

The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

**December 2010 -
January 2011**

Volume 40, Issue 10

Holiday Festivities	Page 1
Council Actions	Page 2
Police Report	Page 2
Riversdale Events	Page 3
Administration Report	Page 4
Mayor's Report	Page 4
Ward 2 Report	Page 5
Ward 3 Report	Page 6
Ward 5 Report	Page 7
Public Works Report	Page 6
Boys Scouts Troop 252	Page 8
Community Circles	Page 9
Calendar	

Page 10



IMPORTANT!

**Bulk Trash Collection
WEDNESDAYS
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

**Contact Bates Trucking
and Trash Collections at
(301) 773-2069 before 2pm
on Tuesday.**

Riverdale Park Holiday Festivities

Children's Holiday Party: December 4, 2010, 3:30- 5:00 p.m This event includes refreshments, free pictures with Santa, and a Holiday Puppet Show at 4:00 p.m. until 4:45 p.m. by Blue Sky Puppet Company for children 12 years and under accompanied by an adult. Volunteers are needed; please call Town Hall at 301-927-6381.

Riverdale Park Holiday Market: Saturday, December 11, 2010 12:00 - 8:00p.m. This event will be held the Town Center across from MARC train station. There will be face painting, model railroaders, games, a bonfire, singing with the elves on our way to Riversdale Mansion and our neighborhoods, great live music, dessert bake-off, great food and craft vendors. Santa will be there too! Volunteers are needed; please call Jim Coleman at 301-332-6258.

Festival of Lights: Saturday, December 11, 2010, 5:30 - 8:30p.m. Admission for the neighborhood trolley tour is free with a donation of canned food for needy families in our area.

Senior Holiday Luncheon: December 16, 2010, 12:00 - 2:30 p.m.

This event will be held at Crescent Cities Center. All senior residents are welcome! Please RSVP to 301- 927-6381.

Celebraciones de Pascua de Riverdale Park

Fiesta Navideña Infantil—Sábado 4 de Diciembre del 2010 3:30-5:00pm

Este evento incluye refrigerio, fotos gratis con Santa y un Espectáculo Navideño de títeres de 4 - 4:45 p.m. por Blue Sky Puppet para niños menores de 12 años acompañados por un adulto. Se necesitan Voluntarios por favor llamar a la alcaldía al 301-927-6381.

Mercado Navideño Sábado 11 de Diciembre del 2010 12:00-8:30pm—

Este evento sera en el Town Center enfrente de la estación del tren de MARC. Habrá pintura de caras, coleccionistas de miniaturas de trenes, juegos y cantaremos con los elfos de camino a la Mansión de Riversdale en nuestra ciudad, música en vivo, concurso de horneado de postres, comida y vendedores de artesanías. Se necesitan voluntarios; por favor llamen a Jim Coleman al 301- 332-6258.

Festival de Luces Trolebús— 11 de Diciembre del 2010 5:30- 8:30 p.m. La admisión para el trolebús de la ciudad es gratis con una donación de comida en lata para las familias necesitadas en nuestra ciudad.

Almuerzo Navideño de Ancianos: 16 de Diciembre 16 del 2010, de 12:00 - 2:30 p.m Este evento se llevara a cabo en el Centro Crecent Cities. Todos los ancianos residentes son bienvenidos! Por favor hacer su reservación al siguiente numero 301-927-6381.

Council Actions

November 1, 2010

Regular Legislative Meeting

1. **Approved** - Minutes for October 4, 2010 regular Legislative meeting.
2. **Approved** - Minutes for October 25, 2010 special Legislative Meeting
3. **Approved**- Building permit to install a 6ft. fence at 5316 Riverdale Road
4. **Approved**- Building permit to install a 6ft. fence at 5400 Powhatan Road.

By Waverly Pollitt

Riverdale Park Police Report: Holiday Safety Tips

By Lieutenant Andrew Powell

The Holiday Season is a time when thieves and con artists take advantage of our communities' good will. Here are a few simple tips from the Riverdale Park Police Department to keep your home, your vehicles, and your possessions safe.

