



# The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

**April 2018**

Volume 48, Issue 3

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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.

## **April is Fair Housing Month! Let's Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act**

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. and passage of the Fair Housing Act (1968), the month of April is dedicated as National Fair Housing Month. This is the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, which prohibited discriminatory practices in making housing available to the public.

The Town of Riverdale Park values the importance and legacy of fair housing, as it aligns with the Town's vision and commitment for quality housing and neighborhoods. For more information on Fair Housing Month, please check out the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) at [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov). In addition, please check out the following links to review County and State government agencies that handle housing discrimination complaints:

Prince George's County Human Relations Commission

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive, Suite L202  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
(301) 883-6170

<https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/1528/Human-Relations-Commission>

State of Maryland Commission on Civil Rights

6 Saint Paul Street, Suite 900  
Baltimore, MD 21202-1631  
(410) 767-8600

<http://mccr.maryland.gov/Pages/Housing-Discrimination.aspx>

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## **National Volunteer Week April 15-21, 2018**

National Volunteer Week is a time to recognize and celebrate the power of volunteerism in our community. Volunteer service brings people together to tackle tough challenges and builds stronger, more vibrant communities. During the week of April 15<sup>th</sup>, plan or attend an event to celebrate the impact of volunteers in our community and to inspire others to serve.

The Town of Riverdale Park thanks the volunteers who lend their time, talent, and support to the causes that they care about in our community!

## Council Actions Legislative Meeting on March 5, 2018

### Consent Agenda

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

1. Minutes from January 29, 2018 Work Session
2. Minutes from February 5, 2018 Legislative Meeting

### Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter to Prince George's County Board of Zoning Appeals recommending approval of a variance request for 4514 Oliver Street for waivers of the fence location and height requirements for a fence over 4 feet in side yard (Ward 1) – **Approved**
2. Motion to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter to Prince George's County Board of Zoning Appeals recommending approval of a variance request for 6209 Beale Circle for variance of 7 feet front yard depth and 1.2% net lot coverage (Ward 1) – **Approved**
3. Motion to approve Fence Permit request for a 6-foot white vinyl fence at 4601 Queensbury Road (Ward 1) – **Approved**
4. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-OR-01 regarding Ethics Ordinance Revisions – **Adopted**
5. Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-04 regarding celebration of businesses in Town – **Adopted**
6. Motion to adopt Resolution 2018-R-05 Vision and Commitment to Business and Economic Development – **Adopted**
7. Introduction of Ordinance 2018-OR-02 to amend the Town's personnel regulations to comply with the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act – **Introduced**
8. Introduction of Ordinance 2018-OR-03 Rental Licenses and Inspections Programs – Chapter 55 – **Introduced**
9. Introduction of Ordinance 2018-OR-04 Appeals – Chapter 56 – **Introduced**
10. Introduction of Ordinance 2018-OR-05 revising Chapter 67 – Housing Standards – **Introduced**



On March 5, 2018, the Mayor and Council proclaimed the month of March as Ethics Awareness Month. Town staff accepted the proclamation on behalf of all employees of the Town.

## Town of Riverdale Park

[www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov)

### Mayor

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

### Council Members

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

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

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

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

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

**Ward 6** – 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)

**FAIR SUMMARY OF  
ORDINANCE 2018-OR-02**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2018-OR-02.

Ordinance 2018-OR-02 would amend the Town Personnel Manual as required by the Maryland Healthy Working Families Act to modify provisions relating to employee sick leave.

Ordinance 2018-OR-02 is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**FAIR SUMMARY OF  
ORDINANCE 2018-OR-03**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2018-OR-03.

Ordinance 2018-OR-03 would create, in lieu of existing processes and procedures, a new system of licensing, regulation, enforcement and penalties for all rental dwellings in the Town of Riverdale Park, subject to certain exceptions; provide for the continued viability of certain existing rental licenses for a certain period of time under certain conditions; provide that the effectiveness of this Ordinance is contingent upon the adoption and taking effect of a certain other Ordinance; and generally relate to the regulation of rental housing in the Town of Riverdale Park.

