



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

September 2008

Volume 37, Issue 8

Home Town Heroes	Page 1
Elizabeth Klein	Page 1
Council Actions	Page 2
Code Corner	Page 2
New Fire Dept Chief	Page 2
Ordinance 2008-03	Page 3
Ordinance 2008-04	Page 3
National Night Out	
English	Page 4
Spanish	Pgs 4-5
New School Drop Off	Page 5
Riverdale Park Day	Page 5
FAQs Trash Collection	Page 6
Ward and Committee Reports	
Ward 1	Page 7
Ward 3	Page 8
Ward 4	Page 8
Ward 6	Page 9
Troop 252	Page 9
RPBA News	Page 9
NNO Pictures	Page 10
Community Circles	Page 11
Calendar	Page 12

Home Town Heroes

By Marita A. Novicky

The summer of 2008 has been a great one; albeit too short, it past with a flurry of fun and activities that have left a positive mark on our Town. Here are a few items worth mention:

- Two of our Councilwomen had babies in the last several months and kept on working! Councilwoman Kate Sharpe had a boy, Caleb, weighing in at 6^{lb} 10^{oz}; and, Councilwoman Keelah Allen-Smith had a girl, Kalayah weighing in at 6^{lb}. 12^{oz}. Both Councilwomen were soon back at Town Council meetings reminding us why we're so lucky to have such dedicated Town representatives! Congratulations to our new Riverdale Park residents Kalayah and Caleb!
- Police Chief Teresa Chambers, Detective Roland Alexander, the entire Riverdale Park Police Department and the National Night Out Planning Committee planned and conducted a most successful NNO—Bravo!
- Director Leonard Addison and the Riverdale Park Public Works Department and their diligence in ensuring a well run Public Works Department that assures we have a clean and well maintained Town. They are responsible for the quick clean up after National Night Out. Great Job!
- Our Fire Department and dedicated firemen who respond so quickly.
- Boy Scout Troop 252 and their dedicated leader Bob Killen. These young people are experiencing fun and adventure while earning badges of honor.
- Our Farmers Market, Jim Coleman, and all those that make this something to look forward to every week!
- Our Mayor Vernon Archer and all of our Council members who serve tirelessly assuring our Town is safe, clean, and beautiful.
- Town Administrator and Town staff for excellent work.

Thank you one and all; you certainly are our heroes.

Elizabeth Klein—Longest Riverdale Park Resident?

By Rob Oppenheim

Elizabeth Klein was born and raised in Riverdale Park in a home on Cleveland Avenue that her grandfather built in 1902. Born January 19, 1908, she lived there until she was about 90 years old—when a storm sent a huge tree crashing into her home. After that, she lived with relatives in Ohio.

I recall my favorite Elizabeth story: She once told me “When I was young, I went to elementary school in Hyattsville, on the other side of Route One, because my mother would not let me cross the railroad tracks alone.” I shuttered at the thought of a small child crossing that highway alone. Incredulously, I asked, “She let you cross Route One alone, but not the railroad tracks?” “That’s right” she replied. “Back then, there were just a few horse and buggies on Route One and very rarely a Tin Lizzie. They plodded along slowly and would stop for me, but the trains would not.”

Elizabeth Klein passed on July 5, 2008 at over 100 years old.



Riverdale Park Day
Saturday, October
4th, 2008, 12—5 p.m.

Riversdale Mansion

Don't miss this annual event. There will be open mic featuring Town musicians, live music, food vendors, games, pony rides, a moon bounce, a petting zoo, and prizes for all ages! Come and enjoy the day!

Council Actions

By Waverly Pollitt

July 7, 2008

1. **Approved**- Minutes for June 2, 2008 regular Legislative Meeting.
2. **Introduction** – Ordinance Resolution concerning parking on unpaved and unprepared surfaces on residential property.
3. **Introduction** – Ordinance Resolution concerning violations and penalties for the unlawful disposal of dead animals.
4. **Approved** – Request for handicap parking space at 4713 Nicholson Street.
5. **Approved** – Request for No Parking at 4715 and 4717 Nicholson Street on August 9th from noon to 11:59 p.m. for a Block Party.
6. **Approved** – Request for No Parking sign on 54th Place.

August 4, 2008

1. **Approved** - Minutes for July 7, 2008 regular legislative meeting.
2. **Approved** - Minutes for July 28, 2008 special legislative meeting.
3. **Approved** - Certification of cooperation agreement between Prince George's County and the Town of Riverdale Park for Community Development Block Grant funds for fiscal years 2009-2011.
4. **Approved** - Sponsorship of Riversdale event marking Plummer Family contribution to Riverdale History.
5. **Introduction & Approval** - Resolution 2008-R-07 regarding Pick up and Drop off Zone Designation for Riverdale Elementary School.
6. **Approved** - Recommendations for County Zoning regarding driveway located at 5005 Somerset Road. (**Recommended against variance.**)
7. **Approved** - 6ft. fence at 4912 Somerset Road for Mr. William Martinez.
8. **Approved** - Request for street closure for Sheridan Street between 45th place and 46th Avenue on Sunday, September 7, 2008 from 10:00am - 6:00p.m. for a Block Party.