TIPS:

- * Avoid displaying gifts that can be seen from a window or doorway.
- * Talk with your neighbors and have them keep an eye on your home and have them pick up any packages if you are going away for the holidays. Unattended packages and newspapers leave your home vulnerable to thieves and draw unwanted attention to your home.
- * Evaluate your home decorations. Large and extravagant lawn ornaments are often stolen or vandalized.
- * Please notify the Riverdale Park Police Department if you plan an extended holiday vacation. Let us keep an eye on your home giving you peace of mind while you enjoy the holiday season. Set timers to turn your lights and your TV on and off during nighttime hours. This will give the impression that your home is occupied.
- * Credit cards are a convenience; however keep track of all cards and receipts to compare to your monthly statement.
- * If you write checks, only give out the necessary information needed to complete your transaction and never give out your social security number.
- * Make sure while shopping in the evening hours to park in lots with adequate lighting. Consider shopping with others rather than going shopping alone.
- * Be aware of your surroundings at all times and move to and from your vehicle with a "purpose". Have your keys readily available before you get to your car, so you can enter it immediately taking away any incentives for someone to catch you off guard while looking for your car keys.

Town of Riverdale Park

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, MD 20737

301-927-6381, Hablamos Espanol
town@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Mayor Vernon Archer, 240-832-2257
varcher@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Council Members

Ward 1—Alice C. Ewen,

Chair, Econ Development, 301-379-5303
aewen@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 2 – Alan Thompson

Chair, Finance Committee, 301-927-7407
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 3 - David Lingua

Chair, Public Safety, 301-779-3849
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 4 - Christopher Henry

Chair, Public Works, 301-910-9855
chenry3240@verizon.net

Ward 5 – Raymond Rivas

Chair, Community Affairs, 301-625-9435
rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 6 - Keelah Allen-Smith

Chair, Legislative Committee, 240-751-6688
kallensmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Sara Imhulse, **Town Administrator**

simhulse@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Public Works, 301-864-1803

Leonard Addison, **Director**

Code Enforcement 240-898-2500

Colleen M. Ferguson, **Code Manager**

code@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Police Department, 301-927-4343

Teresa Chambers **Chief of Police**

tchambers@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

Charles Ryan, **Chief** in-fo@riverdalevfd.com, www.riverdalevfd.com
or, Riverdalefire-chief7@gmail.com

It is the policy of the Town of Riverdale Park, pursuant to the provision of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and The Americans with Disabilities Act, to prohibit discrimination against qualified persons with disabilities in any aspect of employment within the government.

It is also the policy of the Town of Riverdale Park to disallow discrimination in fair housing based on race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disabilities, and/or age.

Some materials contained in *The Town Crier* represent the opinion of the authors and does not necessarily represent the view of the Town of Riverdale Park.

The Town Crier is also available at the Town's Website: www.riverdaleparkmd.info
Submission deadline: 15th of each month.

Submit all copies to
towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

* While shopping keep your purse or wallet on you, never lay them down or let them out of your sight. Ladies, purse shoulder straps should cross your body not dangle from your shoulder. Gentlemen, Keep your wallet in your front pants pocket not your rear pocket.

* Most importantly, report all suspicious people and activity to law enforcement **IMMEDIATELY!!!**

The Riverdale Park Police Department cares about the safety of you, your family, and the community in which we proudly serve. We wish you Joy and Happiness during the Holiday Season!

Riversdale Events

ENJOY BREAKFAST WITH SINT NIKLAAS AT RIVERSDALE

The forerunner of our modern Santa Claus, Sint Niklaas, brings excitement to Flemish children on his feast day in early December. The gift-giving, kindly bishop will arrive for breakfast at Riversdale on Saturday, December 4, at 10 am. Children, ages 3 to 10, along with their parents, are invited to enjoy a Belgian-inspired breakfast as Sint Niklaas makes his rounds. Participants will receive a gift bag. A "just for kids" shopping area will also be open in our gift shop. Tickets are \$9 per child and \$5 per attending adult for residents of Prince George's & Montgomery Counties and \$11 per child and \$7 per attending adult for non-residents. Advance reservations are required by December 1st. We are sorry, but walk-ins cannot be accommodated. Register early to ensure a spot! Riversdale celebrates this holiday in honor of Rosalie Stier Calvert, mistress of Riversdale in the early 19th century and a Flemish immigrant, who kept her homeland customs for her own nine children.

