



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

November 2016

Volume 46, Issue 9

Thanksgiving Dinner	Page 1
Council Actions	Page 2
RP Day Photos	Page 3
Ward 1 Report	Page 4
Ward 2 Report	Page 4
Public Works Report	Page 5
RPPD Advisory Comm.	Page 6
RPBA	Page 7
Boy Scout Troop 252	Page 8
Waggertail Dog Park	Page 8
Community Circles	Page 9
Local Organizations	Page 9
Nov. 2016 Calendar	Page 10

Town of Riverdale Park Contact Information

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
301-927-6381

Department of Public Works

5012 Queensbury Road
301-864-1803

Police Department

5004 Queensbury Road
301-927-4343

Bates Trucking and Trash Collection

Bulk Trash Collection
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
301-773-2069

**Residents must call Bates by 2
p.m. Tues., for Wed. pickup**

15th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

November 24, 2016; 12:00 - 3:00 PM

The Alamo restaurant, Christian Life Center and House of Mercy will be serving a Thanksgiving Dinner with all the holiday trimmings. Come join us for a FREE thanksgiving dinner! Free coats, hats, gloves and toys will be given away as part of the "Passion & Compassion Outreach Ministry." The Alamo Restaurant is located at 5508 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale Park, MD. Dinner will be served from 12:00 - 3:00. If you would like to help support our dinner, food & monetary donations are welcomed.

For more information, contact:

Rev. Ben Slye at 301-277-5969 | Pastor Hugo Artiga 301-442-7910



15th Cena Anual Para El Día De Acción De Gracias

El 24 de Noviembre de 2016; 12:00 - 3:00PM

El Restaurante Álamo, Christian Life Center y Casa de Misericordia estarán sirviendo una Cena para el Día de acción de Gracias con todos los adornos. Venga y acompañenos, la cena es GRATIS para todos! Tendremos abrigos, gorros, guantes y juguetes GRATIS como parte de "El Ministerio de Pasión & Compasión." El Restaurante Álamo esta localizado en 5508 Avenida de Kenilworth, Riverdale, MD. La cena se servirá de 12:00 - 3:00PM. Si nos quisiera ayudar y apoyar para esta cena, comida o ayuda monetaria son bienvenidas.

Para mas información, llamen al:

Pastor Ben Slye al 301-277-5969 | Pastor Hugo Artiga 301-442-7910



Council Actions

**September 26, 2016
Special Legislative Meeting**

Legislative Action Item:

1. Motion to suspend the competitive bidding requirements for the lease of a new telephone system for the Town government and award the contract to Sunrise Solutions, Inc., including leasing through Byline Financial Group due to emergency or exigent circumstances – **Approved**

**October 3, 2016
Legislative Meeting**

Consent Agenda

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

1. Fence Permit Request for 4806 Queensbury Road for a 6-foot wooden backyard fence with 9.5-foot setback from front building line of house (Ward 2)
2. Minutes from September 6, 2016 Legislative Meeting
3. Minutes from September 26, 2016 Special Legislative Meeting

Legislative Action Items:

1. ~~Motion to authorize Acting Town Manager to send a letter to Board of Appeals regarding Variance Request for 4508 Tuckerman Street for a variance of 7.7% net lot coverage (Ward 1).~~
2. Motion to approve Fence Permit Request for 5404 Patterson Road for a 6-foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 4) – **Approved**

New Business:

1. Motion to approve: managing stormwater while improving quality of life, improving cross-cultural communication and harmony, and developing sustainable and resilient practices, as topic areas for the University Initiative – **Approved**
2. Motion to appoint David Morris as Acting Town Manager as of October 8, 2016, until Mr. Addison returns from vacation, with the expectation that the Acting Town Manager will only perform routine and ordinary actions of the Town Manager, and specifically withholding the power to appoint or remove any member of the unclassified service, or to appoint a chief financial officer or personnel manager, without prior Town Council approval – **Approved**
3. Motion to direct the Acting Town Manager to send a letter to the County Council PZED Committee regarding CB-84-2016 – **Approved**

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–Marsha Dixon,
Chair, Econ Development, 301-531-4230
mdixon@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 – Colleen Richardson
crichardson@riverdaleparkmd.gov
240-646-6457

Ward 6 – Alejandro Silva
Chair, Legislative Committee, 301-801-3021

Leonard Addison, **Acting Town
Administrator**

laddison@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Jessica Barnes, **Town Clerk**
jbarnes@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

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

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

Brian Carpio, **Fire Chief**

Eng7twr@yahoo.com;

info@riverdalevfd.com;

www.riverdalevfd.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.gov

Submission deadline: 15th of each month

Submit all copies to
towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

RIVERDALE PARK DAY '16

Thank You to Our First Responders!



