrance Day, while Britain has Remembrance Sunday (the second Sunday of November).
- In Europe, Great Britain, and the Commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. every November 11.

Information provided by: History.com Editors https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/veteransday-facts





Save the Date!

- Children's Holiday Party will be held on Saturday, December 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 12noon at Town Hall (5008 Queensbury Road). Please call 301-927-6381 ext. 500 for details.
- Seniors Holiday Luncheon at Crescent Cities Center will be held on Wednesday, December 12th at 11:30 a.m. Please call Town Hall at 301-927-6381 ext. 500 for details.
- The Holiday Market and Festival of Lights will be held on Saturday, December 15th from 12noon to 8:00 p.m. For more information, contact Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973. Vendors and volunteers are needed!



November 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All meetings and events are held at Town Hall unless another location is indicated. Also, all meetings are open to the public so please plan to join us!				1 Farmer's Market	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to	3
Trash collection occurs on Mondays and Thursdays. Recycling and yard waste is collected on Wednesdays. Please contact the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803 for more information.			3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	9 p.m.		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Regular Legislative Meeting 8:00 p.m.	Election Day (For Federal, State, and County Offices)	M-UTC Meeting 7:30 p.m. Community Walk 6 p.m.	Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Madison Hill HOA Meeting 10:30 a.m.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Veterans Day Ceremony 11:00 a.m. Veterans Monument			Riverdale Park Business Association 5:30 p.m.	Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Bulk Trash Drop-Off 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.			Lions Club 7:00 p.m.	Thanksgiving Town Hall and DPW Closed	Town Hall and DPW Closed	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Council Work Session 8:00 p.m.			Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	

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Important Phone Numbers

Comcast

www.comcast.com

Customer service: 1-800-934-6489

<u>Pepco</u>

www.pepco.com

To report an outage: 1-877-737-2662 Customer service: 202-833-7500

Prince George's County: www.princegeorgescountymd.gov

Animal Control: 301-780-7200 Assessments: 301-952-2500

Parks and Recreation (maintenance): 301-918-4700 Permitting, Licenses and Enforcement: 301-636-2000 Public Works and Transportation: 301-883-5650

Prince George's County Public Schools: www.pgcps.org

Riverdale Elementary: 301-985-1850 William Wirt Middle School: 301-985-1720 Bladensburg High School: 301-887-6700 Parkdale High School: 301-513-5700

Washington Gas

www.washingtongas.com

To report a gas leak: 703-750-1400 or 800-752-7520

Customer Service: 703-750-1000

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC):

www.wsscwater.com

To report a water main break or sewage backup: 301-206-4002

Customer service: 301-206-4001 or 1-800-634-8400

Local Organizations

Lion's Club

Pat Prangley at 240-882-4993

Northern County Soccer Alliance
NCSA@soccer.net or 301-577-3559

Riverdale Park Boy Scout Troop 252
Scoutmaster Bob Killen at 301-483-8455

 $\underline{\text{Madison Hill Homeowners Association}}$

301-583-8857

Riversdale Historical Society

301-864-0420

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973

<u>Riverdale Park Business Association</u> www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com

Riverdale Park Arts Council

Samuel Williams, Jr. at 909-380-4231

Riversdale Chamber Music Society
Robert DiLutis at rdilutis@umd.edu or

www.riversdalechambermusic.com