THE CALVERTS BY CANDLELIGHT AT RIVERSDALE

The doors of the stately 200-year-old mansion open. George Calvert and his wife, Rosalie Stier Calvert, welcome you into their home as the smells of gingerbread, spices and pine and the sounds of festive music waft through the air.

Riversdale House Museum invites you to relax during this busy season in the warm glow of our candlelit evening on Wednesday, December 29. The house will be festooned with seasonal greens, and period music will play as costumed interpreters representing family, friends, and servants of the house interact with visitors on their self-guided tours of the illuminated mansion. Cooking over an open hearth fire in the kitchen, children's activities, and warming refreshments are all part of the spirit of the evening.

Admission for the event is \$5.00 for adults and free for accompanying children 12 and under. No reservations are necessary. The house is open 6:00-9:00 p.m. and refreshments are provided with admission.

TWELFTH NIGHT BALL AT RIVERSDALE

Bring the holiday season to a close in style at the Riversdale House Museum's Regency-style Twelfth Night Ball on January 15, 2011. This National Historic Landmark mansion provides a sparkling setting for dancing to live music. Dance lessons begin at 7:30, followed by dancing from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Period-inspired refreshments are included. Come dressed in your finest Regency attire or black tie. The cost is \$32.

Advance registration is required by January 7, and capacity is limited.

Call 301-864-0420 or email riversdale@pgparks.com to make a reservation. For more information or to register, call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544; email Riversdale@pgparks.com; website www.pgparks.com. 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.

Administration Report

By Sara Imhulse

On November 7, 2010, I had the opportunity to attend a Change of Command ceremony between the outgoing Commander Lieutenant Colonel John Lawlor and the incoming Commander Lieutenant Colonel John Stefula of the 450th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne) Army Reserves unit located at 6601 Baltimore Avenue, in Riverdale Park.

LTC John Lawlor has been the commander of this unit for the past three years. During his tenure, the Battalion has transformed from three companies to five, deployed Charlie Company to Iraq (2008-2009), and re-deployed Alpha and Bravo companies from Iraq (2007-2008.) Additionally, the unit conducted 25 airborne operations without significant injury or incident and maintained an operational readiness rating of 98% or better for the entire three years of LTC Lawlor's command. I want to thank LTC Lawlor for his leadership and commitment to the community.

LTC John Stefula is no stranger to the community. With the 450th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), he has commanded the Rear Detachment and Bravo Company, mobilized Bravo Company during surge operations for Operation Iraqi Freedom, and now serves as Battalion Commander. His awards and decorations are numerous and include the Bronze Star Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal. He and his family reside in College Park.

LTC Stefula and the Color Guard of the 450th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne) were able to join us for our Veterans Day ceremony on November 11th; Color Guard from the R.O.T.C. program at Parkdale High School participated as well. Mayor Archer and Mr. Moffitt placed a wreath at the memorial as a bag piper played Amazing Grace. It was a beautiful program to honor veterans past and present.

Mayor's Report

By Vernon Archer

In last month's report I wrote at length about needs our community has for indoor space for community activities; the limitations of what is currently available; and described some steps that need to be taken in order to move forward. (You might want to take a moment and read my November report before continuing here--it's online if you don't have last month's paper copy). This month I would like to continue that discussion as the council and I consider how best to proceed.

To move forward we need to decide where to place the new building, how large and in what configuration it should be, and how to pay for it.

The location that looks best at this time is to expand our town hall to create a "youth and community wing". The eastern portion of the building (council chambers, support rooms and storage rooms) currently serves dual rolls as meeting and activity space and in an expanded format, this basic plan would simply be enlarged to handle more and bigger activities. The current area is approximately 2,500 square feet, and the possible plan for expansion would be to give us a total of about 9,000 square feet. Expanding the building's foot print and putting on a second floor would accomplish this enlargement.

We have arranged the Neighborhood Design Center (NDC) to develop a conceptual design of the space. This wonderful organization has assisted Riverdale Park on a number of projects in the past. In the short run NDC will provide a rough design to help us better estimate the cost of the expansion and then later in the winter they will have a design charrette that will provide space management and layout the structure so it best meets the needs of our community.

