

# The Riverdale Park Town Crier

#### October 2017

#### Volume 47, Issue 8

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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. Click on Customer Center and complete the Request Service form.



# **Riverdale Park Day**

Saturday, October 7, 2017 12 noon to 5:00 PM

# Riverside Neighborhood Park 5801 Riverside Drive, Riverdale Park

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



#### **Halloween Reminders**

As a reminder to parents who allow their children to participate in trick or treating on Halloween, Tuesday, October 31, 2017, please remember to provide brightly colored clothing, flashlights and/or reflective outerwear for their safety. Motorists, please drive with caution when driving through Town throughout the day and especially at night.

#### **Council Actions**

#### Legislative Meeting on September 5, 2017

#### **Consent Agenda**

Motion to approve consent agenda items: - Approved

- 1. Fence Permit Request: 4504 Tuckerman Street for a 6-foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 1)
- 2. Street Closure Request: 6200 block of 43rd Street on September 23, 2017, from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m. for block party (Ward 1)
- 3. Fence Permit Request: 4705 Tuckerman Street for a 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 2)
- 4. Minutes from June 19, 2017 Special Legislative Meeting
- 5. Minutes from June 19, 2017 Work Session
- 6. Minutes from July 3, 2017 Legislative Meeting

#### **Legislative Action Items:**

- 1. Fence Permit Request: 4800 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3) **Approved**
- 2. Fence Permit Request: 4802 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3) **Approved**
- 3. Fence Permit Request: 4804 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3) **Approved**
- 4. Fence Permit Request: 4806 Chief Chris Kyle Court, 6-foot wooden fence (Ward 3) **Approved**

#### **Unfinished Business:**

- Motion to recommend Artist Proposal 4 as a primary recommendation and Artist Proposal 2 as a secondary recommendation for the Purple Line station located in north Riverdale Park – Approved
- Motion to recommend Artist Proposal 3 with additional green plantings as featured in Artist Proposal 4 for the Purple Line station located at Kenilworth Avenue and East-West Highway – Approved
- Motion to recommend the name Riverdale Park North-UMD for the Purple Line Station located in north section of Riverdale Park

   Approved
- Motion to recommend the name Riverdale Park-Kenilworth for the Purple Line Station located at Kenilworth Avenue and East-West Highway – Approved

#### Resident Input Needed: Vision for Housing and Neighborhoods

As Town staff continue working on codes, programs and initiatives related to housing and neighborhoods, it is important to have an updated vision for what housing and neighborhoods throughout the Town are to be. A draft resolution to establish the Town's vision for housing and neighborhoods can be found on the Town's website at www.riverdaleparkmd.gov. Residents are encouraged to comment and/or recommend edits to this draft document. Please email community\_input@riverdaleparkmd.gov or call Jessica Barnes, the Town Clerk, at 301-927-6381.

The housing and neighborhood vision statement is one of several vision documents that will tie into the Town's larger efforts to have a comprehensive vision document. The Town will be soliciting input throughout the entire process.

#### **Town of Riverdale Park**

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

#### Mayor

Alan K. Thompson akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

#### **Council Members**

**Ward 1** – Marsha Dixon, 301-531-4230 *mdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov* 

**Ward 2** – Aaron Faulx, 202-550-3596 *afaulx@riverdaleparkmd.gov* 

**Ward 3** – David Lingua, 301-779-3849 *djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov* 

**Ward 4** – Christopher Henry, 301-910-9855 *chenry@riverdaleparkmd.gov* 

**Ward 5** – Colleen Richardson, 240-646-6457 crichardson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**Ward 6** – Alejandro Silva, 301-801-3021 asilva@riverdaleparkmd.gov

#### Administration

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

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

Kevin Simpson, **Development Services Director** *ksimpson@riverdaleparkmd.gov* 

Paul Smith, **Finance Director** psmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Leonard Addison, **Director of Public Works** *laddison@riverdaleparkmd.gov* 

David Morris, **Chief of Police** dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov

#### Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356
Brian Carpio, Fire Chief
Eng7twr@yahoo.com;
info@riverdalevfd.com;
www.riverdalevfd.com

The Town Crier is also available on the Town's Website: www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Submission deadline: 15th of each month

Send submissions to: towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

# **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Alan K. Thompson

The air may be cooler and the nights longer, but we still have two months of hurricane season!

