



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

July/August 2019

Volume 49, Issue 6

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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
301-927-6381
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.

Countdown to the Centennial Kickoff Event held on June 15th



Thank you to all of our vendors, partners, performers, visitors, and most of all; our residents, for attending our Centennial Countdown Event! We achieved 267% over our 2019 attendance goal, and 800% over 2018's Riverdale Park Day attendance!

COME GROW WITH US!

WE ♥ TOWN LIFE!



Save the Date!

National Night Out
Tuesday, August 6th
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Council Actions

Legislative Meeting
June 3, 2019

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items: - **Approved**

1. Fence Permit Request: 5324 Taylor Road, installation of 6-foot metal fence (Ward 3)
2. Minutes: May 6, 2019 Public Hearing and May 6, 2019 Legislative Meeting

Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to approve Street Closure for Town Center parking lot, to include a portion of Rhode Island Avenue, on June 15, 2019 from 12 a.m. to 10 p.m. for Centennial Kickoff Event - **Approved**
2. Motion to permit drinking of alcoholic beverages and possession of open containers at the Centennial Kickoff Event in the designated event area on June 15, 2019, based on the findings that the event will be held on public property, the occasion is one in which drinking may be customarily permitted, and the use of alcoholic beverages will not be offensive to the public - **Approved**

Special Legislative Meeting
June 17, 2019

Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to approve residential trash, yard waste, and bulk item collection agreement with Bates Trucking Company, Inc. - **Approved**
2. Motion to suspend the requirements of § 623: Competitive Bids of the Town Charter based on a finding of exigent circumstances for Longfellow Street Storm Water Management project – **Approved**



2019-2021 Mayor and Council

Front row, left to right: CM Hala Mayers (Ward 6), CM Colleen Richardson (Ward 5), CM Marsha Dixon (Ward 1)

Back row, left to right: CM Christopher Henry (Ward 4), Mayor Alan Thompson, CM David Lingua (Ward 3), and CM Aaron Faulx (Ward 2)

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 – Hala Mayers, 301-927-6381
hmayers@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Administration

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

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

Ivy Lewis, **Public Projects and Services Director**
ilewis@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

Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan K. Thompson

It is truly summer now – cicadas and air conditioners are buzzing, mosquitos are biting, and local tomatoes are *so close* to being ready to eat. I've had a spectacular firefly display in my yard this year!

Trolley Trail Day

June 8 was the first ever Trolley Trail Celebration Day, organized by the College Park - University of Maryland Community Partnership, in which Hyattsville, Riverdale Park, and College Park collaborated to celebrate the Trolley Trail that connects us all. I saw well over a hundred bicyclists and countless people walking, and I rode my own kick scooter along the path. It was a great day -- I had lunch at Banana Blossom Bistro, and enjoyed talking to people and visiting exhibitors all along the pathway through Riverdale Park. (It did not end so well for me, personally, as I had an accident while riding through College Park, but I will heal soon.) I hope we'll have more such celebration days in future years!

Riverdale Park Station Apartments

The Town of Riverdale Park - Riverdale Park Station developers presented plans for their multifamily buildings at the work session on June 17. The Town Council is likely to take a formal position at the July 1 legislative meeting—please be there if you want to provide input. Contact me or town staff (jnlestitian@riverdaleparkmd.gov) if you would like to see a copy of the plans.

Kickoff for the Centennial

On June 15th, we celebrated the town's 99th birthday in our historic town center with dozens of vendors, free "I ♥ Town Life" t-shirts, food trucks and restaurants, Denizens brewery, music, and dance performances. Notable events were the unveiling of the recently spruced up and renamed train station (it's now the "Riverdale Park Town Center" station) and a rededication of the clock, which now chimes, tells the correct time, and is labeled Riverdale Park. Many thanks to Crescent Cities Charities and the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area for grants that paid for most of the clock repairs, to our public works department for all the work they did preparing the

town center for the celebration, and town staff, council members, and volunteers for the hard work they did to coordinate and run the entire event.

Maryland Municipal League Meeting

Along with council members Dixon and Faulx, I attended the Maryland Municipal League meeting in Ocean City this month. At this meeting there are many instructional sessions and training classes, but I mostly attend so that I can meet and talk with other municipal officials from across the state, to learn and borrow ideas from them. I'll provide more details of what I learned there in the September Town Crier.

