



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

September 2011

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IMPORTANT!
Bulk Trash Collection
WEDNESDAYS
BY APPOINTMENT
ONLY

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

Riverdale Park Day 2011

Celebrate the 91st Anniversary of the Town of Riverdale Park and have some fun with your neighbors! For kids we will have a moon bounce, pony rides, face painting, piñatas, games, crafts, and a clown, and for the adults we will have good music and great food. Bring a blanket or a lawn chair and join us for the day!

WHERE: Riverside Neighborhood Park, 5000 Riverside Drive

WHEN: Saturday, October 1st from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

PARKING: Ample parking available at Riverdale Elementary School, which is a short walk from the park. Limited parking may also be available on Taylor Road.

Día de Riverdale Park 2011

Celebra el 91st Aniversario de la Ciudad de Riverdale Park disfrutando con tu comunidad y amigos! Para los niños tendremos un juego de rebotar (moon bounce), paseos en un poni, pinturas decorativas en la cara, piñatas, juegos, artes, y un payaso, y para los adultos tendremos buena música y buena comida. Trae una cobija y una silla de jardín y únete con nosotros para el día!

DONDE: Riverside Neighborhood Park, 5000 Riverside Drive

CUANDO: Sábado 1 de Octubre de las 12:00 p.m. a las 5:00 p.m.

PARQUEO: Amplio Parqueo en la Escuela Elementaría de Riverdale, que está a una corta caminata hacia el parque. Parqueo limitado también estará disponible en la calle Taylor.

Council Actions

Legislative Meeting July 5, 2011

By Waverly Pollitt

1. **Approved-** minutes for June 6, 2011 regular legislative meeting.
2. **Approved-** minutes for June 20, 2011 special legislative meeting.
3. **Approved-** waiving Town bid requirements for the purchase of 8 police vehicles through the use of a state bid.
4. **Approved-** waiving Town bid requirements for the purchase of 3 public works vehicles through the use of state bid.
5. **Approved-** waiving Town bid requirements for 2 HVAC projects and use of an existing state contracted energy service company (ESCO) as part of the State of Maryland's existing Energy Performance contract (EPC)
6. **Approved-** waiving Town bid requirements for purchase of 8 Digital Mobile Radios through the use of State bid.

Riversdale House Museum Events

THE ART OF COOKERY MADE SEASONAL AND HISTORIC-HARVEST DINNER

Eating local produce was the only option in earl America. Riversdale gardener Sarah Urdaneta, foodways historian Joyce White, and the Riversdale Kitchen Guild prepare and present foods from the organic Riversdale garden, setting a bountiful table for guests to enjoy. Guests can also enjoy locally-made beverages, courtesy of Franklin's Restaurant, Brewery, and General Store. The dinner includes a tour of the house and gardens, a food demonstration, and handouts of the historic recipes served.

The event begins at 6:30 pm on Saturday, September 10. Advance reservations and payment are required by September 3, and capacity is limited; \$30 residents of Prince George's & Montgomery Counties, \$36 non-resident.

Call 301-864-0420 or email riversdale@pgparks.com to make a reservation.

Riversdale, a historic house museum of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road in the town of Riverdale Park, Maryland. Call or email Riversdale@pgparks.com for more information.

Town of Riverdale Park

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, MD 20737
301-927-6381, Hablamos Español
town@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Mayor Vernon Archer, 240-832-2257
varcher@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Council Members

Ward 1—Jonathan W. Ebbeler,
Chair, Econ Development, 404-626-2082
jebbeler@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 – Alejandro Silva
Chair, Legislative Committee, 301-801-3021
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

Patrick Timmons, **Interim Police Chief**
ptimmons@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Fire Department - Emergency 911
Information - 301-927-0356

Charles Ryan, **Chief**
info@riverdalevfd.com, www.riverdalevfd.com or,

Riverdalefirechief7@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

Mayor's Report

By Vernon Archer

As September arrives and our kids return to school I'm both excited and a bit anxious about what is ahead for our community.

