



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

July/August 2012

Volume 42, Issue 6

NNO	Page 1
Earth Day	Page 1
Council Actions	Page 2
Police Dept	Page 2
Riversdale Events	Page 3
Mayor's Report	Page 3
Ward 2 Report	Page 5
Public Works Report	Page 5
Boy Scouts Troop 252	Page 6
University Park STEP	Page 6
Community Circle	Page 7
Girls' Lacrosse	Page 8
August 2012 Calendar	Page 9
July 2012 Calendar	Page 10



Riverdale Park National Out

Tuesday, August 7, 2012

6:00 pm—8:00 pm

Riverdale Park Town Center

Queensbury Road across from the MARC train station

Join the Riverdale Park Police Department, neighbors and friends for a night of promoting crime prevention and neighborhood unity. There will be food, games, music and giveaways.

IMPORTANT!

**Bulk Trash Collection
WEDNESDAYS
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

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

HAPPY SUMMER!



Town of Riverdale Park Earth Day Clean-Up

On April 21, 2012, the Town of Riverdale Park sponsored a Clean-Up Day in conjunction with Earth Day. Town employees along with elected officials and town residents volunteered and participated in this worthwhile event

The volunteers included students from Riverdale Elementary School who were recognized for their efforts by Chief David Morris, on June 7, 2012, during a small ceremony at the school.

(Pictures include Chief Morris with student volunteers, Tania Cazares Zetino, Alexis Galvan Ramos, Diego Ramirez, Delena Tekleab Measho, Cruz Gomez, Juan Gibina, Aman Measho, and Irvin Aguilar and school administrators).

Council Actions

By Waverly Pollitt

Regular Legislative Meeting June 4, 2012

1. **Adopted** – Ordinance 2012 –OR-10 concerning FY 2013-Budget and Tax Rates
2. **Approved**- Building permit for curb cut at 6106 44th Ave (Ward One)
3. **Adopted** – Resolution 2012-R-12, a resolution establishing permit parking district in Madison Hill.
4. **Adopted** – Ordinance 2012-OR-06, concerning Town Employee Post – retirement Health Insurance Benefits.
5. **Adopted**- Ordinance 2012-OR-08, an emergency ordinance concerning dumpsters and storage receptacles on residential property.
6. **Adopted**- Ordinance 2012-OR-09, concerning dumpsters and storage receptacles on streets, sidewalks, and other public property.
7. **Adopted**- Ordinance 2012-OR-07, concerning mayor and council member salaries.
8. **Approved**- Mayor’s nominations to Board of Trustees for the Town of Riverdale Park Defined Benefit Retirement Plan.
9. **Approved**- Minutes for the regular legislative meeting on May 7, 2012
10. **Approved**- Minutes for special legislative meeting on May 22, 2012
11. **Approved**- Minutes for the public hearing on May 12, 2012

Riverdale Park Police Department

By Captain Patrick Timmons

Public Safety Community Walk

The Riverdale Park Police Department hosted a Public Safety Community Walk on Saturday June 9, 2012, in Ward One. In attendance were elected officials, Chief David Morris, Police Commanders, Code Enforcement, Fire Department personnel, and town residents. Residents had the opportunity to

discuss issues one on one with their elected officials and Chief Morris.

The walk began at the Town Center Market and included areas of: 44th Avenue, 44th Place, 46th Avenue, 47th Avenue, Cleveland Avenue, Harrison Avenue, Madison Street, Oliver Street, Queensbury Road, Rhode Island Avenue, as well as Sheridan and Tuckerman Streets. The event concluded at the Calvert House Inn for lunch.