Code Corner

By Colleen Ferguson

Chapter 36--- Town wide trash Collection: Monday and Thursdays. Do not place toters out before sundown the day prior to collection day. Yard waste will be collected by Bates on Wednesdays. Recycling will be collected on Wednesdays. You must call Bates and schedule any bulk pick-up.

Chapter 68---- Grass must be maintained to a height of less than 10 inches.

Rental inspections will begin in September — all rental properties within the Town of Riverdale Park must have a rental license. For more information and/or a rental application, call 301-927-6381.

If you have any code complaints and/or concerns, please contact the Code Enforcement Division at 301-927-6381, or via email, coderiverdalepk@comcast.net.

New Riverdale Park Fire Chief

Charles (Chuck) Ryan has been named the Fire Chief for the Riverdale Park Fire Department. Ryan succeeds long time Chief Vincent Harrison who resigned from the position.

Town of Riverdale Park

www.ci.riverdale-park.md.us

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, MD 20737
301-927-6381, Hablamos Espanol
RiverdaleParkMD@comcast.net

Mayor Vernon Archer, 240-832-2257
varcher@gmail.com

Council Members

Ward 1—Alice Ewen-Walker,
Chair, Econ. Development, 301-379-5303
alice@ewenwalker.com

Ward 2 – Kate Sharpe
Chair, Finance Committee, 301-779-2169
katherinesharpe@yahoo.com

Ward 3 - David Lingua
Chair, Public Works, 301-779-3849
djlingua@gmail.com

Ward 4 - Christopher Henry
Chair, Public Safety, 301-910-9855
chenry3240@comcast.net

Ward 5 - Timothy Kimbrough
Chair, Leg. Committee, 301-864-1997
timkim7@verizon.net

Ward 6 - Keelah Allen-Smith
Chair, Community Affairs, 240-751-6688,
Keelahd@yahoo.com.

Patrick J. Prangley, Town Administrator
riverdaleparkmd@comcast.net
Penelope Mendoza, Deputy Town
Administrator, 301-209-1505

Leonard Addison, Public Works Director
Public Works 301-864-1803

Colleen M. Ferguson, Code Manager
Code Enforcement 301-927-6381
CodeRiverdalePk@comcast.net

Teresa Chambers, Chief of Police
Police Department 301-927-4343
RivPD@comcast.net

Fire Department Emergency 911
Information 301-927-0356

Charles Ryan, Fire 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.

Submission deadline: 15th of each month.

Please submit all copy to editor
rptowncrier@comcast.net

**COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2008-OR-03**

Introduced By: Council Member Timothy Kimbrough

Date Introduced: Introduction and first reading: July 7, 2008

An Ordinance concerning Parking on Unpaved and Unprepared Surfaces

For, the purpose of prohibiting the parking of vehicles on unprepared surfaces on residential property.

Whereas, Article III, section 302-of the Town Charter for the Town of Riverdale Park Maryland Grants the Town of Riverdale Park Maryland **Specific Powers** to adopt, by ordinances, regulations on parking within the Town's corporate limits, and

Whereas, vehicles parked on unprepared surfaces on residential properties look unsightly, thus lowering the quality of life, and presenting a nuisance in the Town of Riverdale Park Maryland, and

Whereas, Article III, section 302-of the Town Charter for the Town of Riverdale Park Maryland Grants the Town of Riverdale Park Maryland **Specific Powers** to abate nuisances,

Therefore be It resolved that Chapter 64, section 10.1, subsection (b) of the Code be revised as follows.

Change to this section is indicated by strike through. The new language is in bold italics

(b) General Rule: It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle on residential property on an unprepared surface. ~~to the front building line.~~

And be it Further enacted that this Ordinance shall become effective twenty (20) days after its passage by the Council.

**COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2008-OR-04**

Introduced By: Council Member Timothy Kimbrough

Date Introduced: Introduction and first reading: July 7, 2008

An Ordinance concerning: VIOLATION AND PENALTIES FOR THE UNLAWFUL DISPOSAL OF DEAD ANIMALS

For, the purpose of: increasing the penalties for the first and repeat offence of Unlawful Disposal of Dead Animals.