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/>. Recently announced activities include a long-term lane closure starting July 22 along River Road between Rivertech Court and Kenilworth Avenue, with one lane of traffic maintained in each direction, and (starting July 8) closing the right-hand southbound lane long-term on Kenilworth Avenue between River Road and Riverdale Road. 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 e-mail (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 as the summer wraps up in September; I hope you have a wonderful and safe July and August!

Ward 2 Report

Council Member Aaron Faulx

Riverdale Elementary and William Wirt Middle School: On June 6th I had the honor of speaking before the Prince George's County School Board about the proposed Cycle 1 renovations that specifically included Riverdale Elementary School. Councilwoman Danielle Glaros and I spoke on behalf of the renovation cycle remaining as is and for the school board to find the funds to allow the cycle to move forward with haste. The data set collected by the school board indicated a dramatic need for improvements in our facilities in the northern portion of the county. As you can imagine, this northern focus created some acrimony amongst school board members from other portions of the county.

The meeting went well for Riverdale Park and the surrounding area. I spoke on behalf of the Town in our support for of Riverdale Elementary remaining in the renovation cycle. Our board member Joshua Thomas refused to support multiple amendments that could have impacted the Cycle 1 renovation schedule and more specifically Riverdale Elementary. So as it now stands, we will have a brand new William Wirt Middle School as well as a completely renovated Riverdale Elementary by 2025. I couldn't have hoped for a better result for our community! These renovations are absolutely necessary and will have a resounding impact for our students and teachers. Please join me in praising both Councilwoman Danielle Glaros and School Board Member Joshua Thomas for their remarkable support of our local educational institutions.

Contact Info:
Board Member Joshua Thomas
joshua.thomas@pgcps.org
301-952-6115

Councilwoman Danielle Glaros
dmglaros@co.pg.md.us
301-952-3062

Kickoff to the Centennial:
On Saturday, June 15th we celebrated Riverdale Park's 99th birthday with our Kickoff to the Centennial event at our Town Center. It was a remarkable event that featured numerous vendors, local dance and step teams, an awesome mariachi band, and some of the new restaurants and businesses that have recently decided to join our community. The event was

highlighted by the renaming of our MARC station and the repair and improvement of the Town Center clock. I would like to offer a gigantic thank you to town staff which worked tirelessly in preparing for this event. They worked diligently in ensuring that this was the most well attended and enjoyed town event in years. Kudos to staff for their incredible commitment to Riverdale Park.

One of the highlights for me was the utilization of Town Center for the event. This is an incredible space that we share and should utilize more in the future. It's not hard to imagine a permanent structure such as a stage that would allow us to fully activate the space for Town celebrations and increased arts/music performances. Riverdale Park is a sleeping giant in this county and we need to start viewing ourselves in such a light. We have unique spaces and creative individuals that will allow us to stand out in comparison to surrounding communities. We also have the space that allow us to grow creatively together. A community venue that celebrates the performing arts in the center of our community will allow us to host the kind of events that will draw people to our Town.

Contact:
Please feel free to contact me with any suggestions, comments, and concerns using the following information. We have some very creative ideas happening in the upcoming months related to the Town's Centennial celebration. We are still looking for ideas that can make this the best possible celebration. I look forward to hearing from you. Have a great summer!

Councilman Aaron Faulx
Phone: 860-970-7776
Email: afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Twitter: @RPMdWard2

VOICES OF RIVERDALE PARK!



Voices of Riverdale Park is a program comprised of monthly installments of short articles written by freelance journalists, who will interview various characters in Riverdale Park. These articles aim to share perceptions and narratives of the community, from the community. The list includes - but is not limited to - business owners, long term residents, new residents, and so on. Interested in sharing your story or writing an article? Message us on Facebook or call Town Hall at 301-927-6381! You can also email Program Specialist T.J. Sundberg at tsundberg@riverdaleparkmd.gov.

For more information about Voices of Riverdale Park please visit http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov/our_town/voices_of_riverdale_park.php

“A Blast from the Past:” Mister Magic’s ice cream truck creates memories for Riverdale Park residents

By: Camila Velloso
An entry in our Voices of Riverdale Park program



If you hear the tunes of Popeye the Sailor Man around Riverdale Park, ice cream lovers rejoice - Mister Magic is on his way!