Carfritz Plan for Development of Calvert Hills

Since I last wrote to you in June, the Cafritz development team has submitted to the county a request to rezone the Calvert Hills area to a mixed use development of commercial and residential buildings. This will, if granted, encourage much denser development than the existing zoning. While this change will allow for construction of nearby amenities such as the proposed Whole Foods Grocery, it naturally also causes concern about impacts on such things as traffic, resource management and schools.

As the town council works out what to do about this proposal, please know that your input and concerns are important to us. On August 29th the Cafritz team will meet with the council and the public is encouraged to attend. There will almost certainly be some business related to this development in virtually every town meeting through the end of the year, and you are encouraged to attend, watch the press, and contact myself and/or your council member to stay up on this important development.

Nomination of a New Chief of Police

After completing a lengthy and thorough search process to fill the office of Chief of Police I have nominated David Morris, formerly a major in the Prince George's County Police Department. David worked for the county department for twenty-six years, successfully fulfilling a number of command and senior positions, including: Commander of District 5, Director of Community Policing Institute, Commander of Training and Education, and Operations Duty Commander.

My check into his background revealed him to have the respect and support of a number of very well respected senior police executives including our former Chief Teresa Chambers. He shows the marks of a man of integrity and determination to do an outstanding job for the residents of Riverdale Park.

The council met and interviewed him in an executive session on August 15, and his nomination will be on the agenda for action at our Tuesday, September 6 Legislative meeting. Please come out and meet him and share any questions or concerns about public safety in our town with him and the council. In the meantime Major Morris will be circulating around town at events like the farmer's market so be sure to speak with him if the opportunity arises!

Coat Drive

As the economic hardships that we are enduring continue the town government and I are working with area relief and assistance groups to help those who are in need around our community. One project that has shown clear success in past years is the coat drive that is a partnership between us and the Christian Life Center.

This program centers on a distribution at Thanksgiving, but last year I was heartbroken to see nearly half of the people who came seeking a coat turned away. In order to not have a repeat this year I am organizing a community wide collection of "slightly" used coats, as well as monetary donations. If you are willing and able to contribute please send your donation to our Town Hall, or if you can't drop off your donation call us at 301-927-6381 and we will arrange a pickup.

Volunteers Needed

There is nothing more critical for the support for a healthy community than volunteers! In particular we need help in getting ready for our upcoming Riverdale Park Day, and the Holiday Festival. If you like to have a good time and are able to spare a few hours of your time please contact Councilman Raymond Rivas at 202-236-1950 for Riverdale Park Day or Jim Coleman for 301-332-6258 for the Holiday Market.

Our schools are also finding themselves shorthanded because of staff reductions so please reach out to them also. One area that my school of William Wirt needs assistance in is Spanish interpreting for back-to-school night and parent teacher conferences. If you have the knowledge to help in this area please contact me directly at 240-832-2257 and I will help you to help our kids!

Good Bye to a Good Friend and Hello to a New Leader

As many of you know Carol Cantu, who has been the principal of Riverdale Elementary for the past five years, resigned from Prince George's County Schools. She will be missed by those of us in town government and I know her students and their families will miss her as well. As Riverdale Elementary is such a close neighbor to our municipal facility, it has not always been easy for the school and town government to get along, but under Ms. Cantu we always had not just a neighbor but a friend too! As she now commences oversight of a small private school in Baltimore, I wish her only the best, pray for her continued health, and thank her for her years of service to Riverdale!

As we look to the future, the school's new principal is Cheryl Hughes. Having recently met her I am confident that the good relations and strong educational gains of recent years will continue. In just a few minutes with her you understand she is committed to the children in her care and to working with the rest of us in the community to raise our children well! If you get a chance stop by and see what you can do to help our elementary school continue to improve.

Town Administrator's Report

By Sara Imhulse

Grant Submitted for New Playground

In August I submitted a grant proposal for the Community Parks and Playground grant for a project we are currently calling Riverdale Road Park. The Riverdale Road Park project envisions a new park to be located on Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) property, which abuts Queensbury Road to the north, Riverdale Elementary School to the west, Riverdale Road to the south, and Wells Run stream to the east. This new playground will become the primary playground and recreation area for students at Riverdale Elementary School during the day but will be accessible to the public after school hours and on the weekends. The Town of Riverdale Park has a joint agreement with M-NCPPC for use of this site, which is currently green space.

