



# The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

**June 2012**

Volume 42, Issue 5

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## **IMPORTANT!**

**Bulk Trash Collection  
WEDNESDAYS  
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

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



## **New Summer Internship Program!**

- Who:** Ages 16-19 who live in the Town of Riverdale Park  
**What:** **PAID** summer internship!  
**Where:** Town of Riverdale Park, including General Government Administration, Department of Public Works, and Police Department  
**When:** Approximately 10 hours a week for 10 weeks (July – August)  
**How:** Submit a letter of interest, latest report card, letter of support from a parent or guardian, and a completed a Town of Riverdale Park job application to Town Administrator, 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737
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- Quién:** Edad 16-19, que viven en la Ciudad de Riverdale Park  
**Qué:** Practicas de verano **PAGADAS!**  
**Dónde:** La Ciudad de Riverdale Park, incluyendo el departamento de policía, departamento de obras públicas y Administración General de Gobierno  
**Cuándo:** Aproximadamente 10 horas a la semana durante 10 semanas (julio – agosto)  
**Como:** Envía una carta de interés, tus reporte de notas de la escuela una carta de soporte de tus padres y completa una aplicación de trabajo de la ciudad de Riverdale Park a la Administradora, 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737

# Council Actions

By Waverly Pollitt

**April 19, 2012**

## Special Legislative Meeting

1. Introduction of Ordinance Resolution 2012-OR-05, an ordinance concerning general obligation refunding bonds.
2. Motion to post fair summary in Town Crier for ordinance 2012-OR-05
3. Motion to postpone until a definite time for street closing on Natoli Place on Sunday, May 6, 2012.

**May 1, 2012**

## Special Legislative Meeting

1. Motion to send a letter to the City of Hyattsville requesting sole use of the joint street sweeper.
2. Motion to approve a Letter of Understanding between the Town of University Park and Riverdale Park regarding the deployment of the "Step-Up" home energy program.
3. Motion to adopt 2012-OR -05, an ordinance concerning general obligation refunding bonds.
4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2012-R-08, resolution concerning the Cafritz property public hearing.
5. Motion to close any of the following streets: Natoli Place and /or Lafayette Avenue and/or Town Center area from 2:00 am to 9:00 pm May 6, 2012, for the purpose of Arts Fest 2012

**May 7, 2012**

## Regular Legislative Meeting

1. Motion to approve a building permit for a 6 foot rear –year wood fence at 5316 Patterson Road( Ward 4)
2. Motion to adopt 2012-CR-01, a charter amendment concerning procurement.
3. Motion to adopt Resolution 2012-R-09
4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2012-R-10, to approve nominations for Mixed Use Town Center design committee.
5. Motion to approve a letter to Historic Preservation Commission in support of historic property evaluation at 4711 Oliver Street ( Ward 1)
6. Motion to waive Town bidding requirements and piggyback off of a County contract for the purchase of handheld radios for Public Works.
7. Motion to waive Town bidding requirements to contract with Davenport & Company, LLC to provide financial advisory services related to the Town of Riverdale Park refinancing issuance.
8. Motion to reschedule the June council work session from June 25, 2012, to June 18, 2012
9. Introduction – 2012-OR-06, concerning Town Employee Post-retirement Health Insurance Benefits.

## Town of Riverdale Park

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

### Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road  
Riverdale Park, MD 20737

301-927-6381, Hablamos Español  
[town@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:town@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Mayor** Vernon Archer, 240-832-2257  
[varcher@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:varcher@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

### Council Members

**Ward 1**–Jonathan W. Ebbeler,  
Chair, Econ Development, 404-626-2082  
[jebbeler@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:jebbeler@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Ward 2** – Alan Thompson  
Chair, Finance Committee, 301-927-7407  
[akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

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

**Ward 4** - Christopher Henry  
Chair, Public Works, 301-910-9855  
[Chenry3240@verizon.net](mailto:Chenry3240@verizon.net)

**Ward 5** – Raymond Rivas  
Chair, Community Affairs, 301-625-9435  
[rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**Ward 6** – Alejandro Silva  
Chair, Legislative Committee, 301-801-3021  
**Sara Imhulse, Town Administrator**  
[simhulse@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:simhulse@riverdaleparkmd.gov)  
Public Works, 301-864-1803