Whereas, Article III, § 302-of the Town Charter for the Town of Riverdale Park Maryland grants the Town of Riverdale Park Maryland **Specific Powers** to regulate or prevent by penalties and fines the throwing or depositing of any dirt, garbage, trash, refuse, waste, offal, or liquids on any private or public property; to provide for the proper disposal of such material; and to levy such fees as may be necessary for the municipal collection of such material, and

Whereas, Chapter 36 of the Code of Riverdale Park Maryland entitled: GARBAGE, REFUSE AND TRASH, in § 36-1. Definitions, has included Dead Animals in the Definition as Refuse or Waste

therefore be it resolved that chapter 36, § 36-15 of the Code be revised as follows:

Change to this section is indicated by the new language in bold italics

§ 36-15. Violations and penalties.(Repealed and replaced 5/23/97. Effective 6/12/97)

(a) Generally

Violations of §§ 36-2 through 36-14 of this chapter are declared to be municipal infractions, the penalty for which shall be fifty dollars (\$50) for each initial offense and one hundred dollars (\$100) for each repeat offense, which is defined as an identical or substantially similar violation committed within thirty (30) days after the initial offense, ***except in the case when the violation of § 36-2 is the disposal of a dead animal, the penalty for which shall be two hundred dollars (\$200) for the first offense, and four hundred dollars (\$400) for each repeat offense***

And be it Further enacted that this Ordinance shall become effective twenty (20) days after its passage by the Council.

National Night Out 2008

An OVERWHELMING Success!

And, a Look at our Mid-Year Crime Statistics

By Teresa Chambers, Chief of Police

Thanks to each citizen and business owner who participated in and contributed to the success of this year's National Night Out in the Town of Riverdale Park. The first-of-its-kind block party brought food, fun, and fellowship to the 5600 block of 54th Avenue on August 5, 2008. Residents from every corner of Town participated as did local, county, and state elected officials. Some have estimated the crowd to have numbered between 1,200 and 1,500 people of all ages.

Sadly, as many of you know, just one week earlier a 22-year-old man was shot and killed in that same area. While the circumstances surrounding his death are still being investigated, it is important to recognize the significance and power of a Town whose residents come together to stand as one in our fight against crime in our community.

In Riverdale Park, our year-to-date "Part I" violent crime (murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) as of June 30, 2008, is 27 percent lower than at the same point in 2007 and 11.5 percent lower than at this point in 2006. Our "Part I" property crime (burglary, theft, and auto theft) is 23 percent lower than it was at mid-year in 2007 and 10.5 percent lower than at the same point in 2006.

Combined, our overall Part I crime in the Town of Riverdale Park is down 24 percent as of June 30, 2008, compared to the same point in 2007 and down 11 percent compared to this point in 2006. (In real numbers, that means 60 fewer victims of Part I crimes this year than at this point last year.)

One crime is one crime too many – especially when that crime results in the death or injury of someone – yet we must look at what we can accomplish when we work together to keep our community safe. Thank you for all you do to help "crush crime" in the Town of Riverdale Park.



Noche Nacional para Salir Afuera 2008

¡Un evento Super EXITOSO!

Y una mirada a nuestras estadísticas del crimen de nuestro Medio-Año

By Teresa Chambers, Chief of Police

Muchas gracias a todos nuestros ciudadanos y dueños de negocios por participar y contribuir en el éxito obtenido de este año de nuestra Noche Nacional para Salir Afuera de la Ciudad de Riverdale Park. La primera vez que celebramos una fiesta en la calle trajo comida, diversión y unión entre todos. Esto se llevó a cabo el 5 de agosto, 2008, en el bloque 5600 de la 54th Avenida. Residentes de todos los alrededores de la Ciudad participaron como también los oficiales elegidos de nuestro distrito local, del condado, y del estado. Se estima que alrededor de 1,200 a 1,500 personas de todas las edades se unieron a nosotros ese día.

Lamentablemente, como muchos saben, una semana antes de este evento un hombre de 22 años fue disparado a muerte en esa misma área. Mientras que las circunstancias acerca de su muerte se siguen investigando, es importante que ustedes sepan el poder significativo que los residentes de nuestra ciudad tienen en la unión de nuestra lucha contra el crimen.

En Riverdale Park, la "Parte 1" de nuestro reporte de año a año sobre el crimen violento (muerte, violación, robos, y agresiones agravadas) hasta el 30 de junio, 2008, han tenido una disminución del 27 por ciento comparado con el mismo tiempo el año 2007 y un 11.5 por ciento de disminución que en este mismo tiempo en el año 2006. Nuestra "Parte 1" de crímenes de la propiedad (robos y robos de auto) han tenido un 23 por ciento de disminución que en este mismo tiempo el año 2007 y un 10.5 por ciento de disminución que en este mismo tiempo el año 2006.