Elements for this project may include: design and engineering; site work, removal of existing equipment, and relocation of temporary classrooms; installation of new pre-school (2-5) and school age (5-12) equipment with safety surfacing, benches, and trash cans; a 54' by 115' futsal court made of rubber surfacing and two goals; a basketball half court, with the hoop attached to the back of the futsal court; concrete sidewalk that connects the school to the new amenities, to the existing sidewalk along Riverdale Road; sidewalk games, such as four square, hopscotch, school logo, and other elements on the sidewalk between the playground and the field/basketball court; outdoor classroom, including repair to the existing half wall, demonstration gardens, and additional educational murals or sidewalk paintings, such as a map of Maryland; landscaping, including tree plantings for shade, rain gardens, and repairing the stream buffer; picnic area, including grading, concrete pads, two picnic tables, two grills, and a trashcan; asphalt, to include the parking lot (36 spaces, of which 2 are accessible/handicap parking), drop off/pick up lane, and connections to Queensbury Road and Riverdale Road.

M-NCPPC staff has prepared a beautiful conceptual plan that illustrates where these elements will be located. Please let me know if you would like to stop by and take a look. I'll bring it to the Council meetings as well.

Our grant application included letters of support from Superintendent Hite, M-NCPPC Parks Department Director Gathers, County Councilmember Olson, Senator Pinsky, Delegate Gaines, Delegate Healey, and Delegate Ross. I want to thank M-NCPPC staff as well as past and current teachers and staff at Riverdale Elementary School, including Ms. Cantu and Ms. Hughes, for assistance in developing and preparing the conceptual plan.

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward One Report

By Council Member Jonathan W. Ebbeler
jebbeler@riverdaleparkmd.gov

I would like to introduce myself to all the Ward One constituents and those in the town as a whole who I have not had the pleasure of meeting. I extend my apologies for not being able to canvass in the manner I had hoped to during the election. I had a fire in the early morning of March 27th and it has left me displaced since. Many of you have heard of the tragedy that beset the Cuevas family when an SUV crashed into their house. My deepest thoughts and empathy goes out to their family as unfortunately I know only too well how difficult insurance companies can be in these situations.

As some of you know the Cafritz Property is back in discussion and they have filed a Conceptual Site Plan (CSP) with the Planning Board. As part of this process I will need input from Ward One (especially the Northwest corner) since the property is inside our boundaries. I actively read Town Talk and Hyattsville Hope and some of you have reached out to me directly expressing your thoughts and concerns. I hope as the discussions progress, more of you take a moment to opine. On an issue as complicated as Cafritz, that has the ability to be as divisive or inclusive as we collectively allow it to be, I am hopeful that we can work towards a common solution that a majority can agree with.

Economic Development Committee Report

As chair of the Economic Development Committee I broke in tradition by having my first meeting on the grounds of Riversdale during the Jazz on the Lawn in July. I purposefully did this to point out that our town needs to do a better job in marketing our town's valuable assets when we talk about attracting businesses and home buyers. I have met with Ed Day the Executive Director in a brainstorming session. We are going to try to bring 'screen on the green' in the future to Riversdale.

We discussed an issue I will be bringing before Council in that I believe our town should apply for an Arts and Entertainment District designation. This will open up grant and tax abatement opportunities for our town center and capitalize on our cultural history. Our town is the best kept secret in the DC Metro area, but sometimes secrets need to be shared with others.

The Cafritz development was also discussed. Since the CSP was filed, we know that they are asking

for Mixed Use Infill (MUI) zoning. I have spoken with the Cafritz attorney and asked him to accept the Riverdale Park mixed use zoning called M-U-TC (Mixed Use Town Center). The significant differentiator, and why I support M-U-TC, include its pedestrian-oriented focus with the goal of encouraging re-investment within our existing commercial sectors that requires mandatory input of the local design review committee which CM Thompson chairs, myself, the Honorable Alice Ewen, and members (including two architects) of the local community sit on. If we allow the site to be developed, I would like to see it connected to the rest of our town, not existing as a stand-alone development.