It’s no surprise that Mister Magic’s antique 1960 ice cream truck turns heads as it drives down the streets. The white and red truck - adorned with ice cream cones above the windshield that light up and flash after sundown - is the same ice cream truck from Mister Magic’s childhood.

“I used to chase this truck when I was a kid and I told the owner, ‘I want this truck one day,’” Mister Magic said. “I tried to keep it the same style as it was back in the ‘60s and fully restored it to bring back to the golden years of yesterday for the residents of Riverdale Park. It’s a blast from the past!”

Mister Magic’s truck is not the only vintage thing about his business - his Strawberry Sundae, made with soft serve ice cream and homemade jam, is an original 1950s recipe, and a crowd favorite.

“People constantly ask, ‘How do you make the strawberry sauce?’” Mister Magic said, “and I reply, ‘That’s the magic secret!’”

Now in his 28th year selling ice cream, Mister Magic is still making memories for the community.

Mister Magic, who came up with the moniker after a childhood love of magic, also entertains his customers with skills from his earlier career as a professional magician.

“I like to do magic tricks for the kids when they come up to the truck,” he said. Waving his magic wand, Mister Magic makes sprinkles appear on kids’ ice cream cones. “Their eyes will light up!”

For resident Sarah Wayland, Mister Magic’s ice cream business is one of her favorite things about living in Riverdale Park. She’s watched her two sons grow up on Mister Magic’s ice cream.

“They would hear that Popeye the Sailor Man theme and they would run out the door and get some ice cream,” Wayland said. “It’s just been part of their lives forever, which is nice.”

In his nearly 30 years of business, Mister Magic has operated his truck multiple days a week between the months of March and October.

His daily routine has also remained remarkably constant, working from sunup to sundown on the days he takes his ice cream truck out.

By 8 o'clock in the morning, he's out the door and in the grocery store buying fresh fruits and produce for his frozen treats, including banana boats, milkshakes, strawberry sundaes, hot fudge, ice cream cones with sprinkles and much more.

"Whatever I sell one day, the very next morning, I've got to replace it," Mister Magic said.

And by noon, he's in his truck ready to make his first round, stopping only at 9 p.m.

During the summertime, residents can book Mister Magic's ice cream truck for parties and other special events. And on his months off in the winter, Mister Magic works on maintaining his truck, replacing the brakes and checking the motor.

Mister Magic is especially proud that he takes every precaution to ensure his customers' safety.

He uses a school bus-like stop sign when children are crossing the street and has his truck certified every year by the Prince George's County Health Department.

"I want to have the cleanest ice cream truck in Prince George's County," Mister Magic said. With the help of his wife, Mister Magic cleans and sterilizes his truck every day. "That's how you get the best tasting ice cream out there!"

As for one of his favorite perks of the job, Mister Magic enjoys seeing customers that have grown up with his ice cream bringing their own families to visit.

"Golly, I've had customers who come up to me with little children and they say, 'Do you remember me? I used to buy ice cream from you when I was 12 or 13 years old. And now I'm bringing my kids to you.'"

"So, I've been around a long time," Mister Magic said with a laugh.

"I'm just building memories for everybody because one day I'm not going to be here, and I just hope that magic lives on."

CCAC to Host Gang Unit Investigator at July Meeting

The Chief's Community Advisory Committee (CCAC) will welcome an investigator from the Prince George's County Gang Unit to its next meeting on July 29th at 6:00 pm at Riverdale Park Town Hall. We will be discussing criminal gangs, their recruitment strategies, and the risk they pose to the Riverdale Park community, especially to our youth. We will also cover the ways the community can assist law enforcement in the fight against these criminal gangs.

If you have any public safety concerns, please reach out directly to our police department or attend a Chief's Community Advisory Committee meeting. The goal of the CCAC is to facilitate communication between the Riverdale Park Community and our police department. Our meetings are an excellent opportunity to share your thoughts and concerns directly with our Chief of Police. Remember, the Riverdale Park Police Department is your police department!