**Leonard Addison, Director**  
Code Enforcement 240-898-2500  
Colleen M. Ferguson, **Code Manager**  
[code@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:code@riverdaleparkmd.gov)  
Police Department, 301-927-4343

**David Morris, Police Chief**  
[dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov)  
Fire Department - Emergency 911  
Information - 301-927-0356

**Charles Ryan, Chief**  
[info@riverdalevfd.com](mailto:info@riverdalevfd.com), [www.riverdalevfd.com](http://www.riverdalevfd.com) or,  
[Riverdalefirechief7@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info)  
**Submission deadline: 15th of each month.**

Submit all copies to  
[towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

10. Introduction of 2012-OR-07, concerning mayor and council member salaries
11. Introduction of 2012-OR-08, an emergency ordinance concerning dumpsters and storage receptacles on residential property
12. Introduction of 2012-OR-09, concerning dumpsters and storage receptacles on streets, sidewalks, and other public property
13. Motion to approve minutes from regular legislative meeting on April 2, 2012
14. Motion to approve minutes from the special legislative meeting on April 19, 2012
15. Motion to approve minutes from the special legislative meeting on May 1, 2012

New Business-

1. Introduction of 2010-OR-10, an ordinance concerning FY 2013 Budget and Tax Rates
2. Motion to establish Public Hearing, Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at 7:00 pm

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
FAIR SUMMARY OF  
ORDINANCE 2012-OR-06**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2012-OR-06.

Ordinance 2012-OR-06 would clarify and modify certain post-retirement health insurance benefits payable under a program established by the Town for certain employees of the Town of Riverdale Park; and relate generally to providing post-employment benefits for certain retirees of the Town of Riverdale Park.

Ordinance 2012-OR-06 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.

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
FAIR SUMMARY OF  
ORDINANCE 2012-OR-07**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2012-OR-07.

Ordinance 2012-OR-07 would alter the annual salaries to be paid to the Mayor and Council Members for the terms of office beginning in June, 2013; provide for the payment of such salaries; provide for the effective date of this Ordinance; and matters relate generally thereto.

Ordinance 2012-OR-07 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.

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
FAIR SUMMARY OF  
EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2012-OR-08**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Emergency Ordinance 2012-OR-08.

Emergency Ordinance 2012-OR-08 would prohibit the placing of certain dumpsters and temporary storage receptacles on residential property except pursuant to a permit issued by the Town; provide for the issuance of and fees for such permits; provide penalties for violations; provide that this Ordinance is subject to approval by the Prince George's District Council; and relate generally to the regulation of the placement of certain dumpsters and temporary storage receptacles on residential property in the Town of Riverdale Park.

Emergency Ordinance 2012-OR-08 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.

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
FAIR SUMMARY OF  
ORDINANCE 2012-OR-09**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2012-OR-09.

Ordinance 2012-OR-09 would prohibit the placing of certain dumpsters and storage receptacles on streets, sidewalks and other public property except pursuant to a permit issued by the Town; provide for the issuance of and fees for such permits; provide penalties for violations; provide for the removal of certain dumpsters and receptacles under certain circumstances and for collecting the cost of removal; and relate generally to the regulation of the placement of certain dumpsters and storage receptacles on streets, sidewalks and other public property in the Town of Riverdale Park.

Ordinance 2012-OR-09 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.

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
FAIR SUMMARY OF  
ORDINANCE 2012-OR-10**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2012-OR-10.

Ordinance 2012-OR-10 would adopt operating and capital budgets for the Town of Riverdale Park for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and ending June 30, 2013; set rates of real and personal property taxation for such fiscal year and levying such taxes; and generally relate to the adoption of Town budgets and levying of taxes and setting of tax rates for the Town of Riverdale Park for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and ending June 30, 2013.

Ordinance 2012-OR-10 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.

## **Riverdale Park Police Department**

By Captain Patrick Timmons

The Riverdale Park Police Department recently began to take part in the Transforming Neighborhoods Initiative. This county wide initiative teams our department, including code enforcement, with the Prince George's County Police Department, Sheriff's Office and DER, to address community concerns in the town.