Combinando, un promedio total de la Parte 1 de crímenes en la Ciudad de Riverdale Park ha disminuido el 24 por ciento hasta el 30 de junio, 2008, comparado con el mismo tiempo el año pasado del 2007 y ha disminuido un 11 por ciento en comparación al año 2006. (Hablando en números reales, esto significa que han habido 60 víctimas menos en la Parte 1 de crímenes hasta este punto en este año en comparación al año pasado.)

Un crimen es un crimen de más – especialmente cuando ese crimen resulta en la muerte o la herida de alguien – sin embargo debemos de ver que es lo que queremos lograr cuando trabajamos todos juntos para mantener a nuestra comunidad segura. Muchas gracias por todo lo que ustedes hacen para “aplantar la delincuencia” en la Ciudad de Riverdale Park.

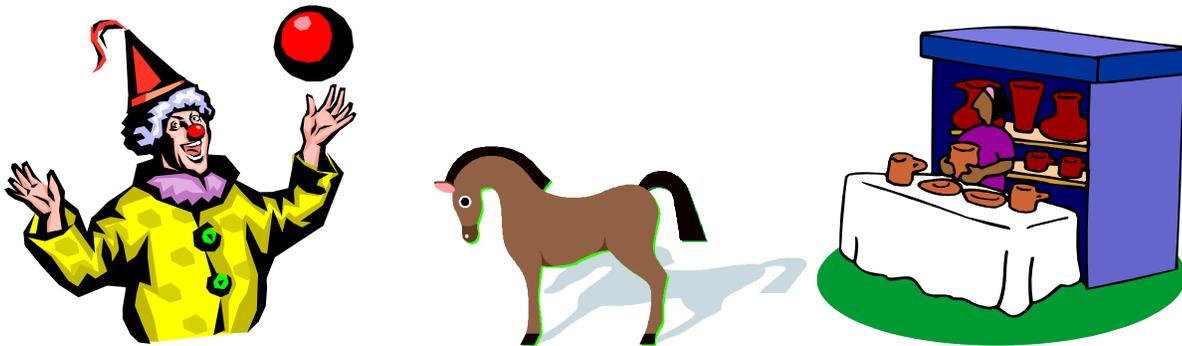
Translation by Sandra Acevedo

New Drop Off and Pick up Zone for Riverdale Elementary School

By David Lingua

At the recommendation of the Traffic Committee, the Council considered and passed the creation of a school pick-up and drop-off zone within the 6100 block of Taylor Road; 8 to 8:30 AM and 2:15 to 2:45 PM. Having been done previously, the zone will provide a central location to allow for both safe discharge and boarding. The zone will be closed both north and southbound to regular traffic, allowing parents to pick up or drop off their children by using both lanes going south one way towards Riverdale Road. Ingress is from westbound 4900Queensbury Road. Students will have access to and from vehicles and school by the sidewalk on the east side and crosswalks north or south to west lane. Vehicles in the (west side) right hand lane will be able to turn right, heading towards Route 1, as well as continue straight on Taylor Road. Vehicles in the (east side) left hand lane will have to turn left onto Riverdale Road, heading towards Kenilworth Avenue.

Traffic flow, and with it pedestrian safety, has deteriorated over the past several years at Riverdale Elementary. Both the number of students attending along with the number of parents driving their children has increased, making both arrival and departure more and more unmanageable. Crossing guards responsible for the students’ safe traverse find themselves less able to control their areas and the ad-hoc logistics in general. Last year alone there were several near misses. Should the status quo remain the guards feel it is only a matter of *when* a student is struck by a vehicle. Please take this into consideration when planning to commute through Town. The Zone will begin later this month.



DON'T MISS

Riverdale Park Day

Saturday, October 4th, 12-5 p.m.

Grounds of Riversdale Mansion

Live music, open mike featuring Town musicians, food-vendors, games, contests, and prizes for all ages--Moon bounce, pony rides, and petting zoo--Join your neighbors and Town officials in the celebration of Riverdale Park Day. Join the fun. Bring a blanket and spend the day on the grounds of Riversdale Mansion.



Town of Riverdale Park

Frequently Asked Questions About Trash Collection

When are the collection days? Effective August 1, 2008, the collection days, **town wide**, are:

- Trash – **Monday and Thursday**
- Yard Waste – **Wednesday**
- Recycling – **Wednesday**
- Bulk Trash by Appointment

Has recycling collection changed? No, the recycling collection program provided to our town by Prince George's County has not changed. Continue to use the blue recycling toter issued by the county and set recyclables to the curb for Wednesday pick up.

