



# The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

## October 2018

Volume 48, Issue 9

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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](http://www.batestrucking.com). Click on Customer Center and complete the Request Service form.

## Riverdale Park Day 2018!

Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>

12 noon to 4:00 PM

**Riverside Neighborhood Park**  
**5801 Riverside Drive**

Plan to join us for a fun and family-friendly day! There will be food, music, vendors, and lots of fun for all ages!

Vendors and sponsors are needed. Please contact Nova Johns at [novajohns@yahoo.com](mailto:novajohns@yahoo.com) or Waverly Pollitt at [wpollitt@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:wpollitt@riverdaleparkmd.gov) for more information.



## Upcoming Community Walks

Plan to join Town staff, members of the Town Council, and your neighbors for an upcoming Community Walk!

Saturday, October 20, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Community Walks are a great time to meet new people and discuss opportunities for or concerns about your community. Be sure to check the *Status and Information Report* and the Town's Facebook page for updates regarding the planned starting point and route for each Community Walk.

# Council Actions

## Legislative Meeting on September 10, 2018

### Consent Agenda

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

1. Street Closure Request for 6200 block of 43<sup>rd</sup> Street on September 15, 2018 from 12noon to 7:00 p.m. for annual Block Party (Ward 1)
2. Minutes from the Special Legislative Meeting on June 25, 2018
3. Minutes from the Legislative Meeting on July 2, 2018
4. Minutes from the Special Legislative Meeting on July 23, 2018

### Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to waive bid requirements and authorize the Town Manager to sign a contract with G&C Consultants, Inc. not to exceed \$30,250 for design work related to the Longfellow Storm Water Management Project- **Approved**
2. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign an agreement with Axon regarding the TASER Assurance Plan Renewal- **Approved**
3. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Prince George's County for Bridge Maintenance- **Approved**
4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-14 regarding Town's participation in LGIT Healthcare Cooperative- **Adopted**
5. Motion to approve the revised scope of the Municipal Center Project- **Approved**
6. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-OR-11 regarding amendments to Chapter 64 section 64-20 School Zone Speed Monitoring Systems Authorized- **Adopted**
7. Motion to declare a Council Vacancy in Ward 6- **Approved**

### New Business:

1. Motion to authorize the Town Manager send a letter to Planning, Zoning and Economic Development Committee regarding CB-076-2018- **Approved**

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

- ✓ Check out the new Town website at [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://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](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov)

### Mayor

Alan K. Thompson  
[akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

### Council Members

**Ward 1** – Marsha Dixon, 301-531-4230  
[mdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:mdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Ward 2** – Aaron Faulx, 860-970-7776  
[afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Ward 3** – David Lingua, 301-779-3849  
[djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Ward 4** – Christopher Henry, 301-910-9855  
[chenry@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:chenry@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Ward 5** – Colleen Richardson, 240-646-6457  
[crichardson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:crichardson@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Ward 6** – Vacant

### Administration

John N. Lestitian, **Town Manager**  
[jnlesitian@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:jnlesitian@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

Jessica Barnes, **Town Clerk**  
[jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

Kevin Simpson, **Development Services Director**  
[ksimpson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:ksimpson@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

Paul Smith, **Finance and Employee Services Director**  
[psmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:psmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

David Morris, **Chief of Police**  
[dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

### Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

Brian Carpio, **Fire Chief**  
[Eng7twr@yahoo.com](mailto:Eng7twr@yahoo.com);  
[info@riverdalevfd.com](mailto:info@riverdalevfd.com);  
[www.riverdalevfd.com](http://www.riverdalevfd.com)

The Town Crier is also available on the Town's Website: [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Submission deadline: 15th of each month**

Send submissions to:  
[towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

# Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan K. Thompson

It is now October, and locally-grown apples both sweet and tart are at the farmers' market, the leaves are turning, and the days are getting shorter at an alarming rate....