CCAC Invita a un Investigador de Bandas Criminales para el Meeting del Mes de Julio

El jefe del Comité Asesor de la Comunidad (Community Advisory Committee CCAC) recibirá a un investigador de las bandas criminales en Prince George's County durante la próxima reunión que tendrá lugar el 29 de julio a las 6:00 de la tarde en Riverdale Park Town Hall. En dicha reunión se discutirán las bandas criminales, sus estrategias de reclutamiento y los riesgos que afectarían a la comunidad de Riverdale Park, especialmente a los jóvenes. También se hablará de como la comunidad puede ayudar a la policía en la lucha contra las bandas criminales.

Si usted está preocupado sobre la seguridad pública, por favor comuníquese directamente con la policía o atienda las reuniones del Comité Asesor de la Comunidad. El objetivo de dicho comité es facilitar la comunicación entre la comunidad de Riverdale Park y el departamento de la policía. Nuestras reuniones ofrecen una excelente oportunidad donde puede compartir sus

opiniones y preocupaciones directamente con el jefe de la policía.

Tenga siempre presente que el department de la policía de Riverdale Park "ES SU POLICIA."

Volunteers Needed for Centennial Planning Committee

The Town of Riverdale Park is seeking volunteers to be part of the Centennial Planning Committee. This Committee will plan events and activities to celebrate the Town's centennial in June 2020.

Please contact Town Clerk Jessica Barnes at jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov if you are interested in serving on this committee.

unscheduled sprayings will be announced on the Maryland Department of Agriculture's webpage www.mda.maryland.gov or on Twitter @MdAgMosquito and @MdAgDept.

For more information regarding the Department of Agriculture's Mosquito Control Program, visit http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/mosquito_control.aspx.

As a reminder, to reduce the presence of mosquitos, residents must keep their property free of mosquitos breeding containers, stagnant water, bird baths, wading pools, pet watering dishes, tin cans, old tires, clogged gutters or flowerpots. Other water holding containers should be stored upside down.

To file a complaint about mosquitos, contact the Maryland Department of Agriculture at 301-422-5080 or file a complaint online via the MDA website (listed above).

Mosquito Control Program



The Town will once again participate in the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Mosquito Control Program. Spray season began on **May 29th** and is anticipated to end on **September 17th**.

Spraying will take place after dark on **Tuesdays** and may continue until midnight or later. Spraying will commence as soon as it is dark. As a precaution, it is advised that residents stay inside their homes and close their windows while the spray truck is in the vicinity, bring in any pets, and remain in the home for 20-30 minutes after the spray truck has passed by. If there are people outside when the truck passes by, no spray will be released, and the truck will not make another pass down that street.

The spray schedule will rotate every 3 weeks meaning that Riverdale Park may not be sprayed each week. The frequency of spraying will be determined by surveillance data collected and complaints received. In order to determine if your community will be sprayed on its scheduled spray night, please contact 301-422-5080 between 2-4 p.m. that day. Any

Trash Collection Reminders

Residential Trash must be bagged and placed in cans

Yard Waste and Recycling must be in Paper Bags or reusable Bins

Bulk Trash- new contract requirements

Permit Parking

Town staff often receive inquiries associated with regulations and restrictions pertaining to areas designated for permit parking. Chapter 64 of the Town Code establishes all town parking regulations and designates sections of the town to be permit parking areas. In January 2019, Chapter 64 was amended to standardize the town's parking and permitting process. Following is a list of the current Permit Parking areas in the Town of Riverdale Park:

1. 5000 block of Riverdale Road
2. 6100 block of 54th Avenue
3. 5000 block of Nicholson Street

4. 5411 Powhatan Street
5. 5000 block of Somerset Road
6. 5300 block of Powhatan Street
7. 4700 block of Riverside Drive
8. 5900-6000 block of Riverside Drive
9. Sub-division of Madison Hill

Please note that the parking permit program only applies to on-street parking in these designated areas. Vehicles parked on private property, in a garage, or driveway do not require parking permits. Please visit the Town of Riverdale Park website <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info> for details regarding the Parking Permit Program. Residents hosting gatherings requiring special parking accommodations may request up to ten (10) temporary visitor parking passes which are valid for 24-hours. Temporary visitor parking passes are available at the Police Department and may be obtained at any time, days, nights, and weekends.

If you have any questions regarding the Parking Permit Program, please email Tracey Perrin at tperrin@riverdaleparkmd.gov or call (301) 927-4343.