Do I have to use the new green toters? Yes, you must use your toter, however you may continue to use your own trashcan for trash over flow. *Residents who are physically unable to maneuver the new toters may use their own trash receptacles to dispose of trash. To request a waiver for physical disability, please contact Riverdale Park Town Hall and provide the town with your name, address, and the nature of disability. If you require physical assistance to get your trash to the curb, the town will make arrangements for assistance.*

Do I have to fill the toter before I place it out for pick up? No, the quantity of trash in the toter does not matter.

When do I set out my yard waste? Yard waste is picked up on Wednesday ONLY. The green toter may be used as a receptacle for yard waste, or you may bundle or bag it separately.

How can I dispose of my old trash receptacle? The contractor will remove it if you put it out with the trash and mark it with a large "X".

When should I put my trash out for pick up? Your trash must be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. the day of collections (Monday & Thursday). If you miss trash pick-up, please remove your toter from the front of your house and place it out on the next pick-up day.

What about bulk trash pick up? Items that are very large or which weigh more than 60 pounds are considered bulk trash. To dispose of bulk trash, you must make an appointment so that your item may be scheduled for pick-up. Contact the town's trash contractor, Bates Trucking & Trash Collections, at 301-773-2069 to schedule bulk trash pick-up.

Reminder-Bulk Trash is defined as an item that requires more than one person to pick up or weighs more than 60 lbs.

Your Toters



Trash Toter



Recycling Toter

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward One

By Council Member Alice Walker
Alice.ewen.walker@gmail.com

Last month, the council received a thorough report on **crime trends** in our area from Police Chief Chambers. Crime has gone down in Riverdale Park more than in other parts of the county. Violent crime for the first half of 2008 was 27% lower than in the first half of 2007 and property crime was 23% lower. By comparison, crimes in the county during the same period dropped 11.5 percent and 1.4 percent respectively. This is good news to celebrate! Nonetheless, I remain concerned that **litter and graffiti** are an invitation to crime. Our Public Works Department is increasing the amount of staff time spent on appearance issues. Police and code officers are documenting graffiti, reporting it to the county gang prevention unit, and removing it. When you see graffiti - even if it seems minor - please report it to the police. The Town is also working with M-NCPPC to assure prompt removal of gang tags in our parks.

With the recent hiring of Brittany Hewison, for the first time, the Town has three full-time code officers. Increased staff capacity should make the Town better able to tackle **persistent code issues**. I have been working with the Mayor and County Councilman Eric Olson to address the overcrowding at 6411 Baltimore Avenue, which leases space to a church that exceeds the capacity of the space. This has led to a dangerous traffic situation. The Town has requested county assistance to ensure that the building is safe and that all proper permits are in place.

A group of residents has formed a **dog park advisory committee** to scope out the potential for creating a dog park in Riverdale Park. Based on guidelines from other public dog parks, a critical element will be active involvement of dog park users in the continued management of the dog park. If you would like to get involved, please contact Adrienne Allegretti at 301-221-1831 or email *adgealleg@hotmail.com*.

Residents north of East-West Highway have requested **traffic calming** in their neighborhood. Police Chief Chambers met with residents at one of two community meetings held by residents to identify specific concerns, which included cut-through traffic, speeding, and unlicensed vehicles. If you would like information about this project, contact Jared Liu, *liu.jared@gmail.com*. Thanks to residents in the neighborhood for their active leadership. Many years ago, residents requested **speed humps** for 43rd Street. Due to divided ownership and other issues, the project has languished. I have requested that the Town resolve the matter.

Last year, the Town approved a number of **electronic documents** policies to ensure that minutes,

resolutions, ordinances, and other key documents were readily available to the public. I still hope to see full implementation of these policies.

A county-wide **economic development forum** will be held on October 3rd at University of Maryland. All residents are invited. To learn more about "Envision Prince George's," see *www.mncppc.org/Envision2008/*.

The first meeting of the **Spanish Language Outreach Committee** will be held in October. Visit their table at Riverdale Park Day to learn more.

I would like to nominate two Ward 1 residents to serve on the **Recreation Board**. The time commitment is less than 40 hours per year and it is the **FUN** committee, so please let me know if you would like to be considered for the position. Anissa Sunday is an outstanding chair who knows how to run a meeting, so your time will be efficiently used.

I would like **residents' help and support in advocating** for two important budget items being considered by **M-NCPPC for capital improvements** for FY 2010. Currently, the M-NCPPC capital budget proposes **\$100,000 in playground renovations** for the park at end of Tuckerman Street, east of the train tracks. Called "Riverdale Neighborhood Playground N-26" in the budget roster, this neighborhood park is in desperate need of renovation. There are many young and growing families surrounding the park. (Thanks to Mary Ann Brownlow and other neighbors for looking out for this park.) In addition, the proposed CIP budget includes **\$550,000 for Riversdale Mansion** to install a cooling system at the museum. This system will help preserve our Town's greatest historic treasure and is another important piece its continued improvement.