Town of Riverdale Park

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, MD 20737

301-927-6381, Hablamos Español
town@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Mayor Vernon Archer, 240-832-2257
varcher@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Council Members

Ward 1–Jonathan W. Ebbeler,
Chair, Econ Development, 404-626-2082
jebbeler@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 2 – Alan Thompson
Chair, Finance Committee, 301-927-7407
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 3 – David Lingua
Chair, Public Safety, 301-779-3849
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 4 - Christopher Henry
Chair, Public Works, 301-910-9855
Chenry3240@verizon.net

Ward 5 – Raymond Rivas
Chair, Community Affairs, 301-625-9435
rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 6 – Alejandro Silva
Chair, Legislative Committee, 301-801-3021
Sara Imhulse, **Town Administrator**
simhulse@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Public Works, 301-864-1803

Leonard Addison, **Director**

Code Enforcement 240-898-2500

Colleen M. Ferguson, **Code Manager**
code@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Police Department, 301-927-4343

David Morris, **Police Chief**

dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

Charles Ryan, **Chief**

info@riverdalevfd.com, www.riverdalevfd.com or,

Riverdalefirechief7@gmail.com

It is the policy of the Town of Riverdale Park, pursuant to the provision of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and The Americans with Disabilities Act, to prohibit discrimination against qualified persons with disabilities in any aspect of employment within the government.

It is also the policy of the Town of Riverdale Park to disallow discrimination in fair housing based on race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, disabilities, and/or age.

Some materials contained in *The Town Crier* represent the opinion of the authors and does not necessarily represent the view of the Town of Riverdale Park.

The Town Crier is also available at the Town’s Website: www.riverdaleparkmd.info
Submission deadline: 15th of each month.

Submit all copies to
towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Saturday's Public Safety Community Walk was the first of many initiatives supporting Chief Morris' efforts to build partnerships between the Riverdale Park Police Department and Riverdale Park residents.

The next Public Safety Community Walk is scheduled for the Ward 4 area of Madison Hill on Saturday, June 30, 2012, beginning at the Tot-Lot on Silk Tree Drive at 10:30am. Please check your Town Crier for future Public Safety Community Walk announcements.



Riversdale House Museum Events

Annual Battle of Bladensburg Encampment at Riversdale

In August 1814, a disheartened Rosalie Calvert, the mistress of Riversdale, described the Battle at Bladensburg: "You have heard the news of the battle of Bladensburg where the English defeated the American troops with [President James] Madison 'not at their head, but at their rear.'" Flush with success, the British then burned Washington. Happily, events turned in Baltimore a few weeks later and the Star-Spangled Banner was born.

On Saturday, August 11, from noon to 4 pm, enjoy a day at Riversdale as costumed interpreters portraying both American and British War of 1812 troops allow us a peek into camp life on the eve of battle. Children, you might even get recruited for the American militia! There will also be crafts and dress-up stations at the ready. Cannon firing, gunnery drills, children's activities, camp and kitchen displays and refreshments all happen on the grounds, and of course, the mistress of Riversdale will be on hand. Girl and Boy Scouts, call for details on how you can earn a badge or patch!

All events on the grounds are FREE. House tours are \$3.00 for adults, \$2.00 for senior citizens, \$1.00 for students, and free for children ages 4 and under. The Riversdale Kitchen Guild will sell historically inspired refreshments.

Jazz on the Lawn Continues at Riversdale

As the sun sets, bring a blanket or lawn chair to Riversdale's beautiful grounds and enjoy the grass under your toes and the jazz wafting through the air. Guests have the option of bringing a picnic basket or purchasing dinner on the grounds courtesy of the Calvert House Inn. Concerts are FREE and run from 7 - 8pm on Wednesdays, with the rain date being the following evening. The second concert of the season features Cheek to Cheek on July 25, followed by the MSG Acoustic Blues Trio on August 15.

Arts programs of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission are supported by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council, an agency funded by the State of Maryland and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Riversdale House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road, in Riverdale Park, Maryland. For more information, call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544; or email atriversdale@pgparks.com <mailto: [riversdale@pgparks.com](mailto:atriversdale@pgparks.com) >.

Mayor's Report

By Vernon Archer

Summer is now in full swing and a number of exciting things are happening in Riverdale Park!

The Small Town Energy Program (STEP) is well underway and there will be increasing activity in this area leading up to a kickoff event at Town Hall on Saturday September 8th at 11:30 AM. The program goals are to make it easy and

affordable for Riverdale Park homeowners to improve their houses in respect to comfort, lower utility bills, increased property value, and identify such health issues as mold, moisture, carbon-monoxide leaks and other air quality issues.