Neighborhood Services

If you have concerns regarding a property in your neighborhood, please contact Neighborhood Services. One of the primary duties of the Neighborhood Services team is to educate residents about the Town's community standards. In most cases residents simply do not know that they are not meeting the Town's community standards as defined in the Town Code. In some cases, another community partner such as Prince George's County, may be needed to address your concerns. Information about the Town's community standards can be found on the Town's website, www.riverdaleparkmd.gov, under Town Code and TRP's Vision and Commitment Statements.

If you have any questions regarding property maintenance or the application of Town codes, please contact the Neighborhood Services team:

Brad Goshen- bgoshen@riverdaleparkmd.gov or 301-927-6381 ext. 514

CJ Reading- creading@riverdaleparkmd.gov or 301-927-6381 ext. 508

We look forward to working with you!

Pedestrian and Traffic Safety Initiative: Distracted Walking

Distracted driving is a well-established problem, so much so that many states currently have bans in place when it comes to using technology while driving. But the problem of distracted walking is a relatively new one. Each year, more and more people are injured as a result of texting, talking or listening to music while on their cell phones. And while we might laugh at the *woman who falls into the fountain while texting*, or the *man who walks into a wall while texting*, the problem of distracted walking is a very real and serious one.

According to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), nearly 5,000 pedestrians were killed and an estimated 76,000 injured in traffic collisions in the United States in 2012. That's one death every 2 hours and an injury every 7 minutes. While it's not clear how many of these are a direct result of distracted walking, the total rate of pedestrian fatalities compared to overall road deaths is getting worse each year.

The issue has become such a problem that some towns, such as Fort Lee, New Jersey, have *banned* texting while walking. If caught texting while jaywalking in that town, violators face an \$85 fine. In London, England, some lamp posts have been padded in order to protect the large numbers of people using their mobile devices while walking. Even New York City has lowered the speed limit in some areas as a way to help cut down on the number of pedestrian injuries. Arkansas, Illinois, and New York have all tried unsuccessfully to ban using a mobile device while walking.

In 2008, more than 1,000 people were injured seriously enough to seek medical attention at the emergency room as a result of texting and walking – double the year previous (which was double the year previous as well).

A *study* published in 2012 by researchers from New York's Stony Brook University found that those who texted while walking were 60 per cent more likely to veer off line than non-texters.

Scientists call the phenomenon "inattentive blindness," saying that the human brain has evolved to only be able to adequately focus attention on one task at a time. So when you're texting or talking on the phone while trying to walk, you cannot give your full attention to both tasks.

"We were surprised to find that talking and texting on a cell phone were so disruptive to one's gait and memory recall of [a] target location," wrote Eric M. Lamberg, PT, EdD, co-author of the study and Clinical Associate Professor, Department of Physical Therapy, School of Health Technology and Management, Stony Brook University.

"People really need to be aware that they are impacting their safety by texting or talking on the cellphone," he added, "I think the risk is there."

When Safe Sound Family analyzed the data in the Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) – which estimates the number of injuries nationwide based on reports by 100 participating hospitals – we found that there were nearly 5,000 estimated cases of injuries caused by phones and phone accessories that occurred on roads or highways and in other public places (not at home) that were treated in hospital in the United States in 2013.

The number of actual injuries caused by distracted walking is bound to be quite higher than this, as the data from the CPSC only looked at those injuries which resulted in medical treatment at a participating hospital, and minor injuries were likely treated at home or another medical treatment facility not included in the reporting data. There is also the stigma and shame associated with reporting an injury in which one is partially at fault, and so some people may not have been upfront with the fact that they were using a mobile device when their injury occurred.

It's not just texting while walking that's a problem. Talking, checking email, using social networking apps and even playing games all contribute to the problem of distracted pedestrians.

According to data via the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the highest percentage of pedestrian deaths relative to all traffic fatalities occurs in New York City (51%), Los Angeles (42%) and Chicago (30%). After years of decline, pedestrian deaths have started to increase since 2009, and while there's no reliable data directly related to cell phone use, experts speculate that the increase is due in part to distracted users on their cell phones while walking. "We are where we were with cellphone use in cars 10 years or so ago. We knew it was a problem, but we didn't have the data," Jonathan Akins, deputy executive director of the Governors Highway Safety Association, told the Associated Press in 2012.

Researchers from Ohio State University *found* that young people (under the age of 25) are more likely to be injured while on their cell phones, and men are more likely than women to be injured while using a mobile device. Their statistics showed that talking on the phone made up about 69 per cent of injuries, while texting only accounted for about 9 per cent.

