



# The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

**November 2017**

Volume 47, 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  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 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.

## **Thank You Riverdale Park Day Sponsors!**

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**Riverdale Park Dental**



**Veterans Day Ceremony**

**Saturday, November 11, 2017**

**11:00 a.m.**

**Veterans Memorial, Natoli Place**

**Refreshments to follow at Town Hall**

**Please plan to join us!**

# Council Actions

## Legislative Meeting on October 2, 2017

### Consent Agenda

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

1. Fence Permit Request: 4805 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3)
2. Fence Permit Request: 4803 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3)
3. Fence Permit Request: 4801 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3)
4. Minutes from August 28, 2017 Work Session
5. Minutes from September 5, 2017 Legislative Meeting

### Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to approve Salt Utilization Agreement between the Town and Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration for the distribution of salt to the Town – **Approved**
2. Motion regarding request for special exception for a 6-foot tall brick wall for trash enclosure at Park Tanglewood (Ward 5) – **Approved**
3. Motion regarding request for special exception for an 18-foot tall noise wall made of ashlar stone along parcel TT at Riverdale Park Station (Ward 1) – **Approved**



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## 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, 202-550-3596  
[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** – Alejandro Silva, 301-801-3021  
[asilva@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:asilva@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

### Administration

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

Leonard Addison, **Director of Public Works**  
[laddison@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:laddison@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

Even though the weather stayed warm through the middle of October, with November here we are feeling winter on its way. And we can already see the holiday season starting at the end of the month.

## Veterans Day

The Town's annual observance of Veterans Day will be at the Veterans' Monument (in the 6300 block of Lafayette, near the MARC train station) at 11 am on November 11. These ceremonies typically last 15-20 minutes, and are a great way to show appreciation to those who served. Come honor those who served; I hope we have a big turnout this year!

## Riverdale Park Station

Construction at Riverdale Park Station is moving forward! Gold's Gym came to the M-U-TC committee in early October with new sign designs, and is expecting to open early in 2018. While I haven't confirmed it, I heard that the model townhouse on Woodberry Street was sold – these properties are very much in demand!

## Trolley Trail

There was quite a bit of confusion early in October when someone (we don't know who) decided to move the barricades and "open" the temporary trolley trail through Riverdale Park Station. Unfortunately, construction was not complete (there was still a section that needed paving) so the barricades had to be put back in place. I hope that the trail is open as you are reading this article, but it may be another week or two. Please respect the open/closed status of the trail for your safety and those who might follow you through the removed barricades. Please also trust that those of us in town government are working closely with the developer to open the trail as soon as we can. We want it to be open too!

## Bridge Construction

I'm sad to report that the opening date for the bridge connecting the Cafritz development to Rivertech Court has been pushed into "the first quarter of 2018" for reasons I don't know (and I don't know when in the first quarter it might happen). I hope to have more information by the time the December Crier is in press. Readers of the TownAnnounce mailing list receive weekly updates on the status of the entire Cafritz project (including the bridge) – you can subscribe at <http://riverdale-park.org/mailman/listinfo/townannounce> if you haven't already!

## Purple Line

Construction details for the Purple Line are becoming available, but as those of you who have watched the construction of the bridge and Riverdale Park Station know, that these schedules can slip. Current estimates are that the segments of the Purple Line in Riverdale Park will start construction in Fall of 2018, with some segments (River Road and Kenilworth) completed in summer 2021, and others (East-West highway underneath the Baltimore-Washington Parkway) completed in Summer 2022.

## College Park Academy

I was pleased to attend the ribbon-cutting ceremony at the College Park Academy on October 3. Despite its name, it is located in Riverdale Park off River Road, and this public charter school is implementing (in collaboration with staff from a number of departments at the University of Maryland) innovative computer-based learning techniques for middle and high school students. The school operated for several years in Hyattsville near the University of Maryland, and classes started at the new facility on Rivertech Court here in Riverdale Park in September. Admission is through a lottery process, but students from Riverdale Park (and other nearby areas) are more likely to get in than students outside the "catchment" area (the geographic area receiving preferential enrollment).