FBI National Academy yellow brick recipients: Chief Chambers, Lt. Colonel Timmons, Lt. Turner, Chief Morris, and Lt. Powell



New officers Johns and Estrada



First Responders gathered at Riverdale Park Day



Human Resources Director Anthony Dubose and Lt. Colonel Timmons



Officers Emerick and Martin oversee games with the kids



Department of Public Works made Riverdale Park Day possible

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward One Report

By Council Member Marsha Dixon
mdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov

“On the Agenda”

Once a month, prior to each Legislative Council Meeting, I hold an “On the Agenda” with Councilwoman Dixon event. “On the Agenda” is a very informal gathering where residents and I can discuss any upcoming Council agenda items as well as any other concerns raised by residents. I hope that these meetings will serve as a way for residents to casually meet each other as well as provide residents who are unable to attend council meetings with an opportunity to express their thoughts. Although the gatherings are geared toward keeping Ward 1 residents informed, it is open to everyone. **The next meeting will be held at Town Center Market on Saturday, November 5th at 10:30am.**

My Recent Events

I recently spoke at the Riverdale Park Business Association’s annual dinner. It was a pleasure meeting and speaking to many of the business owners in the Town. As I mentioned in my speech, you are an integral part of our Town and I thank you for your efforts. I would like to see and speak with more owners of businesses near Kenilworth Avenue.

I attended my first Maryland Municipal League Conference on October 13-15th. To say that it was informative is an understatement. I met mayors, councilmembers and commissioners throughout the state as we shared experiences and techniques for improving our cities and towns. I also attended classes geared toward training municipal leaders on ways to advance their cities and towns. I am looking forward to sharing what I learned with the council and staff.



Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan Thompson
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Riverdale Park Day

I had a wonderful time at Riverdale Park Day, even though the weather wasn’t exactly great. I was glad to be part of the recognition of our first responders for the hard work they do in town, and to talk with a number of residents of Ward 2 and the rest of town. Unfortunately, I did NOT get to eat a funnel cake. (Anyone with suggestions on where I could find one should contact me as soon as possible!). My disappointment about the lack of funnel cake was soothed a bit by the delicious hot dogs provided by the Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department and ice cream by Mr. Magic. I would like to thank everyone who helped organize the event, including both town staff and volunteers!

Town Manager Search

The Town Manager search continues to move forward on schedule. Our recruitment consultant is currently processing applications and performing background checks, and will present us with a short list of candidates before Thanksgiving; we will discuss these candidates in a closed legislative session in late November. (The session will be closed to protect the identities of those applying for the job, as they may not want their current employer to know they are looking for a new job). We are still anticipating a final decision by the Town Council during the first few weeks of December, with the new Town Manager starting work early in 2017.

Bridge Construction

Construction of the bridge connecting the Cafritz development to Rivertech Court is now underway, and will get more serious over the weeks and months ahead. As has been announced in notices on the town’s e-mail announcement list starting in September, pile driving for the bridge started the week of October 17, and will continue

for 12-14 weeks between the hours of 7 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday. This work will generate noise in the general area during this time period.

Park at Tuckerman and Lafayette (“Field of Dreams”)

The meeting on October 8 to discuss the future use of the park at the corner of Tuckerman and Lafayette (currently the “Field of Dreams”) was well attended and we had a lively discussion. While there was not universal agreement on what the park should be like, there were a lot of themes that I will pass on to the designers at the Neighborhood Design Center to incorporate into their initial designs. These themes included that the park should be more of a contemplative “back-to-nature” park rather than focusing on athletic activities, and that the park should be designed to shield the neighborhood from light, noise, and pollution associated with both the trains and future traffic. Finally, attendees thought the park should be designed to minimize criminal activity. We will have future meetings to discuss the park as the design process continues.

Dog Park

Waggertail Dog Park is now open and operating! By the agreement we have with Parks and Recreation, we must register users of the park. You can register at Town Hall during normal business hours. To learn more about the park and to become involved with the Friends of Waggertail Dog Park contact them at waggertaildogpark@gmail.com.