One of the exciting features of STEP is it offers free support from Energy Coach Suzanne Parmet. Suzanne is there to answer our questions, work with us as we complete each step of the program, and ensure that we receive every possible financial incentive. STEP also has incentives that include limited-time rebates that range from \$400 - \$4,300. These rebates can pay for more than half of home energy improvements! STEP has also arranged below-market financing rates for energy improvements through a special agreement with Sandy Spring Bank.

You can talk directly to STEP volunteers who will staff a table at the Farmer's Market throughout the month of July to answer questions. Also you may visit the web site at <http://www.smalltownenergy.org>, or simply contact Suzanne Parmet at energycoach@smalltownenergy.org or at 240-695-3991.

Youth and Community Wing addition to the Town Hall is well into the research and planning stage, and this summer will see the completion of two designs for the town to choose from. Our planner and architect has been gathering information from different stakeholders in the community and will continue to do so for a few more weeks. If you have not had a chance to express your desires about what should be emphasized in the new addition please visit our town web site and share your views. The survey form is available at www.riverdaleparkmd.info/12_Questionnaire3.pdf

Summer Internships/Jobs Program is underway and town residents between ages 16 and 19 who are interested in working for the town this summer should come to Town Hall during normal business hours to apply. Youth must submit a letter of interest, their latest report card, a letter of support from a parent or guardian, and then complete a Town of Riverdale Park job application.

This exciting program is designed to give our young people the opportunity to gain valuable work experience and engage in positive activities during the summer months. The Council and I hope that such opportunities will help the participants to gain a foothold in a very difficult job market. Please encourage the 16-19 year-olds around you to apply if they don't already have a job!

National Night Out Against Crime will be held on Tuesday August 7th from 6 to 8 PM at Town Center. Join the Riverdale Park Police and friends and neighbors for a night of promoting crime prevention and neighborhood unity. I hope to see you for the food, games, music and giveaways! This is a great opportunity to discuss problems and concerns in your neighborhood with the police and your best protectors—engaged neighbors!

Staying informed about what is happening in town government and the community is easy and I hope that more of you will take advantage of the sources of information that are available. The town runs two email lists:

Town Announce provides official information about what the Mayor and Council are doing and BEFORE it actually happens. For example, the proposed agendas of upcoming council meetings are published so you can know about issues that are important to you prior to the council taking action. Also no one publishes on this list except the government so there is no confusion about where the information comes from and who is RESPONSIBLE for the message content. You can join this list by subscribing at riverdale-park.org/mailman/listinfo/townannounce

Town Talk is a moderated chat list that allows subscribers to post and discuss issues related to the town with others in the community. This list helps residents to stay in tune with what is happening in the whole of the community, not just what the town government is up to. Council members and I often post to this list explaining our perspectives on issues before the town, but these are our own personal positions, not official government announcements. You can view the list's rules and subscribe at: riverdale-park.org/mailman/listinfo/towntalk

The council is reviewing the guidelines for both of the email lists and is looking for ways to improve delivering information to all residents. Please do contact me and/or your council member with any thoughts or concerns you have about the email lists.

Another great source of information is the **Riverdale Park/University Park Patch** online newspaper. Since its inception several years ago this publication has significantly improved both the quantity and quality of local reporting about events and issues important to our town. You can read it at: riverdalepark.patch.com/

Also, don't forget to use the significant resources available on our town website at www.riverdaleparkmd.info/ and if you can't make the council regular legislative meeting you can watch them on our cable station the first Monday of the each month (except August) at 8 PM.

Have a great summer and stay informed!

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan Thompson
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee met several times during May, and I am happy to report that the Town's budget for the next fiscal year (starting July 1) was passed by the council at the June legislative meeting. The total tax rate is the same as last year, so at least the Town's part of your county tax bill should be the same as last year.

More good news from the Finance Committee is that the refinancing of the Town's debt was concluded in May, with savings of around \$400,000 over the life of the loan. This was even better than we had thought, but I'm just thankful for good news like that! Most of this money will be put into the capital improvement fund, which pays for things like streets, building repairs and upgrades, or vehicles for the police and public works department.