"If current trends continue, I wouldn't be surprised if the number of injuries to pedestrians caused by cell phones doubles again between 2010 and 2015," *said* Jack Nasar, co-author of the study and professor of city and regional planning at The Ohio State University, in a 2013 release.

One of only a few studies focusing on the issue, it found that although pedestrian injuries overall had dropped, ER visits tripled between 2004 and 2010 for pedestrians using cell phones. No doubt as more data is collected on the issue, the numbers of those affected by distracted walking will continue to rise.

The solution to distracted walking is a fairly simple one: do not use your cell phone or engage in other distracting activities while walking. Focus solely on the task at hand – getting from point A to point B in one piece and worry about checking in once you've safely arrived.

If you simply cannot wait to take that phone call or check your email, one way to avoid potential issues associated with using tech while walking is to hold your phone up higher in your visual field so that you can see any potential risks as they come. Ensure you cross the road at crosswalks or signalized intersections and obey your traffic signals.

Another solution for avoiding problems is to take frequent breaks while you are using your device and

walking – looking up every few seconds to assess your surroundings will help increase your safety. Using softwares that read out messages to you, and voice recognition typing so that you can give commands with your voice instead of having to continually look at your screen can also help. And just as there's an app for everything else, there are apps designed to help those texting while on the go – *Type n Walk* is available for \$1.19 in the iOS App Store and the free *Walking Text* from the Google Play Store are just two such apps available for this purpose.

If you're using headphones, ensure the volume is at a reasonable level so that you can hear any potential dangers and alerts before they become an issue. You can also keep just one earbud in so that you can still have a decent level of hearing ability. It should also be noted that noise-cancelling headphones should be a no-no while walking so that you can still be aware of your surroundings.

Finally, start the safe device use education process early. "If you must talk or text, pull out of the stream of pedestrian traffic and stop walking while doing it. If you're a parent, just as you teach your children to look both ways before crossing a street, teach your children not to use their mobile devices while walking or driving," Nasar said.

Other safety concerns for pedestrians:

Traffic signals

This goes for both pedestrians and vehicular traffic, but not obeying traffic signals is another major area for concern when it comes to pedestrian safety. Many a driver has been frustrated after a pedestrian has begun crossing the road when their signal says not to. You'll even see people trying to cross when the light is not in their favor. No matter how late you are or whether or not you think you can make the light, if the signal is not in your favor, do not begin crossing. Failure to yield on the pedestrian's part accounts for about 15% of pedestrian fatalities, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

As for vehicles, aggressive drivers will often disobey their lights as well – speeding up to run through yellows when they should be slowing down; trying to get 'just one more' through on a left hand turn; or the 'rolling stop/turn' on a right led or at a stop side. All of these behaviors put pedestrians and other drivers at risk of serious injury or death.

Cross at appropriate places

Jaywalking, or crossing the road where there is no intersection or crosswalk, is another leading cause of pedestrian injury. Cross where appropriate in order to avoid injury and whenever possible, walk on a sidewalk – if a sidewalk is not available you should walk on the shoulder of the road facing traffic so that you can clearly see oncoming vehicles and they can see you. Data from the NHTSA has found that crossing at improper places accounts for approximately 30% of pedestrian fatalities. Walking, playing, working, etc., in the roadway also accounts for 25% of fatalities.

Visibility

It can be difficult for drivers to see those walking at night or in inclement weather. When possible, wear light-colored clothing and walk in well-lit areas. Carry a flashlight, wear a headlamp, and wear reflective clothing for added visibility.

Safety.com

April 15, 2019

Purple Line Construction Notices

Purple Line construction is well underway. Residents are encouraged to subscribe for updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information,



visit purplelinemd.com, find "Construction" and click on "Subscribe for Updates". The construction hotline is 240-424-5325.

12th Annual Riverdale Park ArtsFest (2019)

RIVERDALE PARK, MD -- From stained glass and original oil paintings to hand-made jewelry and author signings, ArtsFest 2019 has it all! The 12th annual ArtsFest, sponsored by the Riverdale Park Arts Council (RPAC) and the Town of Riverdale Park will be held this year on Saturday, July 6, 2019, from Noon to 6 p.m., at the Riverdale Park Station located at 4595 Van Buren Street, Riverdale Park, MD (20737).