Farmers’ Market

The Farmers' Market is wrapping up the “summer” market this month, with the final day being November 17th (the Thursday before Thanksgiving)! It is open every Thursday from 3pm to 7pm in Town Center (near the corner of Rhode Island Avenue and Riverdale Road). Items available this time of year include (but are not limited to) greens, radishes, scallions, white and sweet potatoes, squash, pumpkins, cabbages, broccoli, lettuces, berries, mushrooms, free-range hen eggs, roasted coffee, tomatoes (though the season is sadly almost over), and green peppers. Check back

next month to find out about the schedule and location for the winter market.

Public Works Report

By Leonard Addison

Saturday Drop Off

The next scheduled dates in 2016 for drop off of bulk trash on the third Saturday of each month, from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., are: November 19 and December 17. Dates for January – June 2017 are: January 21, February 18, March 18, April 15, May 20, June 17

Holiday Trash Collection

- Regular trash collection, **will NOT be affected** by the Veteran’s Day holiday on Friday, November 11th.
- Regular trash **will NOT** be collected on Thursday, November 24, 2016, in observance of **Thanksgiving**. The next trash collection day will be on Monday, November 28, 2016.

Town Offices Closings

- **Veteran’s Day**, Friday, November 11, 2016
- **Thanksgiving**, Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25, 2016

Leaf Collection

As part of our fall leaf vacuuming service, leaves are being collected from now through January 15, 2017. DPW will vacuum leaves from Town streets following the schedule on page 6.

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

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

CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 2, 2016 – JANUARY 15, 2017	
DAY OF THE WEEK	WARD
MONDAY	1, 3, 5, 6
TUESDAY	2, 4
WEDNESDAY	ALL WARDS (REGULAR YARD COLLECTION DAY) BATES TRUCKING COMPANY WILL COLLECT BAGGED LEAVES . PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE TREE BRANCHES, WOOD, OR OTHER DEBRIS IN THE BAGS.
THURSDAY	1, 3, 5, 6
FRIDAY	2, 4

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 on Wednesday of each week.

Yard Waste Collection

As a reminder, effective January 1, 2014, the Waste Management Division of the Prince George’s County Department of Environmental Resources issued a notice (included in resident’s August 2013 tax bill) that requires **ALL yard waste** to be placed in brown paper bags or loose in a **clearly marked “YARD WASTE” collection can/container (i.e., trash cans)**. Yard waste will no longer be collected in plastic bags. For additional information please call 311 or 301-883-5810.

Guide to Public Works

The Guide to Public Works is now available at Town Hall or at the Department of Public Works. It is designed to inform residents about the services that the DPW provides to our community. However, the department does not have the authority to resolve issues on your property, i.e.,

trees, bees, stray animals or other nuisances that are not in the Town’s right of way.

**Riverdale Park Police
Department Chief’s
Community Advisory
Committee**

By Liz Bolin and Corey Bettenhausen

You might recall hearing about Chief David Morris holding “Community Roll Call” meetings in 2014, at various locations around Town. He and his staff spoke on topics important to the community, and allowed residents to interact directly with the police.

Arising from interest generated during those Roll Call meetings, Chief Morris invited a number of residents to help reach his goal of standing up a Community Advisory Committee. We are pleased to share the details of this Committee with you.

The Riverdale Park Police Department Chief’s Community Advisory Committee (RPPD-CCAC) held its first meeting on September 20, 2016, at Town Hall. A number of residents were in attendance, and the committee is currently comprised of 6 members. The goal of the CCAC is to facilitate communication critical to maintaining confidence in and trust between the police and the Riverdale Park community. Our charter can be read online at <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/ChiefsCommAdvCommittee.cfm>, as well as an informational brochure and the membership application.

The RPPD-CCAC is currently actively recruiting members to round out the committee so all resident’s viewpoints are included in our discussions. We encourage those of you who are interested in contributing to your Town in this way, to read the charter and brochure, and apply for membership. A simple background check is performed; however, residency status will not be checked.

The next meeting of the RPPD-CCAC is scheduled for November 15, 2016, at Town Hall.

Please consider attending the meeting to learn more about the committee.