Dumm's went through the M-U-TC process to get approval of their expanded market. I was very excited to hear about their plans and how cooperative they were with the town and zoning requirements. Between the Dumm's expansion and the absolutely tremendous job Jim Coleman has done with the Farmer's Market (including being recognized in a Washingtonian magazine article) I believe we are moving in the right direction to get our town center full of vibrant, community-oriented shops.

In closing, I would just like to extend out an open invitation to contact me with any constituent issue and am honored to serve the town over the next two years.

Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan Thompson
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Finance Committee Report

This has been a very busy summer so far, with a lot going on. With limited space, I'll discuss what I think are the three most important ongoing projects for Ward 2 residents to know about.

The first project is the dog park that I've discussed many times before. The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, which owns and operates the "Riverdale Community Park" near 51st Avenue, now has money in their budget to construct a dog park in that area. I will be working with them on the exact location, layout, design, and long-term governance of the dog park over the next few months so please let me know any opinions you have about this. There is a lot of funding available, so the facilities are likely to be very nice.

The second project is an office development on River Road in the M Square area on the northern edge of Ward 2 (across River Road from the American Center for Physics). Approximately 1/3 of the development will be in Riverdale Park, with the rest in College Park. The offices are projected to add almost a thousand cars a day to the roads when completed. I am currently balancing competing goals of providing access for the people who will work there to our Town Center to spur economic growth, versus trying to minimize cut-through traffic. Please let me know what your priorities are. I do plan to ask for changes to the plans to reduce the storm water impact of the development, and make the site more pleasant for pedestrians. The Town Council is being asked to vote on this at the September 6 meeting.

Finally, there is the other development project in town that has been getting a lot of attention: the Cafritz development with a proposed Whole Foods Market between the railroad tracks and Baltimore Avenue (Route 1). It is hard to predict where the discussion will be when you see this (two weeks after I write it) because possibilities for traffic and zoning are constantly shifting. As I am writing this, I am hopeful that the zoning can be changed to Mixed Use – Town Center (M-U-TC), so the town will have input throughout the development process (especially for parts of the development that are not well-specified now). M-U-TC zoning is currently in effect in Town Center and along most of Baltimore Avenue, and has mandatory design guidelines and reviews.

A very recent addition to the discussion about traffic through the Cafritz development is the possibility of a vehicular bridge across the railroad tracks, connecting the development with Rivertech Court.

I have asked the attorney representing the developer to provide details and discuss the possible impact of this bridge on our Ward at the meeting scheduled for August 29, and will report in the October Town Crier with what I learn. As always, I welcome your input on this development, and especially on the proposed bridge.

Ward Three Report

By Council Member David Lingua
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Public Safety Report

School is open, so please, please, be aware of children traversing to and from Riverdale Elementary. Thank you.

Please join me and the other members of the Public Safety Committee and the council as a whole in welcoming Major David C. Morris as Riverdale Park's

new Chief of Police. The selection process saw numerous qualified applicants, which made for a very competitive process. Major Morris has served Prince Georges County since 1985, taking on an array of responsibilities. Major Morris will be sworn in during the September legislative session. On behalf of the council I would like to thank Captain Timmons for serving as Acting Chief during this process. On a related note, special recognition to CM Rivas and the department for hosting a great event at Park Tanglewood for National Night Out.

On Tuesday, July 12, 2011, the CKAR-CDC hosted a follow up meeting in which the MTA Purple Line project team met with the business community of Riverdale Park and provided an update on the proposed Purple Line alignment along River Road, Kenilworth Avenue, and East-West Highway/Riverdale Road.

Later in July, the Business Outreach Committee discussed sending a letter to SHA requesting that the agency reconsider its Highway Needs Inventory (HNI). The letter from the CKAR-CDC would be in support of the MTA's recent letter to SHA requesting a review of road improvement recommendations for both the M-Square project and the Purple Line Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA). In its request to SHA, the CKAR CDC will indicate that the purpose of the event is to ensure there is minimal impact on area businesses. I believe it is important that Riverdale Park draft a similar letter supporting MTA's request. CKAR is planning a business outreach event in early October. Stay tuned.