During the coming weeks, our department will be taking part in a DUI and pedestrian enforcement initiative in cooperation with the Maryland Office of Highway Safety.

On April 27, 2012, Lieutenant Andrew Powell graduated from the 327th Session of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command. This prestigious ten week program was attended by senior law enforcement administrators from Maryland, Delaware and Pennsylvania. Lieutenant Powell is a ten year veteran of the Riverdale Park Police Department and we are all very proud of his accomplishment.

*Lieutenant Powell is pictured with Chief David Morris and Captain Patrick Timmons.*

## **Riversdale House Museum Events**

### **FATHER'S DAY TOURS**

George Calvert was the father to nine children who lived at Riversdale. Five of these children lived to adulthood, including Charles Benedict Calvert, founder of the University of Maryland. Celebrate the special fathers, fathers-in-law, grandfathers, and other gentlemen in your life with a free guided tour of the historic house on Sunday, June 17 from 12:15-3:15pm!

This offer is limited to one free tour per paid admission. Admission is \$3 adults/\$2 seniors/ \$1 students/ FREE children 4 & under.

### **JAZZ ON THE LAWN KICKS OF 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. Pack a picnic or purchase dinner on the grounds before the show courtesy of the Calvert House Inn. Concerts are FREE and run from 7 – 8pm. The first concert of the season kicks off with Project Natale on Wednesday, June 27, 2012. The rain date is June 28.

The concerts continue later in the summer with: Cheek to Cheek on Wednesday, July 25 (rain date July 26); M.S.G. Acoustic Blues Trio on Wednesday, August 15 (rain date August 16).

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.

### **ROME AT RIVERSDALE**

Kids, ready your swords! Adults, prepare to step back in time! *Legio XX* is camping out and once again bringing Rome to Riversdale!

Early 19<sup>th</sup> century America was greatly influenced by the classical world. Celebrate ancient Rome as you watch ancient battle reenactments with *Legio XX*, view a catapult demonstration, take part in children's activities, enjoy refreshments at the Roman *capona*, chat with reenactors, and more all on the grounds of

Riversdale House Museum! Inside the historic house, celebrate the neoclassical trends of the 19<sup>th</sup> century with an architecture scavenger hunt, tours of the house, and more!

Rome at Riversdale runs Saturday, June 9 from 11am – 4pm and Sunday, June 10 from noon – 4pm. Admission is \$5/adults and \$3/students.

Riversdale House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road, in Riverdale Park, Maryland. It is owned by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. For more information, call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544; or email at [riversdale@pgparks.com](mailto:riversdale@pgparks.com).

## Ward and Committee Reports

### Ward One Report

By Council Member Jonathan Ebbeler  
[jebbeler@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:jebbeler@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

### Economic Development Committee Report

The Cafritz/Whole Foods Development District Council evidentiary hearing finally adjourned. We expect a vote on this shortly. There were numerous comments made during the hearing that were factually inaccurate and I would like to highlight the major provisions of our agreement that will ultimately be tied to the land in perpetuity (it is not developer-specific) if the rezoning is granted:

- Density limited to 995 units (this could decrease during later phases of the zoning process);
- New traffic on Rt1 is limited to 5:48 A.M./9:02 P.M. – this could also decrease during later phases of the process (currently 24k at Rt1/Van Buren BUT 50k at Rt1/Paint Branch – site of the future East Campus, a development with greater density and same physical distance to the CP Metro);
- New Shuttle to be provided by the development running between the site, the PG Plaza/CP Metro Stations, and the Riverdale Marc Station with a 15-minute headway;
- No building permits issued until funding is in place and letters of approval from CSX/UMD;
- No Use and Occupancy permits for 100k of retail and 120 town homes until the bridge is at least 50% constructed (i.e. unless the

bridge is completed in the short term no one can move in);

- Reconnecting the Rhode Island/Maryland Avenue extension;
- Reconnecting the Trolley Trail for pedestrian/bicycle use between College/Riverdale Park;
- LEED Certification for the development; &
- Whole Foods as an anchor tenant or ‘right of 1<sup>st</sup> refusal’ in the case of force majeure substitutions.