There's even more happening, but I'm out of space! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about what's going on in town. If you leave me a voice mail message please be sure to tell me what times of day I can call back – I do a lot of my work as Mayor on weekends and evenings, and want to be sure I don't disturb you when I call back (I'll reply to e-mail at all sorts of odd hours!). Enjoy the Thanksgiving Holiday, and I'll be back here in December!

## Ward 1 Report

Council Member Marsha Dixon

### Upcoming Activities

The Ward 1 Community Walk will be held on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. The walk will begin at 5:15 p.m. at the Farmer's Market and will end at 6:15 p.m. with everyone returning to the Farmer's Market. If you're unfamiliar with a community walk, it is a great opportunity to speak with our law enforcement officers and meet the Town staff leadership team in an informal setting. I STRONGLY encourage residents (of any ward) to join us in the community walk.

### Past Activities

Riverdale Park Day was a huge success! It was great to see the community come together for this wonderful event. Thank you to the Town's police and fire departments and local businesses who participated. Huge thank you to our Town staff who did an excellent job in organizing the event.

On October 23, 2017 Council Members Deni Taveras and Dannielle Glaros hosted a special Zoning Ordinance Rewrite meeting for the communities along the Rt. 1/Baltimore Avenue corridor. If you were unable to attend, you can review the Comprehensive Review Draft online at <http://zoningpgc.pgplanning.com/>. Residents can provide their input through CiviComment

(<http://pgplanning.civiccomment.org>) or email ([zoningpgc@ppd.mncppc.org](mailto:zoningpgc@ppd.mncppc.org)) by December 15, 2017.

### Miscellaneous

Recently the fence to the portion of the Trolley Trail giving access to Riverdale Station was removed. Unfortunately, this portion of the Trolley Trail has not opened at this time. The temporary paving is expected to be complete by the end of October. Once that is complete a temporary path connecting the trail from College Park to Riverdale Park via Whole Foods Market will open.

Hyattsville CDC is seeking sponsorships for this year's Public Arts Initiative. The current exhibits will be removed and new exhibits will be placed in Beale Circle, Riverdale Community Park, Riverside Neighborhood Park, by the Trolley Trail (at Oliver Street) and at the corner of Madison Street, and Rhode Island Avenue. Hyattsville CDC would like to fundraise to receive support from area business owners and stakeholders so that they can obtain exhibit signs placed next to each site.

There will be a county workgroup focused on the County's capital bikeshare program. If there are any avid bikers who would be interested in providing his/her input as to this program, please contact me or the Town Manager expressing your interest.

### On the Agenda

It's been quite a few months since I've hosted an On the Agenda gathering. If you have not participated previously, please join me on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at Town Center Market to discuss any concerns you have or to ask me any questions.

## Public Works

### Saturday Drop Off

The drop-off of bulk trash is scheduled for the third Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. to

2:00 p.m. The next Saturday bulk trash drop-off dates are: November 18 and December 16.

### Pumpkin and Straw Disposal

Residents who want to dispose of old pumpkins and straw that was used for Halloween or the harvest season, can put those items in with their recycling until November 30<sup>th</sup>.

### Holiday Trash Collection

Regular trash collection, **will NOT be affected** by the Veteran's Day holiday on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup>. However, regular trash **will NOT** be collected on Thursday, November 23, 2017, in observance of **Thanksgiving**. The next trash collection day will be on Monday, November 27, 2017.

### Trash Toter Repair/Replacement

Residents should call the Department of Public Works (301-864-1803), for the repair or replacement of damaged trash toters, i.e., broken lids, missing wheels, cracked toters, etc. When repairs or replacements are needed, they will usually occur by Friday of each week, unless the request is made on Thursday or Friday. Those will be delivered during the following week.