The Anacostia Trail Heritage Area (ATHA) sponsored two events and joined with Riversdale on a third this summer. In early June ATHA held its annual bike tour, highlighting the numerous trails in the northern portion of our county. At the end of July ATHA hosted at Hyattsville's Magruder Park an exhibition of the game of Base, a 19th century forerunner to 21st century baseball.

This past August ATHA and Riversdale worked together to bring the annual reenactment of the battle of Bladensburg. At this time ATHA announced its plans for marking the bicentennial of the War of 1812, culminating with the Battle of Bladensburg in 2014. In conjunction with these events, University Park resident Michael Arnold has started *Undaunted*, a project to contribute to the visitor experience with smart-phone apps. Those interested in finding out more can go to www.anacostiatrails.org and www.undaunted1812.com.

Summer would not be complete without sharing thoughts on the proposed development of the Calvert Tract. In addition to those opinions shared by others on the council, the lack of vision at the initial presentation of Phase II is a considerable cause for reservations. Like

my colleagues have requested, please share your thoughts with me on this project. Thank you.

Ward Five Report

By Council Member Raymond Rivas
rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Community Affairs Committee Report

Simply sensational, that's what I can say about this summer here in Ward 5. The children have been involved in all different activities. I wanted to thank Shante Stokes from the 4H club of the University of Maryland who brought her inventive ways of bringing the children together. In addition, I want to give a big shout out and my appreciation to Anne Blein-Zuk of Living Classroom Ranger program who had accepted and educated 40 children from Ward 5. Please, let's not forget both Emily Fanning with her stupendous doll classes and Councilman Jonathan Ebbeler for his leadership in directing several young teens towards the Civil Auxiliary Air Patrol cadet program in College Park. This is what I am trying to instill in these kids some mentoring and worthwhile programs so they can build their self-esteem and character. Once again, to all, THANK YOU!

NOW, ANNOUNCING: our annual historic and fabulous event again for Riversdale Park Day on October 1, 2011 located at Riverside Park 5000 Riverside Drive, Riverdale, MD 20737. We need more vendors and also any music group who want to participate in this well to do event to contact us @ 301-625-9435. In addition to this we need to make all out call for artistes that want to show and possibly sell their prize pieces. Last but not least of all, we need to get more volunteers to help keep the event running smoothly.

On to a subject that is most important to all communities: CRIME! It is out there and please be aware, alert, on point, nosy, on watch, curious, or whatever way to say it: WATCH OUT FOR IT. There are suspicious characters lurking about the back and front yards looking to steal yours and your children's valuable items. I am aware of several incidents that these criminals have taken advantage of and they have no sympathy for your feelings. Please, if you see any suspicious activities or individuals that may be hanging around your domain that don't belong there, immediately call the local police Riverdale Park @ 301-927-4343, if an emergency, 911.

Simplemente sensacional, que lo que puedo decir sobre este verano aquí en el distrito 5. Los niños han participado en todas las diferentes actividades. Quería agradecer a Shante Stokes del club 4 H de la Universidad de Maryland que trajo sus inventivas maneras de reunir a los niños. Por otra parte, quiero dar un gran grito fuera y mi reconocimiento a Anne Blein-Zuk del programa de Living Classroom Ranger que acepto y educo a 40 niños del distrito 5. Por favor, no olvidemos Emily Fanning con sus clases de muñecas estupendas y concejal Jonathan Ebbeler por su liderazgo en la dirección de varios jóvenes adolescentes hacia el programa de cadetes Civil patrulla aérea auxiliar en College Park. Esto es lo que estoy intentando inculcar a estos chicos tutoría y programas para que puedan construir su autoestima y caracteres. Una vez más a todos gracias!

Anunciando AHORA nuestro evento anual histórico y fabuloso nuevamente El Dia de Riverdale Park el 1 de octubre de 2011 en Riverside Park 5000 Riverside Drive, Riverdale, MD 20737. Necesitamos más proveedores y también cualquier grupo de música que quieren participar contactenos @ 301-625-9435. Además de esto tenemos que hacer toda una convocatoria de artistas que desea mostrar y posiblemente vender sus piezas de premios. Por último, necesitamos más voluntarios para ayudar a mantener el evento funcionando sin problemas.