Just because something is listed in the budget does not mean it will be funded! It is up to us as a community to **advocate for these two key pieces of funding** and to request that they be implemented as soon as possible (FY 2010 is the earliest date that these projects could occur.) The Town will be represented at the budget hearing scheduled for **September 23 at 7:00 p.m.** at the PG Sports and Learning Complex, but it will improve our chances if residents show direct support for these projects. During the month of September, **please write a letter of support** to Ms. Marye Wells Harvey, Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, 6600 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale, MD 20737 and cc: County Councilman Eric Olson, County Administration Building (Room 2027), 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-3050 and cc: Mayor Archer. If you would like to attend the budget hearing, or would like a letter template, please email me.

On a closing note, please join me in wishing a warm welcome to Ward 1 to **Lucas Michailof**, born on August 14!

Ward 3 Report

By Council Member David Lingua
djlingua@gmail.com

The neighborhood boys told me I should install a nitrous oxide booster on my '99 Forrester so I can go fast. Ah youth.

Let's take a moment now to recognize the contributions of some neighbors in our Ward. A big thanks to Timothy Zastrow for his efforts with the new sidewalks we have along the 5000 blocks of Oglethorpe and Nicholson Streets. Tim's recommendations enabled the sidewalks to be poured so as to minimize damage to the existing trees and leaving room for future ones. Besides planning design, Tim also provided some sweat equity in the form of tree designation for trimming or removal, root pruning, limb pruning, lining work, and the relocation of shrubbery. Of course he had his son Toby and younger daughter Alma as very able assistants.

Speaking of sweat equity, David Shays took on the project of clearing away the bamboo surrounding a tall dead tree in the public right of way. Coordinating with Director Addison and James Davis at Public Works, Dave approached the project "loaded for bear" with a backhoe and did a tremendous job. No project is too big for this son of Texas. The Town owes David Shays and the Zastrow Family a great deal of thanks for their time and effort to make our neighborhood and with it our Town an even better place to live.

On the Public Service side a hats off, stand up ovation to Detective Roland Alexander and the Riverdale Park Police Department for a phenomenal National Night Out block party. I heard from one resident that Hyattsville had the Redskins Cheerleaders. Nice, but it doesn't even come close to Mr. Magic, Lt. Adams' burgers, the TFK bike rodeo, or Town Administrator Prangley taking the rock hard to the iron in two on two. In street shoes no less! Somebody get that man a pair of Chucks. Way to go everyone.

We are a month into our new contract with Bates for trash, yard waste, and heavy trash removal and there are some things to keep in mind. First, yard waste will now be collected on Wednesdays. Second, if you have bulk trash items to be picked up, a call needs to be placed to Bates ahead of time. While the new toter will accommodate a substantial amount of trash, it has been suggested to Mayor Archer, Town Administrator Prangley, and Director Addison to approach Bates about providing some smaller toters. Please feel free to address any concerns about the service with the Public Works Department or yours truly.

As presented elsewhere, with the new school year there will be a new pick up and drop off zone in effect for Riverdale Elementary School starting later this month. Be sure to plan your travel accordingly so that

you can arrive at your destination safely and on time. As well please watch for students as you travel.

Ward 4 Report

By Council Member Christopher Henry
chenry3240@comcast.net

Public Safety Report

National Night Out (NNO) was August 5th and it was a huge success. Detective Roland Alexander did a fantastic job coordinating this event. Raffles, Face-Painting, Food, Bike Rodeo, DJ, Smiling faces, and a community standing up saying **NO to crime**. Community spirit was evident. Detective Roland Alexander's hard work and effort accomplished the goal- it built a bridge across the bridge. I commend Detective Alexander for his dedication, leadership, and community involvement. I urge every resident to participate in Community and Self responsibility - if you see a piece of trash - bend down, pick it up (with gloves on) and throw it away- don't just walk by it, don't make phone calls, - just pick up the trash- this is your community. As Detective Alexander proved to us through NNO, we are a strong, involved community, take pride in it, and take responsibility for it- we are in this together! On behalf of Ward 4 residents, thank you Detective Alexander and the NNO Committee.

I want to remind every resident to visit/sign-on to www.crimereports.com, if you would like to become familiar with the crime happenings in our Town. A lot of jurisdictions have now joined this crime reports website, so make sure the incident you are viewing actually happened in Riverdale Park. This is a very informative site. **Community responsibility**--if you see something suspicious--something just doesn't seem right- Call the Riverdale Park Police Department 301-927-4343.