## Ward 6 Council Representative

As I reported last month, Ward 6 Council Representative Alejandro Silva had to resign. The Town Council declared a vacancy in the position at the September 10th legislative meeting, and I hope to appoint a qualified Ward 6 resident at the October 1<sup>st</sup> legislative session.

## Riverdale Park Day

In addition to cool weather and apples, October traditionally brings us Riverdale Park Day, a day of celebration for our Town. This year it will be on October 6th, 2018, though we will shift the date to June in 2019 in anticipation of the Town's centennial in 2020. I look forward to seeing you on October 6th, and having my once-a-year funnel cake! Please look for details about the time and location in other stories in the Town Crier, or on the town web site.

## New Town Website

Town staff have been hard at work for much of the last year on upgrading our website. This involved selecting a vendor to provide hosting and a content management system, learning to use the new content management system, migrating information from the old town web site, and adding new information. In early September, it all came together and the new web site – <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov> – went live! The site has a beautiful modern look, an efficient navigation system, a fast search engine, and (a personal favorite of mine) a page where anyone can report a concern about town government. I hope that the site is a useful to all of you; I find the new format very usable and engaging! I'd also like to express my thanks for the extra effort town staff put into designing and implementing the new site – I know there were a lot of late nights!

## Director, Public Projects and Services and Assistant Chief of Police

The positions of Director, Public Projects and Services (formerly Director of Public Works), and Assistant Chief of Police were nationally advertised following the retirement of staff previously serving in those positions during June. Each position has received dozens of applications, and the candidates are being carefully reviewed. I'm hopeful that both positions will be filled soon!

## Purple Line Construction

I typically only get a few weeks 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). Now that the bird-nesting season has ended, utility relocation and tree removal (including, sadly, along River Road) will also be ramping up. 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@pltdcc.com](mailto:outreach@pltdcc.com).

## Contact Me

If you have any questions or comments about any aspect of Town government, please contact me by phone (301-237-0632) or by e-mail ([akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov)). 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 2 Report

Council Member Aaron Faulx

## Field of Dreams

I am very happy to announce that some semblance of a schedule has been introduced in accordance with idea collection and development of the park in Ward 2 on the site of the former Field of Dreams Park. It is my belief that in the next month that the Town will be sending out some form of survey in order to gather community input on the eventual design of the park. Please look forward to the mail and the Town's new website for further opportunities to contribute to the development of this shared space that we all can enjoy. The Town Manager has also indicated that he hopes to have a chalkboard installed at the park as another means of gathering community input on design ideas and usage of the space. In November, we will be looking to host a "Visioning Workshop" in order to bring together some of the community collaboration and further discuss design. We hope to have a landscape concept plan and narrative ready for the community by December with Town Staff hopefully reviewing a final deliverable plan by January.

## Town Hall Improvements

At our September meeting, Town Manager Lestitian introduced a plan for renovations for the Town Hall and Police Department that in my view are drastically needed. If you have ever been in the space after a heavy rainfall you realize what our town staff and police department deal with on a daily basis. The plans call for a new roof and interior improvements that will greatly benefit staff, council, and the Town. I am of the belief that the quality of the town staff that we have drastically improves the functioning of Riverdale Park. In that same vein, I would argue that talent acquisition and maintaining a quality staff are amongst the Town's most important jobs. That is why this renovation is so important for the Town. It is an investment in town staff and Riverdale Park that we should support wholeheartedly. It will he drastically improve the Town's ability to host on-site meetings

while simultaneously improving the work environment of town staff that is so essential to the function of our town.

## Halloween

Halloween is around the corner and Mara and I want to address an issue that has plagued us for the past six years living in Riverdale Park. No Trick or Treaters come to our house and ask for our candy! While Queensbury Road is usually highly trafficked, our house, directly across from the firehouse on Rittenhouse Street and 48<sup>th</sup> Avenue, is ignored by the masses. We'd really like to see that change this year. My diet depends on us giving away the majority of the candy that we purchase...please help! We'd also like to remind everyone to enjoy this holiday as safely as possible. Please be extra cautious when driving around the area to ensure the safety of all!