Acerca del tema que es más importante para todas las comunidades, la DELICUENCIA O CRIMEN. Esta ahí afuera por favor hacer consciente, estén alerta, en punto, o cualquier forma de decir CUIDADO. Hay personajes malos que acechan sobre su espalda y yardas buscando robar lo tuyo y objetos de valor de tus hijos. Me he dado cuenta de varios incidentes que estos criminales han aprovechado y no tienen ninguna simpatía por sus sentimientos. Si ve cualquier actividad sospechosa o individuos andan rondando su territorio y que no pertenece allí, llame a la policía local de Riverdale Park @ 301-927-4343 si es caso de emergencia, 911.

Public Works Report

By Leonard Addison

Saturday Drop Off – The schedule for drop off of bulk trash (rear of DPW yard) is the third Saturday, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, of each month. The schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows. **September 17**, October 15. November 19 and December 17. Please mark your calendars.

Holiday Trash Collection – Trash will not be collected on Monday, September 5, 2011, in observance of Labor Day. The next collection day will be Thursday, September 8, 2011.

PEPCO to Begin Installing Smart Meters in Maryland

Installations will run June 2011 Through December 2012

Many of our residents have taken advantage of this program. Applications are still being accepted.

In June, Pepco began installing advanced digital electric meters, also referred to as smart meters, throughout its Maryland service area. The meter exchange program is the first step in the utility's long-term investment to build a smart power grid that will help customers better manage their energy use and costs and improve customer service and reliability.

Crews will continue with the installation process through December 2012 until all of PEPCO's Maryland customers receive a new meter. Prior to installation, customers will receive a letter and fact sheet from Pepco which, among other things, introduces them to the contractor, Scope Services Inc., who will perform the meter installation.

Customers will see benefits, such as fewer estimated bills and more tools to help customers better manage their energy use and help the environment.

To learn more about PEPCO's meter exchange plan, customers are encouraged to visit the "Smart Grid" section on *pepco.com* under "Our Energy Future." Customers will find information on the new meters, a fact sheet on how to prepare for installation, and answers to frequently asked questions.

PEPCO & Delmarva Home Energy Savings Program

PEPCO & Delmarva have joined together to sponsor an Income Eligible Energy Efficiency Program (IEEEP) program that would provide qualified residents in the PEPCO/Delmarva Power service territory in Maryland, with a comprehensive home energy audit to determine the most effective measures to install in their homes to reduce energy costs. After inspecting the property for potential heating, ventilation and air conditioning safety issues, the work would be completed by a Building Performance Institute certified professionals.

The program features weatherization measures (attic/wall insulation, air sealing, door/window weather stripping, duct sealing and insulation), electric saving

measures (compact fluorescent light bulbs, tank and pipe wraps for electric water heaters, low flow showerheads, faucet aerators), appliance replacement components (refrigerators, room air conditioners, electric hot water heaters) and tune up or replacement of inefficient electric heating and cooling equipment.

The duration of the program is through December 31, 2011. The worthwhile services are provided gratis to the residents who are chosen for the program.

If you are interested in this program, please call the Department of Public Works for the referral application and guidelines at 301-864-1803.

BULK TRASH PICKUPS & SPECIAL TRASH PICKUPS

Bulk Trash pickups are scheduled by **APPOINTMENT ONLY**. In order to have bulk items picked up on Wednesdays, you must call Bates Trash and Trucking Company at 301-773-2069, before 2:00 PM on Tuesdays.

Items must be at curbside by 7:00 AM on Wednesdays. Bates is not required to pick up more than **THREE (3) bulk items from any one-family dwelling per week**. If you have more than three (3) items, you can make another appointment for the items to be picked up on the following Wednesday.

The following items will not be picked up: building materials, concrete, bricks, roof shingles, stumps, bamboo, pressurized containers, explosives, paint (unless paint is dry in cans), poisons, caustics, construction and demolition debris, asbestos, toilets, free liquids, sewage, sludge. These items can be taken to **Brandywine Sand & Gravel, 5800 Sheriff Road, Capitol Heights, MD. 301-925-8100.**

Boy Scout's Troop 252

By Robert Killen

Summer has come and gone again! Most of our Boy Scouts traveled for their vacations - Mexico, Sudan, Costa Rica and Puerto Rico were some of their vacation places. Those of who were left - well, we carried on.