Once again, ArtsFest is expected to draw hundreds of people to enjoy several dozen local artists selling their own original arts, crafts, and books, a Children's Pavilion featuring gardening crafts and face painting for the you and young at heart, and free, day-long concerts featuring blues, rock, and classical musicians, dance and poetry.

The event is sponsored by the Town of Riverdale Park and sponsored by the Riverdale Park Arts Council (RPAC). This will be the first time the event will be held at Riverdale Park Station.

"Needless to say, the RPAC Board of Directors is excited about this year's event," said RPAC board president Rev. Samuel Williams, Jr. "We cannot thank the management team of Cushman and Wakefield enough for allowing the event to be held on their property and for their contributions towards our efforts, we praise the Riverdale Park town fathers and administration for their undying fiscal support and we make the promise to the vendors who register a solid event at which to display their work."

The headline band for this year's Artsfest will be Smoking' Polecats who will take the stage at 3 p.m. For the first time ever, there will be a magic act performance at 2 p.m.

For more information, please call Rev. Samuel Williams, Jr. at (909) 380-4231.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Noon – Welcome and first musical performance

1 p.m. – Presentations & Raffle Winners Announced & Music

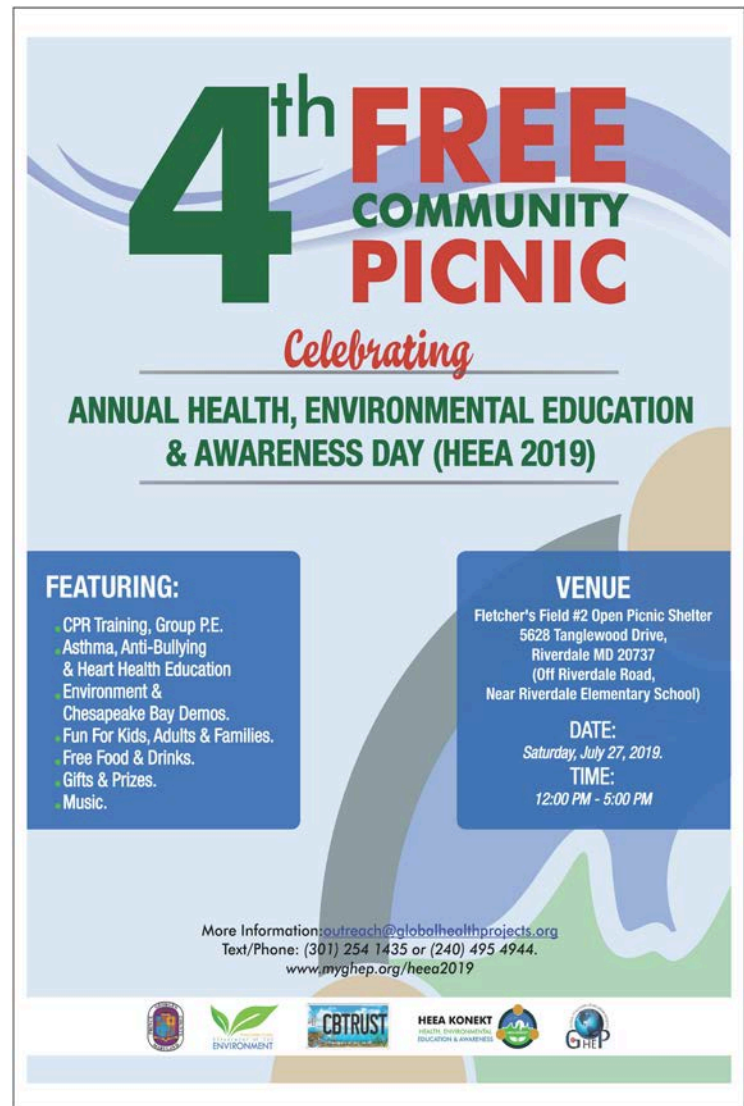
2 p.m. – Magic Performance for Youth, Raffle Winners Announced

3 p.m. – Smokin' Polecats, Raffle Winners Announced

4 p.m. – Marcelino Jazz Duo, Raffle Winner Announced

5 p.m. – Music, Raffle Winner Announced

6 p.m. – Festival Closed



4th FREE COMMUNITY PICNIC

Celebrating

ANNUAL HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION & AWARENESS DAY (HEEA 2019)

FEATURING:

- CPR Training, Group P.E.
- Asthma, Anti-Bullying & Heart Health Education
- Environment & Chesapeake Bay Demos.
- Fun For Kids, Adults & Families.
- Free Food & Drinks.
- Gifts & Prizes.
- Music.