A huge question is how much this will cost, and how would we go about paying for it. At this point we are seeking professional estimates of what such a structure would cost and will share that as it becomes available.

Regarding paying for the project, we will certainly ask for state assistance. Every year the state makes capital grants in our area, and the council members and I have been networking with our state delegation to en-

sure that they are prepared to help with this. We will ask the state to give us funding in the upcoming legislative session.

Another likely source of funding is through the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. We have been very successful at getting such funding in the past and would expect that a youth/community facility would get substantial help.

In addition, the reason for selling our 51st Avenue old club house to Park and Planning is to have those proceeds to help pay for a new and more usable space. Such a sale will also allow us to direct the money that would otherwise go to maintaining that structure to instead help pay to build the youth/community wing. Our goal here is the win-win with the community getting more and better community space, in a better location, and at the same time we see the local park expand.

My colleagues and I in the town government look forward to continuing to work with the community to see a great outcome on this project.

Queensbury and Baltimore Avenue Intersection

We received some good news from State Highway Administration about this intersection.

“Do Not Block Intersection” signs will be installed on all four legs of the intersection. The signs will inform drivers to stay behind the stop line and not to block the intersection when the traffic signal turns red. This will not only remind drivers of what they are supposed to do, but will assist our police department in enforcement in this troublesome spot.

Furthermore, our request to modify the traffic signal has moved forward. This will modify the light so that each leg of Queensbury Road would have a separate green phase. The modification will provide Queensbury Road with safer and more orderly turning maneuvers as well as improve overall traffic operations.

In the long run, SHA agrees that the best option to improve traffic in the area is to put in a 2nd north bound left hand lane at 410. The town has cooperated with SHA over the last 3 years to solve the right-of-way issues that had to be solved in order to make this possible. The design phase of the project was initiated in October, but a construction schedule has yet to be proposed. I will keep you updated as this develops.

Happy Holidays

I send my best wishes to all of you, my friends and neighbors, as you celebrate the many wonderful holidays of December and January. Lets all take some time to enjoy and celebrate our families, friends and community.

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan Thompson
akthompsons@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee met this month and discussed several items. Highlights included how the town is working to reduce accounting/audit costs, ways that we might move forward on the proposed occupied business tax credit I discussed last month, and a status update on the annual audit. We will meet again in January.

I have received feedback from some people on the proposed sale of the town-owned properties

on 51st Avenue to the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). As is often the case, there is a wide range of opinion on how to proceed. At the moment, I am planning to move forward in the process so we can see the terms of their offer, and explore what protections we can put in place to ensure that the properties remain open space. The process will take a few months at least, so please continue to let me know how you feel.

Another issue that has come up regarding the park near 51st Avenue is that M-NCPPC, in coordination with a group of town residents, is proposing to develop an area of the park to be a “dog park”. By the time this report appears in print I will

have spoken to residents who live near the proposed dog park to get their opinions on it; I welcome input from all Ward 2 residents about this exciting project.

In closing this month's report, I would like to wish everyone reading it a happy and safe holiday season.

Ward Three Report

By Council Member David Lingua
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Public Safety Committee Report

First off, an acknowledgement to and appreciation of CM Raymond Rivas for going bilingual with his ward report last month. Just over one hundred years ago towns like Riverdale Park became home to those in a strange new land in hopes of a brighter future for themselves but more so for their children. Sometimes a helping hand can be given by trying another way to reach out. Thank you, Raymond.

Congratulations to Robert Turner and Andrew Powell on their promotions to Lieutenant. Reports are that Lt. Turner and Lt. Powell are doing very well with their new responsibilities. Our police department works hard to make the most of the resources we are able to afford, taking a proactive approach towards safety issues and crime prevention. With encouragement and as much support as can be garnered, the bar is set high for the department and it is a challenge they approach with confidence. Best wishes to Robert and Andrew in their new roles.