#### Flood preparedness

After watching the recent hurricanes batter Texas, Florida, and Georgia, I've been thinking a lot about the Town's readiness for storms like those that might hit us in the months and years ahead. I'll be adding this as a project to my todo list (and hoping that the Public Safety committee will be interested), with at least a few steps clear: review the current FEMA flood maps (revised last year for at least most of the Town), possibly discuss with our congressional representatives having FEMA generate extreme event flood maps (beyond the 500-year flood maps they generate now), make sure we have plans in place to have the town running and residents safe under any of these circumstances.

#### Movie Night on the Riversdale Mansion Lawn

I had a great evening with my family, Council Member Faulx's family, and around a hundred other people at the recent showing of Moana on the mansion grounds in September. While there were a few technical difficulties with the show, the weather was great and everyone there seemed to be having a great time. I'd like to thank Council Member Faulx for thinking up this idea (or borrowing it from some other town) and working with staff to make it happen. I hear that there will be more movies to come, with a Halloween movie being the next one....check the calendar for details!

#### **Ipala Teachers**

I was pleased at the September Council Meeting to honor the teachers who traveled to (and taught in) our sister city, Ipala, Guatemala. At the reception before the meeting I saw a huge number of photos of the teachers (including our own Vernon Archer, former mayor!) in front of classrooms filled with smiling children in Ipala.

A few of the teachers spoke at our meeting, and said how the travel and visit would help them understand and connect with their students here in Prince George's County. It's great to hear about the fruits of this important program, and I look forward to more activities with our sister city in the months ahead.

#### **Riverdale Park Station**

Some of the new businesses in the Riverdale Park Station development are open this month! Xfinity had a grand opening on September 26<sup>th</sup>, and Mod Pizza, Gold's Gym, and District Taco seem on track for opening either this month or in November. I haven't heard a date, but Burton's Restaurant is being built, too! I'm looking forward to having some great new shopping opportunities in town!

The temporary trolley trail through the development was originally scheduled to be open by now, but the active construction zone has prevented that, in consideration for the safety of the trail's users. As I said in July and September, the latest reports are that a temporary trail will open in late summer, with the permanent trail installed when interfering construction is complete. I am working with our partners in both the M-NCPPC and the county to open it as quickly as possible, and am really looking forward to using it myself. The opening, at this point, depends on construction being complete for the town homes and businesses on the north side of the site (and it looks like they're getting close!).

#### **Bridge Construction**

Construction of the bridge connecting the Cafritz development to Rivertech Court is now well underway, although the completion date has slipped into the fourth quarter of 2017. The girders and decks for the main span are in place already, and the predicted construction completion is early in November. The opening date (probably a few weeks later) will be determined by the county. Readers of the TownAnnounce mailing list receive weekly updates on the status of the entire Cafritz

project – you can subscribe at http://riverdalepark.org/mailman/listinfo/townannounce if you haven't already!

#### **Purple Line**

At the September meeting the Council acted on naming the Purple Line stations in town, recommending "Riverdale Park North – UMD" for the station at the corner of River Road and Haig Court, and "Riverdale Park – Kenilworth" for the station at the intersection of East-West Highway and Kenilworth Avenue. We do not have final say in these decisions, but wanted to be sure that everyone riding the Purple Line knows what town they're in!

We also made recommendations on which proposed art work we thought would work best at both stations. While the recommendations were complicated (we thought the proposals could improve with minor changes, and we gave second choices for one of the stations) we recommended the project labeled "Artist 3" for the Riverdale Park – Kenilworth" station (look at http://purplelinemd.com/artintransit/riverdale-park-station/). For the "Riverdale Park North – UMD" station we recommended the project labeled "Artist 4" at http://purplelinemd.com/artintransit/m-square-station/

#### **Leaking Trash Trucks**

I discussed leaking trash trucks in my
September report, and I'm happy to report that
Bates Trucking (the company that picks up our
trash) seems to be doing better (though we
haven't gotten to perfection yet). Please help
them out by keeping water and other fluids out
of your trash cans, as required by the town
code. Some of the recent spillages were caused
purely by trash cans with putrid water in the
bottom (Bates responded to the reports and
cleaned up the mess, but did report the cause
of the problem to the town).