### Leaf Collection Reminders

To make the leaf collection 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 yard waste. Be sure to use paper bags. **Do not put them out with regular trash.**

### Leaf Collection Schedule

As part of the fall leaf vacuuming service, leaves will be collected starting on November 2<sup>nd</sup> through January 15, 2018. DPW will vacuum leaves from Town streets following the schedule below:

| Curbside Leaf Collection Schedule<br>November 2, 2017 to January 15, 2018 |  |
|---|--|
| Day   | Wards  |
| Monday  | 1,3,5 and 6  |
| Tuesday   | 2 and 4  |
| Wednesday   | ALL WARDS (regular yard collection day)<br>Bates Trucking Company will collect <b>BAGGED LEAVES</b> . Please do not include tree branches, wood or other debris in the bags. |
| Thursday  | 1,3,5 and 6  |
| Friday  | 2 and 4  |

## Boy Scout Troop 252

By Robert Killen

Troop 252 is progressing with bumps and fits - we now have "Blue Cards" for Amir and Seth Hardison, so we can proceed with their progress on their trek to becoming Eagle Scouts.

We participated in Riverdale Park Day - Troop 252 Committee Member (CM) Olivia Hardison and her grandsons, Tenderfoot Scout Seth and Scout Amir, Assistant Scoutmaster (SM) AJ Jarquin and his son, Senior Patrol Leader Star Scout Michael Jarquin represented us well, and had a lot of fun.

Troop 252 is staffing the National Capital Park and Planning American Indian Festival at Jug Bay on Saturday, October 21<sup>st</sup>, camping there





Friday night and teaching Native American games Saturday. In past years, we have had lines of youth waiting their turns all during the day to compete in these games. AND - nobody has been injured. We expect the same this year.

CM Sandra Tolson and SM Bob Killen will be staffing the Railroad-O-Ree as Merit Badge Counselors at the B&O Railroad Museum the same day as the Pow Wow.

Guillian Cañete's Eagle Scout Ceremony will be held at the Riverdale Park Town Hall at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. It's a BIG DEAL!

Since the last issue of the Town Crier, CM Tolson and SM Killen have reportedly been busy assisting Scouts from other troops in the National Capital Area and Baltimore Area Councils to complete Merit Badges necessary for their advancement. More next month!

Contact Sandra Tolson [saanee@yahoo.com](mailto:saanee@yahoo.com), 301-927-2275; Eneida Martínez-Brown, [e.martinezbrown@gmail.com](mailto:e.martinezbrown@gmail.com), 301-864-0059; Bob Killen, [rfskille@yahoo.com](mailto:rfskille@yahoo.com), 301-483-8455, if you would like to information. We meet at 7 p.m. on Friday evenings in the Riverdale Park Town Hall when we're not camping. Our **Town Crier** will help keep you up-to-date.

## Town Receives Prestigious Sustainable Maryland Certified Award

The Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland announced that the Town of Riverdale Park was one of 13 Maryland municipalities honored at the Sustainable Maryland Awards Ceremony at the Maryland Municipal League's annual Fall Conference on October 13<sup>th</sup> in Rockville, Maryland.

Riverdale Park was one of nine Maryland municipalities to originally become Sustainable Maryland Certified in 2014, and the Town successfully became re-certified again this year.

"The growing number of municipalities that share a vision for state-wide sustainability is a testament to Maryland's commitment to a resilient future," said Dan Nees, director of the Environmental Finance Center. "Now more than ever, it is critical for local leaders and advocates to take charge of moving their communities towards becoming healthier and more sustainable. It is exciting to see our Sustainable Maryland Certified program continue to empower elected officials and citizens with every new community we welcome."

"The Town of Riverdale Park is honored to be re-certified as a Sustainable Maryland Community," said Mayor Alan Thompson. "Our re-certification is the result of the hard work and dedication of the Riverdale Park Sustainability Committee, residents, elected officials and staff. Sustainability is part of the fabric of our town and we are proud to be recognized for our efforts."

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# November 2017

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

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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)