At the November 9 meeting of the CKAR CDC, board member Patricia Parker introduced Daisy Avelar as CKAR's Public Affairs Specialist. Ms. Avelar comes to CKAR through an arrangement with M-NCPPC, during which she will be working 20 hours weekly on CKAR objectives. The Grants Committee reported on the submission a grant proposal for County Councilmember Olson's Special Appropriation Grant FY2011. Successful grants will be announced in the near future. From a recent press release, Engaged Community Offshoots (ECO) has been approved for a grant of \$10,000 to support the creation of a mural on Kenilworth Avenue. ECO plans to create a work conveying images

of a vital and healthy community, incorporating themes of urban agriculture, alternative transportation, and fair and just employment. One of the founding organizations of the CKAR CDC, CEO Margaret Morgan-Hubbard served on the steering committee for CKAR prior to the formation of the CDC. Ms. Morgan-Hubbard said, "Engaged Community Offshoots is very excited about this opportunity to work with the local residents to demonstrate the power of art to beautify, uplift and unify our community."

Once again, coming quickly upon the circulation of this publication, it is the annual Children's Holiday Party at town hall on December 4, brought to you by CM Rivas and the recreation board. And once again the soapbox is ascended briefly to advocate and encourage residents to become involved with the organization of this and other events under the board's purview. Why with the coming New Year if one was resolved to become more involved with their community here is a great way to do so. Stepping off the box now....

To you and yours best wishes for a memorable, family filled holidays and a promising New Year. Peace.

Ward Five Report

By Council Member Raymond Rivas
rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Community Affairs Committee Report

Wow, is it December already? Who would have believed that old grandfather time would pass us by so quickly in this year of 2010? Well, I can say for a fact that the recreational and arts council activities have kept me busy this year.

This year's Christmas children party will be held on December 4, 2010, at 3:30pm to 5:00pm in Riverdale Park Town Hall. There will be a puppet show from 4:00 to 4:45pm. Believe it or not there will be a special appearance from the big jolly old man himself, "Santa"! So please bring the little ones for the fun.

Once again Jim Coleman has gotten a great line of musicians for this year Riverdale Park Festival lights and Holiday Market event. The scheduled event is on December 11, 2010 from 12pm to 8pm at the Riverdale Park Town Center. There will be

trolley rides after 5pm for the festival of lights and viewing of the Historic Mansion Museum.

With the first program on the roll, the children of Riverdale Park youth group have been enjoying their class in the doll making program with Emily Fanning. I wanted to thank Christine, Licet, Magdalena, Tania, Erika, Leticia, and Lucy for participating in the fun activities. We still have more programs scheduled for this coming Spring season. If you want to get involved in the activities as a youth or volunteer please feel free to contact me at 301-625-9435.

¿Wow, es diciembre ya? ¿Quién habría pensado que los antiguos tiempos de abuelo pasarían tan rápidamente en este año del 2010? Bueno, puedo decir que fue un hecho de que el Consejo y las actividades recreativas me mantuvieron ocupado este año. Este año la fiesta de Navidad de los niños se celebrará el 4 de diciembre de 2010 @ 3: 30 pm a 5: 00 pm en la Alcaldía de Riverdale Park. Habrá un espectáculo de marionetas desde las 4: 00 a 4: 45 pm. Créase o no, habrá una aparición especial desde el gran animado anciano, "Santa". Así que por favor, trae a los más pequeños para la diversión.

Una vez más Jim Coleman ha conseguido una gran línea de músicos para el Festival de Luces de Riverdale Park este año y el Mercado Navideño. El planeado evento será el 11 de diciembre del 2010 de las 12 pm a 8 pm en el centro de ciudad de Riverdale Park. Habrá paseos en carro después de las 5 pm para el festival de las luces y visualización del Museo de la Historia de la Mansión.

Con el primer programa en el censo, los niños del grupo de jóvenes de Riverdale Park han estado disfrutando de su clase en el programa de elaboración de muñeca con Emily Fanning. Quería dar las gracias a Christine, Licet, Magdalena, Tania, Erika, Leticia y Lucy por estar participando en la diversión de estas actividades. Todavía tenemos más programas que entrarán la próxima temporada de primavera. Si desea participar en las actividades como un joven o voluntarios no dude en contactare connmigo al 301-625-9435.