#### **Discovery District Working Group**

On September 7 Town Manager Lestitian and I met with College Park Mayor Patrick Wojahn,

County Council Member Dannielle Glaros, Carlo Collella from the University of Maryland, College Park, and about *twenty* other stakeholders in the Discovery District (formerly known as "M Square") to create a working group to coordinate activities in the District. We will meet again in a few months to discuss how to communicate activities to people who work or live in (or near) the Discovery District (which has pretty flexible borders).

There's even more than this going on, so 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 email at all sorts of odd hours!). Enjoy the beautiful October weather (and fresh apples) this month, and I'll be back in November!

# Ward 2 Report

Council Member Aaron Faulx

We are all finally back to school and I wanted to send a message to all of Riverdale Park's students for this upcoming school year. I wanted to wish you all the best of luck as you embark on a new school year. I believe steadfastly in the value of a good education. My father, brother, sister, and myself are all teachers. We believe in the values of good citizenship that can be learned and practiced in the hallways of your various educational institutions. Work hard and be kind to your fellow classmates. Take the time and effort that is dedicated to you and improve upon those skills that will help you be successful later in life. Commit to improving your literacy and your knowledge will increase.

On October 28<sup>th</sup>, Riversdale will be hosting its "Flick or Treat" event from 7-8:30 PM at Riversdale House Mansion. We will be

watching a family friendly, spooky movie, outdoors on the beautiful lawn at Riversdale. On Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> we hosted "Movies at the Mansion" in correspondence with the wonderful staff at Riversdale. We enjoyed the movie Moana with 170 of our fellow neighbors on this awesomely cool August evening. The event was such a success that we are meeting later in the fall to discuss an extension of the program to include multiple "Movies at the Mansion" in 2018.

On Saturday September 16th, Mara and I attended the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's open house in the Discovery District. It was an amazing event featuring members of their staff volunteering personal time to introduce the public to the mission of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. They were responsible for all of the science concerning the possible paths of all recent hurricanes in the hemisphere before they were on radar. It's quite amazing to think that some of the foremost science in the world concerning climate is occurring in Riverdale Park and here in Ward 2. The event was a huge success that drew more than twice the predicted audience. They hope to host more events like this in the future but it is dependent upon their bosses hearing that it is desired. If you attended the event and want to see more like it, send me an email and I'll see that it gets forwarded to the correct administrators.

# **Boy Scout Troop 252**

By Robert Killen

Although almost all of the Scouters in Troop 252 signed up for the "Eagle's Nest" course of advanced primitive camping, Assistant Scoutmaster AJ Jarquin and Senior Patrol Leader (SPL) Michael Jarquin, Committee Chair/Charter Organization Representative Eneida Martínez-Brown and Scoutmaster (SM) Bob Killen were the only ones who attended the first session on September 9th. Committee

Member (CM) Sandra Tolson's sinuses were acting up, Assistant Scoutmasters Arnel and Guillian Cañete, Committee Member Dixie Cañete went to New Jersey for the weekend, so they didn't attend.

SPL Michael Jarquin reported that he is proceeding smoothly with his advancement to Life Scout - then on to Eagle Scout! Speaking of Eagle Scout, Guillian Cañete's Eagle Scout Ceremony will be held at the Riverdale Park Town Hall at 7 PM on Friday, October 27th. Earning Eagle Scout is a really great achievement! Less than 2% of Boy Scouts follow the Eagle Trail all the way to becoming an Eagle Scout, so Guillian deserves a lot of credit - BUThe couldn't have made it without the help of his mom and dad, other Scouts and Scouters in Troop 252, and others in our communities, so, it's "pat on the back" time for all concerned.