I realize fully that there is opposition to the development and I am happy to discuss the facts of the application, the real facts. Please keep in mind the developer pursued a zoning type that establishes community review throughout every step of the process in terms of architecture, materials, design, landscaping etc.; i.e. we have and will continue to have enormous input in the look and feel of the site.

During the hearing, I worked closely with Councilman Thompson to present the town’s legal argument for the sufficiency of the rezoning application. We directly addressed the core of the opposition’s technical zoning argument and established that not allowing the rezoning would conflict with prior evidentiary findings and hence process and the rule of law. Our argument was met with little to no factual rebuttal, yet the opposition continued to advance their argument.

I have always said, publically and privately, that the opposition’s voice in this has been incredibly helpful in ensuring that we did our due diligence and negotiated the best possible deal for all parties concerned. Issues like land use and development will never have unanimous consent, but it is important to respect process and the evidentiary record. Dissent is the cornerstone of any

democratic tradition and the American experience, but so is compromise and reconciliation. As we move forward on this project, I respectfully ask those that oppose to join with those that support and work together in partnership to ensure that this development lives up to our expectations and its potential.

By now most of you should have seen the progress Town Center Market has made towards their upcoming opening. The building and grounds have turned out beautifully. Now if we can just lobby the Spiropoulos family to put in some landscaping between the buildings for additional outdoor dining☺.

In closing, I have established a scholarship in partnership with the Riverdale Lions Club. Please contact me for more information; essays are due 6/1. We will be distributing \$2,000 to local students to further their dreams and aspirations towards education (school or trade) after high school. I have also established a Public Arts Initiative with the Hyattsville CDC. We hope to establish a sculpture or other piece of art along Route 1 as a welcoming invitation for people unfamiliar with our town. Enjoy the Summer!

## **Ward Two Report**

By Council Member Alan Thompson  
*akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

### **Finance Committee Report**

April and early May were, as I predicted last month, quite busy, with more happening in the weeks ahead.

The anticipated mid-May meeting to discuss the design for the dog park (near 51st Avenue in Ward 2) was delayed until June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the site.

The Town budget was introduced at the May 7 Legislative session, and the Finance Committee will have at least four meetings to review (and possibly amend) it. The proposal does not increase the tax rate from last year, and hopefully we will keep it that way. Adoption of the budget will happen no earlier than June 4th. The Finance Committee (and Council) are also pushing forward the refinancing of the Town debt, which should be completed by the time you are reading this. Town Administrator Imhulse and the

Town's General Government staff have been working extremely hard to prepare the budget and arrange for the debt refinancing, and again, I want to publicly express my appreciation to all of them for the extra time and effort they have put forth.

The Cafritz rezoning hearings are done, and we are waiting for the County Council (sitting as the "District Council") to vote.

Two other events of note took place this month. The first was the Arts Festival on May 6. I enjoyed viewing art (and purchasing some jewelry as a Mother's day present) and eating the great food. I was also honored to be able to present awards to area students who won a poetry contest for writing (and reading publicly) poems about the War of 1812. The second was that the long-awaited project to repave East-West Highway was completed. It is a joy, again, to drive on the fresh smooth pavement (be sure to obey the speed limit – our speed cameras are still there!).

## **Ward Five Report**

By Council Member Raymond Rivas  
*rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

### **Community Affairs Committee Report**

What a fabulous community we live in. As the councilman of Ward 5, I must say there has been a drastic change in our community. We have come together as one. On this note, did you notice the fantastic Riverdale Park Arts Fest 2012 that the Riverdale Park Arts Council committee put together on May 6, 2012? This showed the harmony that the community can have when a fabulous event such as this can unite us together. Thank you Art Council committee for a GREAT EVENT!