Ordinance 2018-OR-03 is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**FAIR SUMMARY OF  
ORDINANCE 2018-OR-04**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2018-OR-04.

Ordinance 2018-OR-04 would create a Board of Code Appeals to hear and decide appeals of certain Town administrative decisions, including appeals previously heard by the Town’s Housing Review Board; providing that the effectiveness of this Ordinance is contingent upon the adoption and taking effect of a certain other Ordinance; and generally relate to the appeal of certain administrative decisions in the Town of Riverdale Park.

Ordinance 2018-OR-04 is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**FAIR SUMMARY OF  
ORDINANCE 2018-OR-05**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2018-OR-05.

Ordinance 2018-OR-05 would provide, in lieu of existing processes and procedures, that appeals of certain administrative decisions of Town of Riverdale Park officials arising under the Town’s Housing Code will be heard and decided by a Board of Code Appeals; provide that the effectiveness of this Ordinance is contingent upon the adoption and taking effect of a certain other Ordinance; and generally relate to the appeal of certain administrative decisions in the Town of Riverdale Park.

Ordinance 2018-OR-05 is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

# Mayor's Report

Mayor Alan K. Thompson

It is April, the month when the icy grip of winter finally releases, and spring emerges. I love this month.

## Purple Line Construction

As we move into spring, construction season starts too. For both segments of the Purple Line that are in our town (the River Road section, and the Kenilworth/East-West Highway section) the main activities over the next several months will be utility relocation (including sewer, water, storm water, gas, electric, telephone, fiber-optic, ...). One part of the construction that is starting earlier than I had anticipated is removal of trees (including "grubbing" of brush) along River Road – this will start in April and May. As part of my activities with the Purple Line Community Advisory Team, I've been trying to figure out another impact of construction, the schedule for roadway changes. These changes include a need for the Town to change Quesada Road from one-way to two-way when left turns from Quintana Street and Quesada Road onto Kenilworth Avenue are no longer possible, and the (hopefully short) closure of Rivertech Court for the laying of track along River Road. If you have questions or concerns about construction, you can call the project help line 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 240-424-5325 or send e-mail to [outreach@pltcllc.com](mailto:outreach@pltcllc.com). You can subscribe to construction updates (e-mail and/or text message) at <http://www.purplelinemd.com/construction/>

## CSX Bridge Construction

The opening date for the bridge is still being described as "in spring 2018." As was true last month, the details are hazy (but at least are getting clearer!). There are two separate things that have to happen before the bridge can open.

The first, as discussed for the last few months, is the transfer of the "air easement" above the

railroad tracks from CSX to the County. The professional assessment of the value of that easement has been completed and transmitted to CSX. If CSX accepts the appraisal and is willing to act quickly, the transfer should just happen.

The second is the transfer of the bridge and road to the County from the developer. Everyone who has ever bought a house might remember the multiple steps that have to happen between the time you make an offer and closing – inspections, appraisals, affidavits, etc. While the steps in this case are different, the process is similarly involved. All necessary documents (600 pages or so) have now been transferred to the County, and County staff are reviewing them as quickly as they can.

So, sadly, the opening schedule is *still* uncertain. I highly suggest you read the TownAnnounce mailing list to 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!

## Trolley Trail Temporary Closure

The temporary route for the hiker-biker trail through the Riverdale Park Station was closed for a little over a week in early March; it reopened on March 14. The developer decided to close the trail because of a letter they received expressing concern about safety of pedestrians and bicyclists along one section of the temporary trail, and three incidents. The incidents were (1) cars and/or trucks driving on the trail between Riverdale Park Station and the Calvert Hills neighborhood in College Park, (2) removal by vandals of a barrier restricting hiker/biker traffic on an unopened section of the future trail, and (3) the discovery of a security issue on a section of the construction site adjacent to parts of the temporary trail. The developer initially responded by closing the trail, erecting a chain-link fence that completely blocked the trail where it entered the development at the northern border with College Park. Town staff, Ward 1 Council

Representative Marsha Dixon, and I worked with staff and elected officials from College Park and the developer to address the developer's safety and liability concerns. Working together we were able to restore the path to operation within just a few days. The developer is aiming to complete and open the permanent path by the end of 2018. At that time they will also transfer maintenance responsibility for the trail to our Town.