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 Council complete Merit Badges, necessary for their advancement. No rest for the weary!

We're signed up for the Riverdale Park Day, Saturday, October 7th, where we will have our tipi set up, a fire off the ground in a half-drum, and we'll give Smores to any and all Smorelovers. We're going to the BSA Orienteering Competition at Broad Creek on 4 November, as well as bicycling at Jug Bay and camping overnight there, giving us another opportunity to hone our cooking and camping skills.

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

# **Riversdale Events**

#### Harvest Festival at Riversdale

On Sunday, October 15, noon-3:30 pm, Riversdale House Museum invites guests to a Harvest Festival. Enjoy some fall family fun with hands-on activities in the garden and open hearth kitchen. Create autumn crafts, snack on seasonal treats, dig up some fun with interactive activities in the garden, explore the open hearth kitchen, and more! Refreshments & activities while supplies last.

Riversdale, originally 729 acres, was an early 19th century working farm and the home of George Calvert and Rosalie Stier Calvert. Their son, Charles Benedict Calvert, grew up on the property and from a very young age, enjoyed studying animals and loved, "everything belonging to a farm." In 1856, Calvert gave a portion of the Riversdale property to found the Maryland Agricultural College, now the University of Maryland College Park. Help celebrate these agricultural roots during this afternoon of fall fun!

Are you a Girl Scout? Riversdale invites you to enjoy this program while working towards badge requirements and earning a patch! Be sure to wear your badge or sash and your troop may earn a prize! Riversdale patches available for \$2 each.

Fee: \$5 Adult; \$2 Student (includes tour of historic house)

#### Hands-On History: Unlocking Riversdale

Children ages 8-12 are invited to spend the day off from school on Friday, October 20, 10 am-3 pm, blasting into the past at Riversdale House Museum. Hands-on History: Unlocking

Riversdale will be a day of craft, activities, and cooking tied to the museum's rich history. Participants will explore cooking in the open hearth kitchen, go on a scavenger hunt, experiment with architecture, and more!

Fee: Advance payment required by October 13; Fee: Resident of Prince George's & Montgomery Counties \$18; Non-Resident \$23

#### Flick or Treat at Riversdale

Riversdale House Museum presents Flick or Treat on Saturday, October 28 at 7:00 PM. Bring your favorite movie theater candy and blanket and cozy up to the fire pits for an outdoor, family-friendly, spooky movie. Pop into the open hearth dependency kitchen for light, seasonal refreshments while supplies last. During their visits to Riversdale, guests often ask if the museum is haunted. While there have been no confirmed reports of spirits or ghosts, perhaps a friendly ghost or two might appear on the movie screen during this event!

Fee: \$5 adult; children 12 & under \$2—must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544; email Riversdale@pgparks.com; or visit our website at history.pgparks.com. Follow us on Twitter @Riversdale1801 and find us on Facebook at Facebook\RiversdaleMuseum and Facebook\PGParksHistory.

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.

### **Public Works**

#### **Trash Toters – IMPORTANT NOTICES**

- Repair/Replacement Residents should call the Department of Public Works at 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, a list will be provided to Bates Trucking each Friday, with the expectation for deliveries to occur during the following week.
- Maintenance of your toter —Residents are responsible for maintaining the cleanliness of their toter. Regular cleaning of the interior of the toter is necessary for health reasons, both for the resident and the collectors of your trash. Leaving trash or garbage in the bottom of the toter invites vermin and promotes disease. Your collectors are not responsible for the interior cleanliness of your container. Please respect your collectors by keeping your toters clean.

Recycling – All recycling issues are handled by Prince George's County. All questions, reports of missed collections, or requests for recycling toters should be reported directly to them by dialing 311 or 301-952-7630.

Yard Waste - Yard waste includes branches, shrubs and trees and is collected on Wednesdays. Grass clippings, small tree branches or shrubs must be in paper bags or in a container clearly marked YARD WASTE. All items should be at curbside no later than 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays. To assure that your items will be collected, bundle branches and tie with rope or string (do not use wire). Items must be less than 4 feet long, not more than 4 inches in diameter and weigh less than 60 pounds. These items are collected by Bates Trash and Trucking Company.