Graduation is just around the corner and this brings certain challenges to our up and becoming young adults coming out of high school. Keep in mind that this is the first stepping stone to your future as a young adult. Sure there will be many twists and turns on your journey to adulthood but nothing life threatening. Think of realistic goals and strive for them. There is nothing wrong with being a dreamer and I urge this for some. On the other hand, we sometime have to implement certain functions to obtain these dreams. Some dreams may take five to ten years to acquire but this is ok. Do not let

anything knock you down on your way to success. There are certain aspects within your life such as a relationship that may be part of or may be hindering your progress forward to complete these goals or dreams. This is where you may have to make a thought out decision to enable you to accomplish your goals and dreams. Please keep in mind that is also part of the learning curve and it should not be considered the end of the world as we know it. There will be other relationships and friendships but absorb what you can from these experiences and move on. If you need to talk to someone when all seems dreary please feel free to speak to your school counselors, parents, guardians, best friend or your local councilman and maybe we can give you support or at least direct you to the right sources. Remember this, "Life is too short to give up on." You deserve the best for yourself and try to be what you want to be.

We as community leaders have to keep setting examples and give a guiding hand. In implementing much needed good moral support programs for the children it will help build and prepare them for the next level. We are in the process of applying for grants that may relieve some hardships in a program with a minimum amount of funding. For example there are various programs such as: Maryland University 4H Club, free tutoring and recreational activities, reading programs with CD's, cinema theater in Town Hall and job counseling to prepare youth for young adulthood. We believe that these are exciting and rigorous programs to pursue and accomplish. This is why we need volunteers and donations to help us with our causes. The children of Riverdale Park need more exposure to the ARTS. It seems that it's been forever in finding volunteers to assist in helping with the youth group. We appreciate the few volunteers that have come out but still would welcome more high school youths that need community.

Are you excited? Well, Riverdale Park recreational board committee members are very excited. We have lined up some great activities and invited some surreal groups to participate in our annual (Riverdale Park Day) event. There will be various types of food vendors. The event will be hosted on Saturday, October 6, 2012 at Riverside Neighborhood Park 5901 Riverside Drive,

Riverdale Maryland 20737. The recreational committee has worked very hard on making sure it will be an extravagant event. Please bring your lounge chairs, blankets and families to the festivities.

I've noticed the neighborhood in Ward 5 has been slightly quiet. Please do not let this quietness pull the wool over your eyes. We still have individuals out there stalking the neighborhood for naive victims not aware of their surroundings. If you need to walk in the evening to the corner store, please check your backside and be aware of what is ahead of you. If you see anything suspicious or out of the ordinary, please feel free to call the Riverdale Police Department 301-927-4343 or 911.

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Que fabulosa comunidad en la que vivimos. Como el concejal del sector 5, debo decir que ha habido un cambio drástico en nuestra comunidad. Hemos recorrido juntos como uno. En esta nota, te distes cuenta de como el Comité de la Artes de Riverdale Park organizo el festival de las artes este pasado 6 de Mayo? Esto demuestra la camaradería que puede tener la Comunidad cuando un evento fabuloso como este puede unirnos juntos. ¡ Gracias al Comité del Consejo de Artes por este GRAN EVENTO!

Graduaciones están a la vuelta de la esquina y esto trae ciertos desafíos para nuestra seguridad y convertirse en adultos jóvenes que salen de la escuela secundaria. Tomar en cuenta que este es el primer peldaño para su futuro como un joven adulto. Seguro que habrá muchos giros y vueltas sobre su viaje a la edad adulta pero nada potencialmente mortales. Es de pensar en objetivos realistas y luchar por ellos. No hay nada malo con ser un soñador y los insto a esto. Por otro lado, en algún momento tenemos que aplicar ciertas funciones para obtener estos sueños. Algunos sueños pueden tardar de cinco a diez años para adquirir pero esto está bien. No deje que nada se lo derriber en su camino al éxito. Hay ciertos aspectos de su vida como una relación que puede ser parte de o puede obstaculizar su progreso hacia adelante para completar estos objetivos o sueños. Esto es donde puede que tenga que hacer una decisión para que pueda cumplir sus metas y sueños. Por favor tenga en cuenta que también es parte de la curva de aprendizaje y no debe considerarse el fin del mundo



como lo conocemos. Habrá otras relaciones y amistades sino absorben lo que pueda de estas experiencias y avanzar. Si necesita hablar con alguien cuando todo te parece triste, no dude en hablar con los consejeros de la escuela, padres, tutores, mejor amigo o su concejal local y tal vez podemos brindarle apoyo o al menos dirigirlos a las fuentes de ayuda Recuerden esto, "La vida es demasiado corta para renunciar". Se merecen lo mejor de sí mismo y tratar de ser lo que quieres ser.