Yorman Amador and I held his Eagle Scoutmaster's Conference on June 24, two whole days before his 18th birthday, and, of course, he passed. His Eagle Board of Review was held on August 11 at the Prince George's District Round Table in Glenn Dale, where he successfully completed the Board (our Troop Committee member, Sandra Tolson, sat on it) in an hour and a half. He goes away to Grinnell College in Iowa

(\$140,000 Posse scholarship) next Thursday, and we'll hold his Eagle Scout Ceremony when he returns on his winter break. Hopefully, we'll hold Joel Sandoval's Eagle Scout Ceremony before then since Joel's Eagle Scout package finally made it back from Texas (they lost it, and then tracked it down).

Michael Delaney has been progressing through his First Aid Merit Badge work, learning and re-learning the requirements - his mom, dad, and grandmother have joined in the quest for knowledge, because they found out that the "stuff" we learn in Scouting comes in handy in "Real Life." Michael is also progressing well with his swimming, required for First Class Scout.

The rest of our Scouts are scheduled to return just before school starts, and we'll report on them later. Most of the Scouts will need updated Health and Safety forms, because the forms are valid only for one year, a welcome change from years past - a boy can do some serious growing in three years; a four-foot-tall child can become a six-foot-tall young man in that time.

MHB and I attended the Kwahadi "Song of the Eagle" performance the evening of 6 August - a team of sixty Scouts (most of them) from Texas doing Native American dancing, with narration, reminding us almost too often that we should be and do good.

More next month - there's no reason why we should have all the fun! If you are curious or interested, contact Scoutmaster Bob Killen (301) 483-8455 rkillen@yahoo.com or Committee Chair/COR MHB (301) 864-0059.

RPAC: Doll Tea

By Emily Fanning

Riverdale Park Arts Council's (RPAC) Youth Doll Club in conjunction with Riversdale House Museum presents a DOLL TEA to be held Saturday, October 15, 2011 at the Museum/Mansion (4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737) from 2:30 pm until 4:00 pm for RPAC's Doll Club members. Also in attendance will be members of The Washington Dollology Club who gave a very generous donation to the museum towards the interpretation of its nursery. Bed Post dolls (a very early form of doll making) handmade by the youth, ages 8-18, along with a wooden box wardrobe, will be on display. Also on display will be an exhibit of Mrs. Emily Fanning's 19th century dolls which includes an early 1800 Bed Post doll with her wardrobe. Emily, who is president of RPAC, has organized and is the main teacher of the youth doll making program and is also a member of Washington Dollology.

At the tea, Mansion staff will teach our youth and Dollology guests how to make an 1812 Regency period straw hat for their dolls. The boys in the Doll Club will learn how to make an 1812 Regency vest.

Doll Club youth family members will be given tickets with a designated time slot to see this display for free on Sunday, October 16 only. The reason for the designated time slot for parents, on the day following the tea, is due to capacity restrictions at the mansion. The general public is invited to see the display on the regular Riversdale House Museum's tours on Fridays & Sundays noon to 3:30 pm. Tour fees are \$3.00 per adult, \$2.00 seniors, \$1.00 children and children under 4 free. So everyone come on out and support our youth!

This news item is submitted by RPAC. For more information, contact Emily at 301-864-5561, ourdollmom@aol.com or Ann Wass, Curator, Riversdale House Museum, 301-864-0420.

Community Circles

Daisy Troop #2546

Don't forget: Daisy Scouts meet every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month from 6:30-7:30pm at Town Hall. Please contact Dannielle Glaros for more information at (301) 779-5915 or dmglaros@gmail.com.

Local Organizations

Lion's Club Meeting: Every Fourth Wednesday. Contact President Guy Tiberio at (240) 375-8902.

Northern County Soccer Alliance: Contact NCSA@soccer.net or (301) 927-0560.

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 (301) 583-8857 or www.madisonhill.biz

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