The District Council still has not voted on the Cafritz rezoning, but that should take place in early July. If the rezoning is approved, this project will continue to require a lot of time and energy for many years to come.

There are several other things going on right now that I'll just mention—contact me if you are interested in learning more.

The Town Hall Youth and Community Wing project is in the design phase now, with architect Paul Mortensen collecting community input on what activities you would like to see happen there.

National Night Out will occur on August 7.

Park and Planning Commission staff presented and discussed new design ideas for the dog park near 51st Avenue on June 19.

I'm carefully monitoring the parking situation (and other community concerns) at the Field of Dreams.

I hope everyone is having a safe and restful summer, look for my next report in September!

Public Works Report

By Leonard Addison

Saturday Drop Off – The schedule for drop off of bulk trash (rear of DPW yard) is the third Saturday, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, of each month. The schedule for the

remainder of the year is as follows. July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15. November 19 and December 17. Please mark your calendars.

Holiday Trash Collection – Trash will not be collected on Monday, July 4, 2011, in observance of Independence Day. The next collection day will be Thursday, July 7, 2011.

Pepco to Begin Installing Smart Meters in Maryland

Installations will Run June 2011 Through December 2012

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

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

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

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

Pepco & Delmarva Home Energy Savings Program

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

The program features weatherization measures (attic/wall insulation, air sealing, door/window weather stripping, duct sealing and insulation), electric saving measures (compact fluorescent light bulbs, tank and pipe wraps for electric water heaters, low flow showerheads, faucet aerators), appliance replacement components (refrigerators, room air conditioners, electric hot water heaters and tune up or replacement of inefficient electric heating and cooling equipment.

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

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

BULK TRASH PICKUPS & SPECIAL TRASH PICKUPS

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

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

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

Boy Scouts Troop 252

By Robert Killen

Work has kept me too busy, and the Report Card Devil has kept the Scouts off the trails. School is out, so we'll be back at it, and have a full report of our travels, shenanigans and advancements in time for the September issue.

We're bicycling Annapolis-BWI and back Saturday.

We're setting up the tipi at Fort Belvoir on 21 June for the Defense Logistics Agency (EEOC) Diversity Day, and the Scouts and I will speak to the children who are attending about Boy Scouting and Native American heritage.

We'll be hiking on the sand from Kiptopeke Beach, VA to the point where the Atlantic Ocean and Chesapeake Bay meet (swimming from the Bay to the Ocean) and probably re-visit Wallops Island and NASA in Greenbelt.

We have another Award Ceremony and two Eagle Ceremonies to plan, too.

Michael is going to Europe this summer - a school thing, and we're going to the Pony-Penning at Chincoteague on 25 July without him. We've been swimming Friday nights (when I've been at work), and the Scouts are getting more comfortable with being in the water and getting dunked.

Before long they ALL will be strong swimmers, not just for Scouts, but for life. AND their leadership skills are growing, too, some faster than others.

We're all working together on the Emergency Prep. Merit Badge, which, like the First Aid, Swimming and Lifesaving Merit Badges, is for life, not just scouting. The new parents are starting to catch on, but the new Scouts are just having a lot of fun. We review the material a lot, over and over. FUN!

We're looking for some adults who have a good attitude and are in relatively good physical shape to go hiking and bicycling (and camping) with us; MHB, Sandy Tolson and I have been doing it with Troop 252 for over 20 years, and we're getting ready to step down. Bring your Scout-age boys!

Get in touch with us - Bob Killen, Scoutmaster, (301) 483-8455, rfkille@yahoo.com, or Eneida Martinez- Brown (MHB), Committee Chair/Charter Organization Representative, (301) 864-0059, and we'll welcome you with open arms! Boys ages 11-16 when they join can make the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts - Eagle Scout. They'll be busy, but their lives will be positively changed. FOREVER!

Riverdale Park to Launch Innovative Energy Efficiency Program

Riverdale Park is one of four Maryland communities that will participate in a landmark pilot program funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of

Energy. The Small Town Energy Program (STEP) was created to help homeowners lower their energy bills while creating a more comfortable home. The program is already successfully underway in the Town of University Park, and in addition to Riverdale Park, will also soon include College Heights Estates and Hyattsville.