## Contact

Please make sure to check out Riverdale Park's brand new website online. It is a drastically improved and utilized tool from it's antiquated predecessor. Town Staff and Council are incredibly proud of the effort staff has undertaken in order to provide this resource to the community. Please check it out and offer some feedback to town staff. Also, please feel free to contact me with any issues, concerns, or comments at...

**Email:** [afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Phone:** 860-970-7776

**Twitter:** @RPMdWard2

# Public Works

## Columbus Day Trash Collection

Trash collection will not be impacted by the Columbus Day holiday on Monday, October 8, 2018.

## Saturday Bulk Trash Drop-Off

The fall/winter schedule for drop-off of bulk trash is: October 20, 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.

### **Mosquito Control Program**

The Maryland Department of Agriculture's Mosquito Control Program ended on September 18, 2018. Questions or concerns about mosquitoes can be directed to the Maryland Department of Agriculture at by calling 301-422-5080.

### **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 begins in early Fall and runs through January 15, 2019.

To make the leaf collection process work as efficiently as possible, residents are encouraged to:

- 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.
- Be sure to remove tree limbs, rocks, and other debris from leaves to be collected. They can damage the equipment and cause delays.
- Do not put bagged leaves out during regular trash collection or mix them with household trash.

## **Police Department**

One of the most common crimes reported to law enforcement is the theft of valuables from vehicles. In an ongoing effort to prevent these types of thefts, the Riverdale Park Police Department offers the following important safety tips:

- Always lock your doors and roll up your

windows when your vehicle is unattended;

- Remove personal valuables from your vehicle;
- When parking in public places, shopping centers, etc., conceal valuables or place them in the trunk;
- Park in well-lit areas;
- Install an audible alarm system and a visible anti-theft device;
- Always be aware of your surroundings and other people around you;
- Use common sense.

Theft from vehicles is a crime of opportunity, and it is preventable. Locking your vehicle with valuables in full view is not a deterrent to a thief. Help the Police Department help you by taking the necessary precautions. Don't become a victim!



## **HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS**

Safe Kids Worldwide  
[www.safekids.org](http://www.safekids.org)

### **Walk Safely**

1. Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks.
2. Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross.
3. Put electronic devices down and keep heads up and walk, don't run, across the street.
4. Teach children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing in front of them.
5. Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to

the left as possible. Children should walk on direct routes with the fewest street crossings.

6. Watch for cars that are turning or backing up. Teach children to never dart out into the street or cross between parked cars.

### **Trick or Treat with an Adult**

1. Children under the age of 12 should not be alone at night without adult supervision. If kids are mature enough to be out without supervision, they should stick to familiar areas that are well lit and trick-or-treat in groups.

### **Keep Costumes Both Creative and Safe**

1. Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and, if possible, choose light colors.
2. Choose face paint and makeup whenever possible instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision.
3. Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights to help them see and be seen by drivers.
4. When selecting a costume, make sure it is the right size to prevent trips and falls.

### **Drive Extra Safely on Halloween**

1. Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
2. Take extra time to look for kids at intersections, on medians and on curbs.
3. Enter and exit driveways and alleys slowly and carefully.
4. Eliminate any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.
5. Drive slowly, anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day to spot children from greater distances.
6. Popular trick-or-treating hours are 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. so be especially alert for kids during those hours.



### **AMERICORPS/VISTA OPPORTUNITY**

If you love working with people and want to be a part of a great team that is passionate about community, this opportunity to join us is perfect.

Central Kenilworth Avenue Community Development Corporation (CKAR) is a community development corporation organized to promote the social, economic and business interests of Greater Riverdale. We administer a suite of projects and programs in service to this goal.

CKAR seeks a VISTA Member that will embrace our mission and develop a standard impact evaluation strategy for each of CKAR's three program areas – workforce development, economic development and environmental health and sustainability. The VISTA Member will also develop a volunteer management strategy and conduct outreach for volunteers.

If you want to make a difference in someone's life every day, consider a position with a team of professionals who are doing just that - making a difference!!