Public Works Report

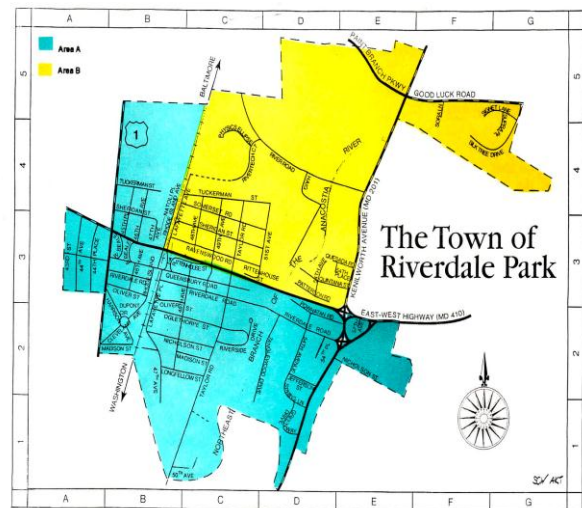
By Leonard Addison

Holidays-Trash Collection - Christmas day will be on Saturday, December 25, 2010, therefore regular trash collection day will not be affected by the holiday. Also, regular trash collection will not be affected by New Year's and Martin Luther King, Jr. holidays.

Leaf Collection - As part of our fall leaf collection services, leaves will be collected from November 15th through January 15th. DPW will vacuum leaves from Town streets following our previous trash collection schedule. Please see map below.

In order to make this process work as efficiently as possible, residents are encouraged to:

- Rake leaves to the curb. Pile leaves away from cars and storm drains. The leaf vacuum cannot reach around cars.
- Remove tree limbs, rocks and other debris from leaves to be collected. They can damage the equipment and cause delays.
- Please put bagged leaves out on Wednesdays with the yard waste. **Do not put them out with regular trash.**



Noise and dust may be noticeable during the leaf vacuuming process. Dry conditions generate more dust. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Monday – AREA A residents – leaf vacuum service—DARK AREA

Tuesday - AREA B residents – leaf vacuum service
Wednesday (yard collection day) – Bates Trucking Company will collect BAGGED LEAVES. Please do not include tree branches, wood or other debris in the bags.

Thursday – AREA A residents – leaf vacuum service

Friday – AREA B residents – leaf vacuum

Saturday Drop Off – The next scheduled day for drop off of bulk trash will be on Saturday, December 18, 2010, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

New Trees – New trees are being planted this fall to replace those that have been removed. Residents are asked to water the new trees (w/ 15 gallons) planted in front of their resident, at least once a week. Notices have been delivered to those residents who are affected by the tree planting to request their cooperation in watering the trees.

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

As we enter into the snow season please note that Public Works crews will be plowing and salting Town streets and parking lots to clear snow and ice. As in the past, we will treat our streets in the following method:

Primary Streets - i.e. Riverdale Rd, Taylor Rd, Lafayette Ave., Queensbury Rd, etc.

Secondary Streets – i.e. DuPont Cir., Cleveland Ave., Rhode Island Ave., Quesada Rd., Beale, 49th and 48th Ave., Silk Tree Dr., etc.

Residential Streets – i.e. Oliver St., Madison St., Rittenhouse St., 47th Ave., Somerset Rd., Sora Ln., etc.

Please note: our major roadways, (Rt. 201, Rt. 1, Rt. 410, Good Luck Rd.), will be treated by the State and County.

Residents of our Town should note that they will be responsible for doing their part by keeping the walkway in front of their property cleaned of snow and ice after each event.

What Residents Can Do?

- Whenever possible, move parked cars off the street so that snowplows can remove the snow from the street from curb to curb.



- If off-street parking is not available, **park on the even side of the street** (*violators will be subject to having their vehicles impounded and fined \$250 – 64-10(b)(c)*).
- Be patient during any snow emergency as crews work around the clock to clear the streets.
- Clear sidewalks in front of residence and refrain from depositing snow back on to the roadway (this can potentially cause an accident).

Boy Scouts Troop 252

By Bob Killen

Troop 252 is back on the move! We were stalled for quite a while when only a couple of our Boy Scouts had current Medical forms, which protect us Scouters from the lawsuits (nobody would sue!).