Como líderes de la Comunidad, tenemos que seguir ejemplos de configuración y dar una mano. En la aplicación de muchos se necesita buena moral, lo programas de apoyo para los niños ayudarán a construir y prepararlos para el siguiente nivel. Estamos en el proceso de aplicar a una subvención que puede aliviar algunas penurias en un programa con un monto mínimo de financiamiento. Por ejemplo hay varios programas tales como: Universidad de Maryland 4 H Club, libre de actividades de tutorías y recreativas, programas con audio cd, teatro de cine, de lectura y trabajo de asesoramiento para preparar jóvenes para la edad adulta joven. Creemos que son interesantes y rigurosos programas para perseguir y llevar a cabo. Por eso necesitamos voluntarios y donaciones para ayudarnos con nuestras causas. Los niños de Riverdale Park necesitan más exposición a las Artes. Parece que siempre estamos en la búsqueda de voluntarios para ayudar a ayudar con el grupo de jóvenes. Apreciamos a los pocos voluntarios que han salido, pero aún más serían bienvenidos por ejemplo jóvenes de escuela secundaria.

Estas emocionado! Los miembros del Comité de Junta recreativa de Riverdale Park están muy emocionados. Hemos arreglado algunas actividades grandes y invitó a algunos grupos a participar en nuestro evento anual de (El Día de Riverdale Park). Habrá varios tipos de proveedores de alimentos. El evento será el sábado, 6 de octubre del 2012 en el Parque de Riverside Neighborhood 5901 Riverside Drive, Riverdale Maryland 20737. El Comité recreativo ha trabajado muy duro en asegurarse de que sea un evento extravagante. Por favor, trae tus sillas, mantas y familia para las fiestas.

Notado que el barrio del Sector 5 ha estado un poco tranquila. Por favor no deje que esta tranquilidad le ciegue los ojos. Todavía tenemos personas que están acosando el barrio y a ingenuas

víctimas no conscientes de su entorno. Si es necesario caminar en la noche a la tienda de la esquina, asegúrense quien está por delante y por de tras de usted. Si ves algo sospechoso o fuera de lo común, no dude en llamar al departamento de Policía de Riverdale al 301-927-4343 o 911.

## Public Works Report

By Leonard Addison

**Saturday Drop Off** – The next scheduled dates for drop off of bulk trash on the third Saturday of each month, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, on the following dates: June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15, October 20, November 17 and December 15.

### **Community Events**

- **Earth Day** - The Town of Riverdale Park participated in The Annual Earth Day Event sponsored by the Anacostia Watershed Society on April 21<sup>st</sup>. The event was very successful. We had more than 50 volunteers that filled approximately 53 bags of trash/recycling. CM Raymond Rivas brought youth from his apartment complex and members of Brownie Troop # 6892 were among the volunteers. A special thanks to Mayo Vernon Archer, Chief of Police David Morris, Councilmen David Lingua and Rivas for assisting us in the cleanup. Our sincere appreciation is also extended to all of the volunteers that helped make this another productive event that protects and keeps our environment and our community clean.

- **Community Cleanup** – Annually, the Town gives residents the opportunity to do their spring cleaning and put those items out for pickup. There were 6.34 tons (12,680 pounds) of bulk and regular trash, the net weight for metals dumped was 1,200 for the day; 1.87 tons (3,740 pounds) of yard waste and debris; and 28 tires were collected.

- **Christmas in April** – A local resident was selected to participate in the Christmas in April program, which affords the chosen resident an opportunity to have the exterior of their home cleared of trash and debris. Volunteers from the Prince George's Community Service program, CM Christopher Henry and DPW staff assisted in this

endeavor. The resident was very pleased with the results. From the residence, we collected and dumped 1,460 pounds of mixed materials that consisted of trees, branches and debris.

The DPW wishes to convey its gratitude and appreciation to our staff, all of our residents, volunteers and Town officials who joined in to help keep our community in pristine condition.