VENUE
Fletcher's Field #2 Open Picnic Shelter
5628 Tanglewood Drive,
Riverdale MD 20737
(Off Riverdale Road,
Near Riverdale Elementary School)

DATE:
Saturday, July 27, 2019.

TIME:
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

More Information: outreach@globalhealthprojects.org
Text/Phone: (301) 254 1435 or (240) 495 4944.
www.myghep.org/heea2019

Logos: Riverdale Park Arts Council, ENVIRONMENT, CBTRUST, HEAA KONEKT, GHEP

NEW BATES TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES INFORMATION, STARTING JULY 1

<p><u>When are My Collection Days?</u></p> <p>Monday: Yard Waste and Trash</p> <p>Tuesday: Schedule Bulk Pick Up</p> <p>Wednesday: Recycling</p> <p>Thursday: Trash</p>	<p><u>How Do I Prepare for Collection?</u></p> <p>Set out trash, curbside, by 6 A.M. on collection day or at dark the day before</p> <p>Ensure lid is tightly closed</p> <p>Bag excess trash and place next to your container- beware, an animal can get to your exposed trash bag- cleanup is your responsibility</p>
<p><u>What Not to Do!</u></p> <p>Leave rainwater in your container – will spill when dumped</p> <p>Put yard waste in plastic bags</p> <p>Mix yard waste and household trash</p> <p>Put burning objects, sharp objects, car parts or construction material in your container</p> <p>Mix yard waste and household trash</p>	<p><u>What to do if trash or yard waste is not collected?</u></p> <p>Look for a Notification Sticker explaining why it was not collected</p> <p>Address the concern, it will be collected on the next collection day</p> <p>If you don't see a sticker, "Report A Concern"</p>

Need to report a problem?



Visit <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov> and Click "Report A Concern"

OR



Call 301-927-6381 for assistance

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Regular Legislative Meeting 8 p.m.	2	3 M-UTC Meeting 7:30 p.m.	4 Town Hall and DPW Closed Trash Collection	5	6
7 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	8 Trash and Yard Waste Collection	9	10	11 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	12 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	13
14 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	15 Trash and Yard Waste Collection	16	17	18 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	19 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	20 Community Walk 9 a.m. Bulk Trash Drop-off 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
21 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	22 Trash and Yard Waste Collection	23	24	25 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	26 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	27
28 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	29 Trash and Yard Waste Collection CCAC Meeting 6 p.m.	30	31	Save the Date! Community Walks are scheduled for the following Saturdays: August 17, September 21, October 19, and November 2. Community Walks are a good time to meet your Town representatives and discuss opportunities for or concerns about your community. Please plan to join us!		

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Trash Collection 3:00 pm Farmers Market	2	3
4 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	5 Trash and Yard Waste Collection	6 National Night Out 6-8 PM	7 Recycling Collection 7:30 p.m MUTC Meeting	8 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	9 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	10
11 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	12 Trash and Yard Waste Collection	13	14 Recycling Collection	15 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	16 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	17 Community Walk 9 a.m. Bulk Trash Drop-off 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
18 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	19 Trash and Yard Waste Collection	20	21 Recycling Collection	22 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center) Trash Collection	23 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	24
25 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	26 Trash and Yard Waste Collection Work Session Meet	27	28 Recycling Collection	29 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Trash Collection	30 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	31 Community Walk 9 a.m. Bulk Trash Drop-off 9 a.m. to 6 PM

CARRIER ROUTE
PRESORT

POSTAL PATRON
RIVERDALE PARK, MARYLAND
20737

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
HYATTSVILLE, MD
PERMIT No.
2090



Town of Riverdale Park
5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737

Important Phone Numbers

Comcast

www.comcast.com
Customer service: 1-800-934-6489

Pepco

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

Madison Hill Homeowners Association

301-583-8857

Riversdale Historical Society

301-864-0420

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market

Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973

Riverdale Park Business Association

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