**Apply now!**

**Application deadline:** October 19, 2018.

**VISIT:** [www.vistacampus.gov](http://www.vistacampus.gov)

**Call:** CKAR CDC at (240) 608-2527

**E-mail:** Patricia Hayes-Parker at [peparker@ckarcdc.org](mailto:peparker@ckarcdc.org)





**Council Chair Dannielle Glaros**  
and  
**Board of Education Member Lupi Grady**



**present**

# **Parkdale High School's** **COLLEGE &** **CAREER FAIR**

**WEDNESDAY**

**10**

**OCTOBER**  
**5:30 - 7:00 PM**



**Parkdale High School**  
**6001 Good Luck Road**  
**Riverdale, MD 20737**

**All are welcome!**

**Meet and speak with representatives from colleges and universities in Maryland and across the region, representatives from trade and technical schools, military recruiters and regional employers.**

**During the Fair you can attend info sessions on Paying for College, Preparing for College, Resumes & Interview Skills, Advice from Parkdale Alumni, NCAA eligibility and more!**

**Email: [CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us](mailto:CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us) • Tel: (301) 952-3060**

**Consejo del Condado de Prince George**

**La Presidenta del Consejo del Condado  
Dannielle Glaros**

**y  
Miembro de la Junta Escolar Lupi Grady**

**Presentan**



# **Parkdale High School FERIA DE ESTUDIOS UNIVERSITARIOS Y CARRERAS**

**MIÉRCOLES  
OCTUBRE**

**10**

**DE 5:30 A 7  
DE LA TARDE**



**Parkdale High School  
6001 Good Luck Road  
Riverdale, MD 20737**

**¡Abierto a todo el público!**

**Conozca y converse con representantes de colegios y universidades de Maryland y a través de toda la región, representantes de escuelas vocacionales y técnicas, reclutadores militares, y empresas regionales.**

**Durante la Feria se puede participar de sesiones de informaciones sobre Como Pagar y Como Prepararse para la Universidad, como Preparar un Resumé y como Aprender Técnicas de Entrevistas Para Empleos, Consejos por Ex-Alumnos de Parkdale, elegibilidad para la NCAA (la Asociación de regula atletas en instituciones educativas), y mucho más!**

**Email: [CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us](mailto:CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us) • Tel: (301) 952-3060**





# October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>Regular Legislative Meeting 8:00 p.m.</b>	2	3  M-UTC Meeting 7:30 p.m.	4  Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	5	6  Riverdale Park Day 2018! 12noon to 4:00 p.m. Riverside Park
7  Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	8	9	10  Riverdale Park Business Association 5:30 p.m.	11  Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	12  Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	13  Madison Hill HOA Meeting 10:30 a.m.
14  Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	15	16	17	18  Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	19  Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	20  <b>Community Walk 9 a.m.</b>  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	23	24  Lions Club 7:00 p.m.	25  Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	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  <b>Council Work Session 8:00 p.m.</b>	30	31   <b>Halloween</b> <i>Trick-or- Treating 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.</i>	<p>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!</p> <p>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.</p>		

**Save the Date!**

**The annual Holiday Market and Festival of Lights will be held on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 12noon to 8:00 p.m.  
For more information, contact Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973. Vendors and volunteers are needed!**

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

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**Important Phone Numbers**

Comcast

[www.comcast.com](http://www.comcast.com)  
Customer service: 1-800-934-6489

Pepco

[www.pepco.com](http://www.pepco.com)  
To report an outage: 1-877-737-2662  
Customer service: 202-833-7500

Prince George's County: [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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 Pranglely at 240-882-4993

Northern County Soccer Alliance

[NCSA@soccer.net](mailto: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](http://www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com)

Riverdale Park Arts Council

Samuel Williams, Jr. at 909-380-4231

Riversdale Chamber Music Society

Robert DiLutis at [rdilutis@umd.edu](mailto:rdilutis@umd.edu) or  
[www.riversdalechambermusic.com](http://www.riversdalechambermusic.com)