Fall Tree Planting - We are entering our fall tree planting season. Residents who wish to have a tree planted in of front or near their property are asked to contact the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803. Requests must be received by October 16, 2017.



Prince George's County Council Member Dannielle Glaros and Parkdale High School present

# Parkdale High School's 2017 College & Career Fair

Thursday, October 12 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Parkdale High School 6001 Good Luck Road Riverdale, MD

All are welcome! Students 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to attend to meet and speak with representatives from colleges & universities in Maryland and across the region, representatives from trade & technical schools, military recruiters, and regional employers.

During the Fair, attend info sessions on Paying for College, Preparing for College, Resumes & Interview Skills, NCAA Eligibility, and more!

Questions? CouncilDistrict3@co.pg.md.us or 301-952-3060

Check out www.Facebook.com/PGDistrict3 for news and updates.



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Riverdale, MD 20737

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- It's transferable, so if you move out of state, your arrangements will move with you.
- Peace of mind for you and your family!

For an appointment,
Call LaVerne Ross at 301/318-0421
Iross@stonemor.com

Chambers Funeral Home & Crematorium, P.A. 5801 Cleveland Avenue, Riverdale Park, MD 20737 301/699-5500 WHEN TRUST MATTERS MOST



301.699.5500



# October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Regular Legislative Meeting 8:00 p.m.	3	MUTC Meeting 7:30 p.m.	Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Riverdale Park Day 2017! 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Riverside Park	
Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	9	10	Riverdale Park Business Association 5:30 p.m.	Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Madison Hill HOA Meeting 10:30 a.m.	
Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	16	17	18	Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	Bulk Trash Drop-Off 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Dept. of Public Works)	
Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	23	24	Lions Club 7:00 p.m.	26 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	28	
Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Council Work Session 8:00 p.m.	Halloween	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!  Trash collection occurs on Mondays and Thursdays. Yard waste is collected on Wednesdays. Please contact the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803 for more information. There will be <u>no</u> changes to trash collection on Columbus Day, Monday, October 9, 2017.				

CARRIER ROUTE PRESORT

POSTAL PATRON RIVERDALE PARK, MARYLAND 20737 PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID HYATTSVILLE, MD PERMIT No. 2090

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

#### **Important Phone Numbers**

Comcast

www.comcast.com

Customer service: 1-800-934-6489

Pepco

www.pepco.com

To report an outage: 1-877-737-2662 Customer service: 202-833-7500

Prince George's County: www.princegeorgescountymd.gov

Animal Control: 301-780-7200 Assessments: 301-952-2500

Parks and Recreation (maintenance): 301-918-4700 Permitting, Licenses and Enforcement: 301-636-2000 Public Works and Transportation: 301-883-5650

Prince George's County Public Schools: www.pgcps.org

Riverdale Elementary: 301-985-1850 William Wirt Middle School: 301-985-1720 Bladensburg High School: 301-887-6700 Parkdale High School: 301-513-5700

Washington Gas

www.washingtongas.com

To report a gas leak: 703-750-1400 or 800-752-7520

Customer Service: 703-750-1000

Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC):

www.wsscwater.com

To report a water main break or sewage backup: 301-206-4002

Customer service: 301-206-4001 or 1-800-634-8400

#### **Local Organizations**

Lion's Club

Pat Prangley at 240-882-4993

Northern County Soccer Alliance NCSA@soccer.net or 301-577-3559

Riverdale Park Boy Scout Troop 252
Scoutmaster Bob Killen at 301-483-8455

 $\underline{\text{Madison Hill Homeowners Association}}$ 

301-583-8857

Riversdale Historical Society

301-864-0420

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market
Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973

<u>Riverdale Park Business Association</u> www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com

Riverdale Park Arts Council

Samuel Williams, Jr. at 909-380-4231

Riversdale Chamber Music Society
Robert DiLutis at rdilutis@umd.edu or
www.riversdalechambermusic.com