### **Town Charter Amendment Process**

As many of you know, there is a proposed town charter amendment to allow non-US-citizen residents of Riverdale Park to vote in Town elections, and, in addition, to lower the voting age to 16. I am not going to discuss the legislation in this report, but I do want to discuss something that comes up whenever big charter changes are proposed – referendum.

The Town is subject to State law that allows local government to exist. These laws also limit what we can do, including how we amend our charter. The section of the Annotated Code of Maryland named “Local Government” describes procedures for amendment of municipal government charters, which is what the proposed legislation would do. There are two different procedures to *start* a charter amendment: (1) by resolution of the Town Council (as described in Md. LOCAL GOVERNMENT Code Ann. § 4-304), and (2) by petition of the voters (as described in the next section, § 4-305).

If the amendment is started under the second of these (§ 4-305, petition by at least 20% of the registered voters), the Town Council has a *choice* of the amendment going directly to referendum, or of approving it as submitted on the petition (with that approval subject to referendum as described in the next paragraph).

If instead the amendment is started by resolution of the Town Council (as described in § 4-304, and as is likely to happen with the

proposed voting expansion amendment at the next Town Council legislative meeting), the Town Council does *not* have the choice to send the amendment directly to referendum. It can be taken to referendum *only* by a petition signed by at least 20% of the registered voters in the Town. The Town Council *cannot*, under state law, propose a charter amendment to be approved by referendum.

I know this is confusing, but hopefully this explanation makes the process clear. If not, contact me!

If you have any questions or comments about any aspect of town government, please contact me by e-mail ([akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov)) or phone (301-237-0632). I will get back to you as quickly as I can, but please remember that while I love being mayor, I have a full-time job during the day with an associated commute (as do the other members of the Town Council), and it may take me a little while to get back to you. If you leave me a voice mail (and please do if I don't answer!) I'd be grateful if you could let me know what times are good for me to call you back. Thanks! Look for me here again in May, the month of outdoor vegetables at the Farmers' Market, and budget deliberations!

## **Ward 1 Report**

Council Member Marsha Dixon

### **Women's History Month**

March is Women's History Month and although the Town doesn't formally plan an event in recognition, I encourage residents to attend the various events that occur throughout the area.

### **Community Garden**

I had the pleasure of speaking with a Ward 1 resident who is interested in partnering with the Town and using the land on their property to serve as a community garden. I think this is a fantastic idea not only for our community to

come together, but also because it increases awareness of healthy eating. I'm looking forward to sharing more as this idea unfolds.

### **Legislative Committee Meeting**

Earlier this month, the legislative committee held its second meeting on the legislation to expand voting rights in our Town. Residents came out and voiced their opinions and provided great feedback. The committee passed a vote to recommend the legislation to the full Council. The legislation that was passed by the committee may be found on the Town's website. Thank you to all of the residents who took the time to contact me and share their opinion. I want you to know that your voices are being heard, and that I take all of your opinions into consideration. Although I may not share the same position on issues with each and every one of you, I remain open to hearing your thoughts and ensuring that I consider the views of all Town residents.

The full council will take up this legislation at the March 26<sup>th</sup> work session. The legislation will not come to a vote during this meeting however, I continue to encourage residents to attend the meetings and voice your opinions on the legislation.

## **Ward 2 Report**

Council Member Aaron Faulx

In the past couple of months, Ward 1 Councilwoman Marsha Dixon has proposed new legislation that would amend our town charter and expand voting rights in local elections to non-citizens and lower the age of voting participation to 16. After two legislative committee meetings and about 5 hours of debate, the bill passed through committee and will now be debated by the entire council. During that debate, I intend on offering my full support to Councilwoman Dixon's proposal. I believe that it will increase participation and engagement from some of Riverdale Park's

most at risk residents and that is something that I will always wholeheartedly support. We're simply a better community when more voices are heard.