Riverdale Park Police Department Chief's Comité Consultivo de la Comunidad
Por: Liz Bolin y Corey Bettenhausen
Usted puede recordar oír hablar al Jefe de Policía David Morris teniendo reuniones "Community Roll Call" en 2014, en varios lugares de la ciudad. Él y sus empleados hablaron sobre temas importantes para la comunidad y permitió a los residentes interactuar directamente con la policía. De acuerdo de los intereses generados durante la Community Roll Call reuniones, Jefe Morris invitó a un número de residentes para ayudar alcanzar su objetivo de tener un Comité Consultivo de la Comunidad. Estamos encantados de compartir los detalles de este Comité con usted.

El Riverdale Park Police Department Chief's Community Advisory Committee (RPPD-CCAC) tuvo su primera reunión el 20 de septiembre de 2016, en el Town Hall. Varios residentes estuvieron presentes, y el comité está compuesto actualmente de 6 miembros. El objetivo de la CCAC es facilitar la comunicación crítica para mantener la confianza entre la policía y la comunidad de Riverdale Park. Nuestra carta se puede leer por el internet al <http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info/ChiefsCommAdvCommittee.cfm>, también un folleto informativo y la aplicación de membresía.

El RPPD-CCAC está actualmente reclutando miembros para completar la comisión y así los puntos de vista de todos los residentes están incluidos en nuestras discusiones. Animamos a todos aquellos que estén interesados en contribuir a su ciudad de esta manera, para leer la carta y el folleto, y solicitar la membresía. Se hace una sencilla comprobación de antecedentes, no se verificará el estatus de residencia.

La próxima reunión de la RPPD-CCAC está para el 15 de noviembre de 2016, en el Town Hall. Por favor, considere asistir a la reunión para aprender más sobre el comité.



Riverdale Park Business Association

By Audrey Bragg

The Riverdale Park Business Association held their Annual Dinner on October 12th at Crescent Cities Center. Our Silent Auction was a huge success with donations by our business members. We are thankful to have Crescent Cities in our community, who provided us with a delicious meal. Our speakers were Chief David Morris of the Riverdale Park Police Department and Councilmember Marsha Dixon from Ward 1, where many of our businesses are located. Our sincere thanks to both of them.

This occasion was a great opportunity for members to get together, exchange stories and promote their business. All had a wonderful evening.

Businesses represented at the meeting included: Crescent Cities Center, Town Center Market, Ernie's Lock, Riverdale Park Animal Hospital, Chambers Funeral Home, JD Williams Real Estate, Gerrety & Bragg Real Estate, Shine Massage Studio, The Dental Group, SunTrust Bank, Myers Rodbell and Rosenbaum Law Offices, Bruce Wernek Properties, and Total Auto.

Our next meeting will be held on November 9, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at Riverdale Park Town Offices.



Brett Stine, Regional Executive Director of Genesis Health Care, Crescent Cities Center welcomes our association.

JD Williams and Betsy Godbey, Executive Director, Crescent Cities Charities, Inc.



Boy Scout Troop 252

By Robert Killen

Time goes by so fast! If it weren't for our Scribe, Michael Aquilino's, due diligence, I couldn't keep up. I can barely keep up now! Here we go again. Michael, it's all yours!

"Hello everybody, hope everyone is having a good morning/evening/night. Well, to start off, no one came to yesterday's meeting. Everyone had their own respective reason's, but I just wanted to point it out.

But I do want to speak about Saturday's October 1st event. If you didn't know what happened that day, it was Riverdale Park Day. The following people arrived at the event at 10:00 a.m.: The Brothers (Lizandro and Anthony), Mr. Aquilino, and myself. Mr. Killen and Ms. Brown came a few hours later. There was a slight problem when we arrived and throughout the day. It was rainy and we didn't have as much water protection, but we somehow managed to pull it off until Mr. Killen arrived. We walked around the area (parking lot) in order to find some possible new recruits, but due to the excessive amounts of falling rain, we didn't pass out as many flyers and monkey fist key chains, since they tend to get wet by the rain.

Ms. Brown arrived around 1 pm with marshmallows, Hershey bars, and graham crackers. Mr. Killen arrived around 2 pm, with a pop-up tent which helped to cover from the rain (and also passing flyers and s'mores). Not only did Mr. Killen bring the tent, but also brought coal and half drums to make fire for the s'mores. We immediately got down to business, and so for almost half an hour, we made at least 50 s'mores and everything was taken by the attendees since they were free."

[Bob Killen adds, "I tested a Scout from another troop for his Wilderness Survival Merit Badge in which he had received a "Partial" completion during Summer Camp. All he had to do was to light a fire using a 9-volt battery and steel wool, which he did successfully."]