**Spraying for Mosquito** – The day for mosquito spraying for the Town of Riverdale Park is Tuesday. This service is provided automatically and is not according to special requests. Since this service is not provided by the Town of Riverdale Park, any questions regarding mosquito spraying should be directed to Maryland Department of Agriculture at 301-422-5080.

### **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 pick up appointment 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, or to the Prince George's County Landfill, 16111 White House Road, Upper Marlboro, Maryland, 301-952-7630.**

## Town Administrator's Report

By Sara Imhulse

### **Congratulations!**

I am pleased to report that one of my staff members, **Verenice Ciciliano**, graduated this month with her undergraduate degree! Four years ago Verenice began her course work at Prince George's Community College. She then transferred two years later to Trinity Washington University in the School of Professional Studies, where she earned a degree in Business Administration, with a minor in International Business. Verenice took four to five classes per semester in the evenings and on the weekends, in addition to her full-time work with the Town of Riverdale Park as Administrative Assistant – Spanish Liaison. She is an outstanding, hard-working employee, and I am so proud of her accomplishment! Congratulations, Verenice!

### **Talk about energy with your neighbors and get paid for your input!**

The Town of Riverdale Park is working on developing a new energy program for town residents, called Riverdale Park's Small Town Energy Program (STEP). To make sure this program reflects the needs of Riverdale Park residents, we are putting together a small "focus group" meeting to discuss key elements of the program and how it can best help residents save energy and make their homes more energy efficient. This meeting is to refine the STEP program, and is not a sales meeting in any way. The meeting will take 90 minutes and we will compensate you \$50 for your time. The meeting will take place at Town Hall, on the evening of Tuesday, June 5. We will provide refreshments. You must be a single family homeowner. Call 866-758-6289 (tollfree) to find out more or to volunteer / register (space is limited to 20 and you **MUST** be pre-registered to attend).

### **Fire Safety Tips**

- Teach your kids how to respond in the event of a fire.
- Make sure young children know how to dial 911.

- Establish and practice a fire escape plan with your family that includes a designated meeting area outside the home.
- Practice stop, drop and roll with your children so they learn how to escape beneath a fire.
- Teach everyone in your family multiple ways to escape from every room in the event of a fire.
- Make sure that there is a sufficient quantity of smoke detectors in your home.
- Verify each month that smoke detectors are in working order.
- Make sure everyone in your family knows how to use a fire extinguisher.
- Do not place lit candles where they can be reached by children.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- Do not leave candles burning when you go to sleep.
- Don't leave cooking food unattended on the stove. Keep everything that might be flammable away from your stove.

### Balloon Framing

One of the most common framing methods of a single family home in Riverdale Park is balloon framing. Balloon framing is a method of wood construction that was used primarily in the United States up until the mid- 1950s. The balloon wall studs extend from the sill of the first story all the way to the top plate or end rafter of the stories above the first story of a home.

This common type of framing was identical to the home that caught fire on the morning of March 27, 2011, at 4711 Oliver Street. During that incident, the fire department had to do extensive overhaul which included opening up the walls from inside and outside to make certain that the fire had not traveled within the studs. While that looked like a lot of damage, opening up the walls allows the fire department to make their best effort to check for fire extension, thus allowing for less extensive damage.

As a homeowner you might be wondering how to tell if your house is balloon frame construction? The most common characteristics of

balloon frame constructed houses are that the windows are stacked; meaning that the windows on the second floor are directly above those on the first floor. You may actually be able to go up into the attic of your home, and drop a stone or coin and it would end up on the basement floor seconds later.

You may add a “firestop” of various components that are used to seal openings and joints and block combustible gases from moving upward through your home like a chimney. But without going into extensive remodeling of the home, the best thing a resident can do is to always practice fire safety!

### Smoke Detectors Save Lives!

Smoke detectors should be on every livable level of the house. Create and practice an escape plan with every member of your household. Check the batteries in your smoke detector twice a year. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local fire department! Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department: 301-883-7707 or 301-927-0356.

## Community Circles

### 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](http://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](http://www.harp1920.com) Email: [harp1920@yahoo.com](mailto:harp1920@yahoo.com)