We attended the Merit Badge Day at the Naval Academy (Mr. Killen was Citizenship in the World Merit Badge Counselor) and 23 out of 25 Scouts completed the Merit Badge; we attended the Orienteering competition at Jug Bay the weekend after (and came in 92nd), had a great time, returning to our campsite with mud up to the knees (and some higher, where we sat); we shared Campsite "C" with another troop, and Scouts from both troops spent (not a lot of sleep, but a lot of quiet talking) two nights in the tipi, ate together, and enjoyed the wonderful weekend weather - not a drop of rain, nor any frost. Mr. Killen and Mrs. Campbell hiked the Orienteering route behind our Scouts, and returned to the camp un-muddy. The other troop commented on their camping experiences over the campfire using "Roses, thorns and buds" (new to me) to describe their impressions, and we joined in.

We're looking forward to the completion of Ismael Vallelta's Eagle project SOON, so he can finish earning the highly-coveted and sometimes elusive Eagle rank before his 18th birthday slams the window of opportunity shut. Samir Salih should be our next First Class Scout, and Brandon Campbell should be our next Second Class Scout. Michael Delaney will continue his advancement as soon as he learns to swim.

Our Scouters will attend and staff two Universities of Scouting, in Baltimore Area Council

and in National Capital Area Council, next spring, and maybe staff the upcoming Powder Horn class.

We wrote for (and received) an extension for convening the Eagle Board of Review (EBoR) for Joel Sandoval (90 days had passed since his Scoutmaster's conference), so his EBoR will be held (was held) the first Friday in December. We're skiing (pray for snow) the next weekend in December at the Wisp, and camping and mountain biking on horse trails in January (snow or no snow); we intend to hike the trails in Cedarville State Park in February, and anytime we have cold weather, we'll ice up some hills and slide down them in our huge inner tubes. We'll be swimming (for advancement) in the Greenbelt Pool when we get the chance.

Community Circles

Riverdale Boys and Girls Club Seeks Help

Riverdale Boys & Girls Club is currently holding open registration, every Wednesday for the months of October & November, for all sports & activities. The next activities are basketball, soccer & dance. We are also in desperate need of volunteer coaches. Please let us know if you can volunteer for a good cause, our youth. Contact riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com or call 301-277-KIDS (5437).

Senator Pinsky's Town Hall Meeting

Maryland State Senator Paul G. Pinsky will share a legislative update on Saturday, December 2, 2010 from 10:00 am- 11:30 am. The Town Hall Meeting will be held at Berwyn Heights Elementary School 6200 Pontiac Street Berwyn Heights, Maryland 20740. The meeting will include a presentation on reducing your energy consumption, information on avoiding foreclosures, and a period of time to hear from you! Mark your calendars and bring your family and neighbors. For more information call 240-391-8154 or email ppinsky@senatorpinsky.org.

Oh, yes, we'll be meeting every Friday night in the Scout Room at St. Bernard's Church in Riverdale Park (the Scouts have gotten pretty good at lashing - they have wrapped and frapped bamboo poles, making them into ladders, and climbed up to the roof, and have cooked marshmallows over the small individual fires they made (and extinguished) on the sidewalks.

You know who we are, when, where and what we're doing, so come join us. We're having all the fun. Feel free to contact MHB (301-864-0059) or Bob Killen rfkille@yahoo.com (301-483-8455) for a free trial. If you don't like us, we'll give you your money back.

Local Organizations

Lion's Club Meeting: EVERY FOURTH WEDNESDAY. Contact President Guy Tiberio at (240) 375-8902.

Northern County Soccer Alliance: Contact NCSA@juno.com or (301) 927-0560. PG Soccer League@juno.com

Riverdale Park Daisy Troop #2546: Contact Danielle Glaros at (301) 779-5915.

Riverdale Park Boys Scouts Troop 252— Contact: Scoutmaster Bob Killen at (202) 282-8302.

Madison Hill Homeowners Association-- For information, call (240) 401-2202 or visit www.madisonhill.org.

Riversdale Historical Society – Riversdale Mansion. Contact (301) 864-0420.

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market -- Contact Jim Coleman at 301-332-6258.

Riverdale Boys & Girls Club—Email riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com (301) 277-KIDS

Riverdale Park Business Association—call Audrey Bragg at 301-277-7393 for meeting site

Riverdale Park Arts Council—Contact Emily Fanning at ourdollmom@aol.com.



Happy Holidays