"We're camping out this weekend (14-16

October) at Jug Bay for the M-NCPPC Powwow - setting up the tipi tonight, and our tents - first time for some of our Scouts, and tomorrow, Saturday, we'll be taking down our tents, teaching "Quasimodo Tag," in which each contestant has a kerchief in a hip pocket, and (with three limbs on the ground) tries to take the kerchief from his opponent's pocket. One on one is not too challenging, but with a group, they're REALLY busy, scurrying around. In years past, we've had steady lines of contestants from 10 AM to 4 PM waiting to try their skill, and almost as many youngsters lying on the grass, out of gas. After the Powwow is over, we'll set up our tents again, clean up the area, cook and eat supper, relax, have a Cracker Barrel, with Bug Juice and s'mores, then a good night's sleep under a clear sky, full of constellations of stars and the moon.

We may attend the annual MD Scout Orienteering Day at Patuxent River Park on Sat. Oct. 29. Or not.

More next month."

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

Waggertail Dog Park

Since the opening ceremony in late July, the Town of Riverdale Park Waggertail Dog Park has already become a lively, dog-loving community. From early morning to dusk, you might find Sophie, Breezy, Janey, Ginger, Toby, Peaches, Remy, Mona, Blue, Lucy, Nabo, Charlie, Jackson, Jasper, Zoe or another of their canine friends running, chasing, wrestling, fetching, or simply sniffing out the things that dogs like to sniff. The dogs and their caretakers love Waggertail and we thank M-NCPPC and the Town of Riverdale Park for making our town a more livable place for us and our canine companions.



As we watch our dogs' play styles, we are learning how to make the park fun and safe for everyone. Here are some important tips from the website of the College Park Dog Park Association and shared with their permission:

"Good dog play is identifiable because the dogs have their tails up and are taking turns chasing/chased or wrestling top/bottom. A dog who feels threatened will tuck his tail and seek protection behind humans or under benches. Problems are most likely to arise:

- *When there are a lot of dogs in the park (say more than 4). The dogs wind each other up and fail to take needed pauses in their play. As you enter the park, take a moment to appraise the number of dogs and potential for trouble;*
- *When a new and unfamiliar dog enters the park. So be aware of entering dogs and be close to your dog and prepared to take control of him/her at the gate until the new dog has entered and introduced himself; or*
- *When one dog is leashed and another is not. So unleash your dog in the "foyer" to ensure that all dogs are on equal (unleashed) footing upon entering the park."*

You and your dog are most welcome to join us in the fun. You can register your dog to use the dog park at the Riverdale Park Municipal Offices during business hours (8:30 am – 5:30 pm), at the Friends of Waggertail Dog Park (FoWDP) table at some town events, or at FoWDP meetings. Registration is free and you will need your Prince George's County dog license number.

And if you plan to use the dog park, consider becoming a FoWDP member. You'll get to know your fellow dog lovers and have a voice in making a difference in your community. FoWDP acts on behalf of all dog park users making

recommendations to the Town Government on improvements, informing the Town of maintenance issues, and by planning dog-centric events. If you are interested in being part of the FoWDP pack, email waggertaildogpark@gmail.com.

Community Circles

Veteran's Day Memorial Service

Riverdale Park will host a Veterans Day Memorial Service on Friday, November 11, 2016 at 11:00am at the Veterans Memorial Park, near the MARC Station. There will be light refreshments at Town Hall following the ceremony. Please come out to support and Honor our service men and women.

Holiday Preview

Mark your calendars for the upcoming holiday events:

- December 13, 2016- Senior's Luncheon at Crescent Cities Center
- December 17, 2016 - Children's Holiday Party and Holiday Market/Festival of Lights

Local Organizations

Lion's Club: Contact Pat Prangley at (240) 882-4993.

Northern County Soccer Alliance: Contact NCSA@soccer.net or (301) 577-3559.

Riverdale Park Boy Scout Troop 252: Contact Scoutmaster Bob Killen at (301) 483-8455.

Madison Hill Homeowners Association: For information, call (301) 583-8857.

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

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market: Contact Jim Coleman at (301) 586-5973.

Riverdale Park Business Association: Contact Ted Spiropulos at 301-758-3822 or ted@towncentermarket.net

Riverdale Park Arts Council: Contact Samuel Williams, Jr. at (909) 380-4231.