The past 15 years of my professional life is something that I would never want to change. I grew up in rural western Pennsylvania in an area with virtually no cultural diversity. I've been lucky enough to live and work in an area where we are surrounded by diversity at every turn. That evolution is one that I am incredibly proud of. Then, about 7 years ago, I took a class offered at my middle school by George Mason University. The focus was on working with students that were acquiring the English language. I was instantaneously hooked. I finished out my certification at the University of Virginia in order to predominantly work with students new to this country attempting to get into mainstream academic classes...English Language Learners (ELL's). The defining trait of many of these students wasn't just the language that those students spoke or the school they were now attending. It was the fact that many of them were escaping abject poverty in their native countries. They are coming here for an opportunity that doesn't exist in their homeland. It reminded me of the probable experience of many of our ancestors as they came to this country seeking refuge from awfulness we will hopefully never know. These students attend Riverdale Elementary, William Wirt Middle School, and Parkdale High School. They are part of the fabric that make up our amazing community here in Riverdale Park. These families are also our most at risk population of residents as well. At the State of Our Town address on March 19<sup>th</sup>, Town Manager John Lestitian offered some sobering statistics concerning the economic disparity that exists in our town. The socioeconomic divide in our community is statistically larger than that of our surrounding neighborhoods. We have over 1200 residents in our community living below the poverty line. Only 60 percent of our residents have the equivalency of a high school diploma. These are mind numbing

statistics if you are the type of person that desires to live in a community where we all look after each other. The only solution to this problem is increased participation from all residents. One significant step in accomplishing this task is to engage a new portion of the electorate. To let these residents know that their input is not only desired, but necessary for the success of our town. We live in a time period currently where our federal government's policies are scaring them into hiding. We as a community don't benefit when our residents are scared to communicate with us. I won't embrace those policies of separation and deportation. Our shared beliefs need to evolve towards inclusivity and engagement. I've spent the past 15 years of my life working within the communities that we are looking to engage with this amendment to our town code. I am inspired by the words and actions of children and non-citizens on a daily basis. If we truly value the concept of community, then we are open to the voices and thoughts of all the residents of our amazing town.

## Ward 3 Report

Council Member David Lingua

The Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization CDC (CKAR CDC) conducted a strategic planning review over several Saturdays during February and March. The sessions were conducted to establish the CDC's goals and objectives with regards to programs and outreach over the next three to five years. Currently, CKAR is working with Prince George's Community College towards the development and implementation of a culinary and management program located at the former cafe on Sarvis Avenue. For more information about CKAR go to [ckarcdc.org](http://ckarcdc.org).

At the March meeting of the Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA), County Executive Rushern Baker III discussed the proposed county budget for FY 2019. Totalling \$4.09 billion for all funds, the proposal is 5.5%

greater than the budget approved for FY 2018. The General Fund budget (\$3.42b) would see the majority of the increase with a proposed additional \$171.3 million. Within the General Fund, total spending proposed for the Board of Education along with College and Library is \$2.19 billion, an increase of 3.5% (\$75m) over FY2018. Of particular note is the proposed Enterprise Funds budget of \$219.2 million, making it the second largest fund source for FY 2019. Proposed is an increase of 18.9% (\$34.8m) in funding, which would include the Solid Waste Management, Stormwater Management, and Local Watershed Protection and Restoration Funds, accounting for just over 5.3% of all proposed spending.

Coming before the council for consideration from the Legislative Committee is a draft amendment to the Town Charter as it pertains to voting within the town. The draft amendment proposes the following:

1. Active suffrage, the right to vote, to all town residents of voting age;
2. Reducing the voting age from 18 years of age to 16;
3. Establishing same-day voter registration;
4. Expanding to 5 days the reporting timeframe of voting results.

Full suffrage, the right to vote and run for office (passive suffrage), would be retained by town residents who are U.S. Citizens. There are no proposed qualifications for the expansion of active suffrage other than residency, a court prohibition due to a disqualifying conviction, and age. While it is within the authority of the council to consider and legislate this amendment, community input is imperative. It is important for this to be before you now, so that you can offer your opinion.