The Bates trash collection contract has been approved and trash pick-up by Bates has begun. Every resident should have received a toter on wheels for trash collection. Trash Collection days are Monday and Thursdays; Wednesday is Yard Waste and Recycling. Residents must call Bates to schedule special bulk pick-ups at 301-773-2069.

School has started watch for pedestrians. Posted Speed Limits and Parking Signs will be strongly enforced

FYI - Construction by State Highway and EYA on East-West Highway at Baltimore Avenue, has begun and will continue for the next few months. Currently, East-West Highway East bound at Baltimore Avenue will be one lane. State Highway will be moving to the West-bound lanes in the next month or so. Watch for updates.

Editor's Note: Please see the pictures of National Night Out taken by CM Chris Henry in this edition.

Ward 6 Report

By Council Member Keelah Allen-Smith
Keelahd@yahoo.com

Community Affairs Report

August 5th was National Night Out (NNO), it was Fantastic! I thank Police Chief Chambers, Detective Alexander, and every member of the NNO Committee for doing an outstanding job to make this event a success. This event was amazing; approximately 1,200 people from all wards, awesome prizes from Target, Food from area stores, and much more...***Mr. Addison, Director of Public Works and the Department of Public Works employees, I commend you for the clean-up, it was superb. Pastor Ben Slye and the volunteers from the Christian Life Center, thank you for your dedication to the Town as well as the 3-moon-bounces- they certainly were a hit! What a fun, crime free evening! Again, thank you to everyone who participated in the organizing of this event; I look forward to next years NNO!

I want to remind Ward 6 residents to attend the Town Legislative meetings on the first Monday of every month at 8:00 pm at the Town Hall. These meetings are a great way to stay informed about the events and projects going on in Town and an opportunity for our voices and concerns to be heard.

Next event: Riverdale Park Day. Riverdale Park Day is an afternoon filled with family fun on October 4, 2008 from 12-5 p.m. at the Riversdale Mansion.

School will re-open August 25th. Motorists - Please pay attention to pedestrians. Parents please use and teach your children to use the crosswalks, look both ways prior to crossing the street and to listen to the crossing guards. Let's have a safe school year!

Boy Scouts Troop 252 Enjoy Summer and Keep Busy

By Robert Killen

The summer went by in a blur of our flurry of activities. Since the last issue of the Crier, we've bicycled (in several trips) 100+ miles, up and down the C&O Canal Towpath; we bicycled from Cumberland thru the Paw Paw Tunnel and back. We paddled our aluminum flat-bottomed boats from the protected marina some distance out on the Chesapeake Bay. One of our boats was nearly swamped in //exciting!// rough water, when two of the Scouts were broad-sided by a single large wave. They returned to calmer water before we had to re-register our boat as a submarine. A good lesson! Bow into the wind!

We tubed five miles on the Potomac River, walking upriver two miles from Harper's Ferry and floating downriver three miles more after we passed under the railroad bridge where the Shenandoah and Potomac

rivers flow together. We walked back, ate delicious ice cream (on our budget) and the Scouts slept most of the way home. We rode through a hailstorm after coming through five more rainbows (we still haven't located the pot of gold). At one of our weekly meetings, a D.C. detective friend of ours explained in great detail to us how his homicide unit caught a gang of Bank robbers. Now our Scouts want to be police officers, or do something in law enforcement. We open doors. The Scouts walk thru - or not.

Earlier this week we celebrated another Court of Honor, in which almost all of our Scouts earned Merit Badges, and our Senior Patrol Leader was finally awarded his Star rank. We're now a four-star Troop, and our older Scouts are rapidly approaching the highly-coveted Eagle Scout rank.

We spent a long weekend camping, cycling and boating at Taylor's Island on Maryland's Eastern Shore (Scouts camp free of charge). We are looking forward to our 60-mile bicycling trip from Cumberland to Hancock, and a 3-day-weekend cycling trip the entire 184 miles from Cumberland to D.C., cycling, tubing, boating, camping, competitive orienteering, and skiing (snowboarding) complement our fall semester agenda.

Come join in our fun! Contact Bob Killen, Scoutmaster (*rfkille@yahoo.com*) (202) 282-8302, or Eneida Martinez-Brown, Committee Chair (301) 864-0059. Why should we have all the fun? You may be another Star in our next Crier article. For more information about Troop 252 and Scouting, contact Bob Killen, Scoutmaster, (202) 282-8301, or Eneida Martinez-Brown, (301) 864-0059.