STEP allows homeowners to make easy and affordable changes in the energy efficiency of their homes with the help of an "Energy Coach," an energy efficiency expert who works with STEP participants free of charge and helps them through every step of the program.

Participants begin by having a home energy evaluation performed by a qualified home energy evaluator. If they choose, they can then have a qualified contractor make the recommended improvements that will increase their home's energy efficiency.

Energy Coach Suzanne Parmet works with homeowners to answer questions and ensure they receive every possible financial incentive. These incentives include below-market financing rates through a special agreement with Sandy Spring Bank for energy improvements plus limited-time rebates that can range from \$400-\$4,300, and may pay for more than half of the homeowner's energy improvements.

The innovative STEP program is only available to Riverdale Park residents for one year. Interested homeowners seeking lower energy bills and create a more comfortable and valuable home are urged to learn more at <http://www.smalltownenergy.org>, or contact Suzanne Parmet at energycoach@smalltownenergy.org or 240-695-3991. This summer, look for the STEP Summer Associates coming to Riverdale Park with more information about the program.

STEP volunteers will also be available to answer questions throughout July at a table at the Riverdale Park Farmers Market (Thursdays from 3:00 – 7:00 PM).

Finally, there will be a community-wide meeting about the program at Riverdale Park Town Hall on Saturday, September 8th from 11:30 – 1:00 PM. Please mark your calendars. Residents of Riverdale Park who attend the community meeting will be eligible to enter

their name in a drawing for \$500 worth of energy upgrades to their home! More details to follow.

Community Circles

PGWLA Brings Diversity to Lacrosse!

The Prince George's Women's Lacrosse Association is a non-profit created to promote girl's lacrosse in Prince George's County and bring diversity to the sport. They provide a safe and positive environment for their participants. Best of all, there is no monetary cost to the girls or their families! The first clinic is September 8, 2012 and the PG Sports and Learning Complex. Visit the website for more information: www.pgwla.org

Local Organizations

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

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

Riverdale Park Daisy Troop #2546: Contact Dannielle Glaros at (301) 779-5915.

Riverdale Park Boys Scouts Troop 252— Contact: Scoutmaster Bob Killen at (301) 483-8455.

Madison Hill Homeowners Association-- For information, call (301) 583-8857 or www.madisonhill.biz

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

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market -- Contact Jim Coleman at 301-332-6258.

Riverdale Boys & Girls Club—Email riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com (301) 277-KIDS

Riverdale Park Business Association—call Audrey Bragg at 301-277-7393 for meeting site

Riverdale Park Arts Council—Contact Emily Fanning at ourdollmom@aol.com

The Historical Association of Riverdale Park (HARP)—Website: www.harp1920.com
Email: harp1920@yahoo.com



PGWLA: Bringing girl's Lacrosse to Prince George's County!

PGWLA 101:

-PGWLA was founded in 2010 and is a 501 (c)3 organization created to promote girl's lacrosse and bring diversity to the sport in Prince George's County, MD.

-We will provide quality coaching, positive atmosphere and fun! All equipment and instruction is FREE!!!!

-We will offer programs on healthy living and information on college acceptance to participants and their families.

- We will have our first clinic September 2012!

To REGISTER: www.pgwla.org

Like us on Facebook: <http://facebook.com/PGWLA>

Contact Us: info@pgwla.org and 240-394-9640

August 2012 – Town of Riverdale Park

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6 NO Regular Legislative Meeting <i>Town-Wide Trash Collection</i>	7	8 <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>	9 <i>Town-Wide Trash Collection</i>	10	11
12	13 <i>Town-Wide Trash Collection</i>	14	15 <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>	16 Farmer's Market 3-7p <i>Town-Wide Trash Collection</i>	17	18
19	20 <i>Town-Wide Trash Collection</i>	21	22 Lions Club, 7p, TH <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>	23 Farmer's Market 3-7p <i>Town-Wide Trash Collection</i>	24	25
26	27 Work Session, 8pm, TH <i>Town-Wide Trash Collection</i>	28	29 <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>	30 Farmer's Market 3-7p <i>Town-Wide Trash Collection</i>	31	

NOTES :