### Purple Line Construction Notices

Residents are encouraged to subscribe for Purple Line construction updates via e-mail or text message. For the most accurate and up-to-date information, visit [purplelinemd.com](http://purplelinemd.com), find "Construction" and click on "Subscribe for Updates". The construction hotline is 240-424-5325.

# Development Services

Kevin Simpson, Development Services Director

## Five Common Property Standard Violations

As we approach the Spring season, it is good to keep in the mind the importance of property maintenance to reduce blight, improve appearance and quality of the neighborhood, and promote a safe environment. Listed below is information on some property standard violations that negatively impacts the community.

1. **Overgrown Grass and Weeds** – In the Town Code, property owners must not allow grass /weeds in their yards to grow over 10 inches in height. It is important to cut down overgrown grass and weeds to eliminate a place of harborage for rodents and other pests.



2. **Open Storage of Garbage and Rubbish** – All property areas must be free from accumulation of garbage and rubbish. These materials may lead to insect and rodent infestation, trip hazards, potential fires, and public nuisances. Please ensure that your property is clear of garbage and rubbish. For information on trash collection, please contact Department of Public Works at (301) 864-1803.



3. **Chipping, Peeling, and Flaking Paint** – Besides appearance functions, paint serves as protective treatment for certain types of surfaces. For example, paint helps protect wood and metal finishes from rot or rust. For older homes (built prior to 1978), chipping, peeling, flaking paint may contain lead paint, which has significance health and safety risks. Please contact the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) at (410)-537-3000 about lead paint safety requirements.



4. **Damaged Accessory Structures** – Accessory structures include, but not limited to, fences, garages, retaining walls, and sheds. Since these structures are not primary, sometimes maintenance is not a priority, leading to neglect and diminishing overall appearance and value of the property.



5. **Missing Address Numbers** – It is vital for all buildings to have proper address numbers for identification purposes. Emergency personnel (fire, police, medical, etc.) rely on address numbers to quickly locate buildings to respond to the public. Address numbers must contrast from its background, and be legible and visible from the street, with a



minimum height of four (4) inches and 0.5 inches in width.



Source: International Property Maintenance Code (2015)

**Note:** All images shown are stock photos and are not representative of any properties in the Town.

**The Office of Development Services thanks you for your investment. Come grow with us!**

## Public Works

**Saturday Drop Off:** Bulk trash drop-off is held on the third Saturday of each month from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The next bulk trash drop-off will be held on May 19. Please note that there will be no drop-off in April due to the Community Spring Clean-up on April 21.

**Community Spring Clean-Up:** Riverdale Park's annual community spring clean-up will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2018. Residents are offered the opportunity to put their yard waste/bulk trash items on the curb on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> for pick-up on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Please note that the Public Works facility will NOT be open for drop-off of bulk trash items on Saturday, April 21 and all items must be curbside no later than 8:00 a.m.

The following items are **NOT** eligible for pick-up:

- Remodeling lumber, flooring material, plaster, plasterboard, and interior tile

- Fencing material or poles
- Air conditioners, refrigerators, and freezers
- Lawnmowers or other gas powered tools
- Automobile major components
- Tires
- Dirt, stone, gravel, and sod
- Concrete blocks and bricks, cement
- Antifreeze and/or oil
- Glass, windows, door panels, fish tanks
- Paint
- Hazardous materials and/or chemicals

### Earth Day - We Need YOU for Riverdale Park's 2018 Earth Day Clean-Up!

Every Spring, the Town of Riverdale Park joins the Anacostia Watershed Society in hosting an Earth Day Clean Up event. We want everyone to join us on April 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 12noon to make a difference in the health and safety of our community. We will be announcing the location of our site as the date approaches. Be sure to save the date on your calendar!

Last year, we had more than fifty volunteers. We would love to exceed that number this year. Residents, youth groups, students and all interested parties are asked to join us as we do our share to clean a portion of the river. Volunteers wishing to participate in the Earth Day event are asked to call the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803. Student volunteers earn community service hours for this activity.