Riverdale Park Business Association--Back to Business

By Carol Patsel

The Riverdale Park Business Association resumes their monthly meetings on Wednesday, September 10, 5:30 P.M., at the Calvert House Restaurant. To celebrate the beginning of an exciting year, refreshments and lite fare will be served. Please consider joining us. As discussed at their last meeting, the RPBA has adopted an American Soldier who is currently serving her tour of duty in Iraq. (She just got married before she was deployed!) They will be assembling a care package for her on the night of their meeting. Be sure to bake you favorite cookies, cakes, etc., wrap them and bring them with you. Those of you who don't spend time in the kitchen, a store bought goodie will be equally appreciated. We will be taking reservations for a table at Riverdale Park day to be held on October 4th.

The Anacostia Watershed Society has issued us an invitation to the open house celebrating the newly remodeled George Washington house. It looks like another busy successful year for 2008/2009

National Night Out — A Community Event



National Night Out Scores Big with Community Attendance!

In the previous five pictures, Chris Henry (Councilman, Ward 4) captures the happy faces of those participating in the National Night Out (NNO) this past August 5, 2008. The NNO was a resounding success. Police Chief Teresa Chambers give credit to especially Detective Roland Alexander (who chaired the event), the Police Department, and the NNO Committee. Well over 1,200 youth, adults, families, and community leaders turned out to celebrate together—it was a resounding success. Detective Alexander, you did a great job and praise goes to you and all that helped. It makes us look forward to next year!



Community Calendar

What to Watch For:

Mondays and Thursdays—Town-wide trash pick up (see page 6 for Frequently Asked Questions).

Tuesday, September 2, 2008—Legislative Meeting, Town Hall, 8:00 p.m.

Wednesdays—Town-wide yard waste pick up and county recycling.

Thursday, September 4, 11, 18, and 25th, 2008—Farmers Market, Town Center, 3:00—7:00 p.m.

Saturdays—Trash, oil, paper drop off at PW, 9-5p

Monday, September 8, 2008—Public Works Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, September 25, 2008—Girl Scouts Meeting, TH, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, September 29, 2008—Work Session, TH, 8:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 4th-- Riverdale Park Day;

12-5pm, grounds of Riversdale Mansion. Volunteers needed. This is a great opportunity to become involved with your children and the community. Contact Anissa Sunday at 301-277-2458 for more information and for great volunteer opportunities/assignments. We need you!

Town Organizations

Northern County Soccer Alliance: For more information on Soccer Alliance, Inc., and on travel, recreation, home school, and training programs. NCSA@juno.com or (301) 927-0560. PG Soccer League [@juno.com](mailto:juno.com)

Riverdale Park Girl Scouts: Contact: Charmaine Wilson at (301) 449-5690.

Riverdale Park Boys Scouts – Troop 252—Contact: Scoutmaster Bob Killen at (202) 282-8302.

Civic Committees

Recreation Board – The Riverdale Park Recreation Board Presents: **Riverdale Park Day, Saturday, October 4th**, 12-5pm on the ground of Riversdale Mansion. This event will feature: Live music; open microphone featuring Town musicians; food-vendors; games; contests and prizes for all ages; moon bounce; pony rides; and petting zoo. Join your neighbors and Town officials in celebration of Riverdale Park Day!

Madison Hill Homeowners Association-- For information, call (240) 401-2202 or visit www.madisonhill.org.

Riverdale Park Farmer's Market--Contact Jim Coleman at (301)209-8529..

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

Riversdale—Calling All Cooks

Do you love to cook? Do you love history? Do you want to know more about the history of food? If you answered yes to these questions, then you might like to join the Riversdale Kitchen Guild at the Riversdale House Museum, located in Riverdale Park, MD. The Riversdale House Museum was the home of George and Rosalie Calvert, descendents of the founding family of Maryland, who lived in the house from 1803 until George Calvert's death in 1838. Members of the Riversdale Kitchen Guild research recipes from the early 19th century period and demonstrate cooking techniques over an open hearth fireplace to recreate the preparation and cooking of period meals. Members volunteer to cook on Sundays for walk-in visitors and also for special events throughout the year.

The Riversdale Kitchen Guild will host an orientation session on Saturday, October 18, 2008 starting at 10 am. This session will introduce new members to several cooking techniques and everyone will partake of their culinary efforts! Please contact the Riversdale House Museum at 301-864-0420/TTY 301-699-2544 or email Joyce.White@pgparks.com for more information and to reserve your place for this event. Please reserve space by Thursday, October 16, 2008.

Riversdale House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is owned by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Natural and Historical Resources Division. The Riversdale Historical Society, a volunteer organization, works with the division to preserve cultural heritage and maintain the mansion as a historic home.

If you have information to share with the community, please submit it to the Editor, Town Crier, 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, Maryland

20737 by the 15th of the month, or email:
RiverdaleParkMD@comcast.net.