**Tree Planting:** The Department of Public Works (DPW) will begin planting new trees in the community in the spring. Residents who would like to have a tree planted near their home should contact DPW at 301-864-1803, to be placed on the tree request list.

**Arbor Day 2018:** The Town will sponsor a tree planting in celebration of Arbor Day 2018, which is an event in which individuals and groups can participate to care for and plant trees. The celebration will be held on Thursday,

April 26, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. in the rear of Riverdale Elementary School on Riverdale Road.



**Trash Toter Repair/Replacement:** Residents should call the Department of Public Works 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 and they have been instructed to pick up the damaged toter when they deliver the replacement. They will NOT LEAVE the replacement if the old one is not there. Replacements will take place on Thursdays, the usual trash collection day.

## Boy Scout Troop 252

Scoutmaster Robert Killen

We Did YOUTH OUTREACH, last year (identifying homeless youth in designated areas)...3 Youth and 3 Adults. Again we will have back packs, blankets, sleeping bags/jackets, etc to pass out when we SURVEY. Hopefully all will be WELL, and in attendance, Friday, March 23rd meeting.

Michael and AJ Jarquin, Eneida Martínez-Brown, Sandra Tolson and Bob Killen attended the University of Scouting at Carroll County Community College, in wonderful outdoor weather.

Good news from Olivia Hardison! She has returned to work, and will be able to transport

her grandsons to Troop 252 meetings in the near future. Michael Jarquin is now well, and he and his dad are planning to attend future meetings and outings. Eneida Martínez-Brown, Sandra Tolson and Bob Killen are still healthy and will continue to attend as long as it's fun and there are Scouts in the troop. We still need to plan for the Court of Honor, which we missed because of the above-mentioned challenges, and we need to tune up our bicycles for more rides at Jug Bay to prime us for the 184-mile bicycle ride down the C&O Canal Towpath this summer. We're not ready yet, but the Crier will keep you informed of our progress.

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, [rfkille@yahoo.com](mailto:rfkille@yahoo.com), 301-483-8455, if you would like 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.

### Call for All Artists/Authors/Vendors for 11th Annual ArtsFest 2018

The Riverdale Park Arts Council (RPAC) welcomes local artists, artisans, authors, poets, and various crafts vendors to sell original art works and crafts at **ArtsFest2018 on Saturday, May 5, 2018, from 11 am to 5 pm.** (Rain Date is Sunday May 6 same time). The fee is only **\$40 for a 10' square space.** RPAC will again have a free raffle among all the vendors!

For further details, see the ArtsFest 2018 Artist/Author/Vendor Application tab at [www.rpartscouncil.org](http://www.rpartscouncil.org), or email RPAC at: [rpartscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:rpartscouncil@gmail.com).



# April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2 <b>Regular Legislative Meeting</b> 8:00 p.m.	3	4 MUTC Meeting 7:30 p.m.	5 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	6 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	7
8 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	9	10	11 <b>Community Walk</b> 5:30 p.m. Riverdale Park Business Association 5:30 p.m.	12 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	13 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	14 Madison Hill HOA Meeting 10:30 a.m.
15 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	16	17	18	19 Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	20 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	21 <b>Earth Day Clean-up</b> 9 a.m. <b>Budget Work Session/ Public Hearing</b> 1:00 p.m.
22 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	23	24	25 Lions Club 7:00 p.m.	26 <b>Arbor Day Ceremony</b> 10 a.m. Farmer's Market 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. (Town Center)	27 Boy Scouts 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	28 <b>Budget Work Session/ Public Hearing</b> 9:00 a.m.
29 Youth Entrepreneurs in Fine Art 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.	30 <b>Council Work Session</b> 8:00 p.m.	<p>All Meetings and events are held at Town Hall unless another location is indicated. Also, all meetings are open to the public so please plan to join us!</p> <p>Trash collection occurs on Mondays and Thursdays. Yard waste is collected on Wednesdays. Please contact the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803 for more information.</p>				

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

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

- ✓ Like the Town's Facebook page
- ✓ Check out the Status and Information Report

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## 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

### 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

### 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