



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

July/August 2016

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Town of Riverdale Park Contact Information

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
301-927-6381

Department of Public Works

5012 Queensbury Road
301-864-1803

Police Department

5004 Queensbury Road
301-927-4343

Bates Trucking and Trash Collection

Bulk Trash Collection
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
301-773-2069

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

Riverdale's Dog Park Opens This Summer

By Lora Katz

Are your dogs ready for a new place to run?

Riverdale's dog park is planned to open by the end of June. Our local dog park will be a place where both owners and their off-leash dogs can socialize. Make sure to read the rules posted at the park.

The park is located in the Northwest corner of Riverdale Community Recreation Center. This large park is bordered by the Anacostia River, River Road, Riverdale Road, and 51st Avenue.

The park is walking distance from many homes in our community. But, if you're driving, take advantage of ample parking in the lot off of Haig Drive. To get there, take either Route 1 (Baltimore Avenue) or Kenilworth Avenue to River Road. At the traffic circle, turn onto Haig Drive. Follow the road into the main park.

Take a nice stroll with your leashed dog through the center of the park, past the ball fields, turn right at 51st Avenue and to the right you'll see the large fenced area that is the dog park. There are two large, fenced areas: one for large and one for small dogs. The single gate to enter is on the 51st Avenue side. Also on this side, are two parking spaces designated for human park visitors needing handicapped access.

Once the park is open, set up a doggy play date with friends and meet new ones. Have a great time with your dog and help keep the park clean, both inside and out, by properly disposing of all trash from both humans and dogs.





Council Actions

June 6, 2016

Legislative Meeting

Consent Agenda

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

1. Block Party Request to close 46th Avenue between Oliver Street and Riverdale Road from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. on June 18, 2016 (Ward 1)
2. Minutes from May 2, 2016 Legislative Meeting
3. Minutes from May 16, 2016 Special Legislative Meeting
4. Minutes from May 21, 2016 Public Hearing regarding FY 17 Budget

Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-OR-01 regarding the FY 17 Budget – **Adopted with Amendments**
2. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-OR-02 clarifying the use of the term Town Administrator and Town Manager in the Town Personnel Policy – **Adopted**
3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2016-OR-03 clarifying the use of the term Town Administrator and Town Manager in the Code – **Adopted with Amendments**
4. Introduction of Ordinance 2016-OR-04 regarding Jey’s Auto – Repeal of Authorization for Acquisition by Eminent Domain – **Introduced**
5. Motion to adopt Resolution 2016-R-10 repealing Resolution 2013-R-15 – **Adopted**
6. Motion to award a grant to Ernie’s Lock for signage improvements (Ward 1) – **Approved**
7. Motion to approve a temporary business license and waiver from section 42-13(b)(1) of the Town Code for JASO, Inc. to operate a flea market at 5413 Riverdale Road on Saturdays and Sundays from June 11, 2016 to July 3, 2016 (Ward 4) – **Approved**
8. Motion to authorize the Town Administrator to send a letter to Board of Appeals regarding Variance Request for 6421 Taylor Road for variances of 2.5 feet side yard width and 3.7% net lot coverage and a waiver of the parking area location requirement (Ward 2) – **Approved with conditions**
9. Motion to adopt Resolution 2016-R-09 regarding permit parking extension to cover 6103 54th Avenue (Ward 2) – **Adopted**
10. Motion to approve Fence Permit Application for 5808 Harrison Avenue, 4 to 6-foot wooden backyard fence (Ward 1) – **Approved**

Town of Riverdale Park

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, MD 20737
301-927-6381, Hablamos Español
town@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Mayor Vernon Archer

240-832-2257
varcher@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 1- Marsha Dixon

301-531-4230
mdixon@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 2 - Alan Thompson

Chair, Finance Committee, 301-927-7407
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 3 - David Lingua

Chair, Public Safety, 301-779-3849
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 4 - Christopher Henry

Chair, Public Works, 301-910-9855
Chenry3240@verizon.net

Ward 5 - Colleen Richardson

240-646-6457
crichardson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Ward 6 - Alejandro Silva

Chair, Legislative Committee, 301-801-3021
asilva@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk

jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Public Works, 301-864-1803

Leonard Addison,

Director and Acting Town Manager

laddison@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Police Department, 301-927-4343

David Morris, Police Chief

dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Code Enforcement 240-898-2500

Colleen M. Ferguson, Code Manager

code@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

Brian Carpio, Fire Chief

Eng7twr@yahoo.com;
info@riverdalevfd.com;

www.riverdalevfd.com

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

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

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

The Town Crier is also available at the Town’s Website: www.riverdaleparkmd.info

Submission deadline: 15th of each month.

Submit all copies to
towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Town of Riverdale Park Fair Summary of Ordinance 2016-OR-04

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2016-OR-04.

Ordinance 2016-OR-04 would repeal authorization given by Ordinance 2013-OR-03 for the Town of Riverdale Park to acquire certain land and improvements commonly known as “Jey’s Auto” by eminent domain for a public purpose.

Ordinance 2016-OR-04 is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan Thompson
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Farewell and Thanks to Town Administrator Sara Imhulse

It is with sadness in my heart that I bid a fond farewell to our Town Administrator, Sara Imhulse, whose last day with the town was June 30. Sara started with us only six months after I was first elected, in 2009, and has been an energetic and devoted administrator since day one. While I could discuss dozens of projects she worked on, the one I’ll mention here is her tireless work during the Cafritz rezoning process, which was essential to the excellent outcome (and when I say “tireless” I’m being literal – there was one weekend where we were working on both the town’s budget and rezoning, and I suspect she worked almost 40 hours between 5pm on Friday and 9am Monday morning). In addition to her hard work, she has also been a pleasure to work with, almost always in a happy mood and smiling. I thank her for all she has done to make Riverdale Park a better place to live and wish her well in all of her future endeavors. I will miss her.

Town Manager Search

Now that the change to our form of government is finalized, we on the council have rolled up our sleeves and are working to find an excellent town manager. The Finance Committee met in very late May to discuss options for how to run the search, and made a recommendation to the full council that we hire an executive search firm to manage the search for us. (With Town Administrator Imhulse leaving us and our Public Works Director, Leonard Addison, acting as town manager, we will be short-staffed as it is). We have heard presentations from five search firms, and I expect us to choose one at the July 5 legislative meeting.

This will be the start of a three to four-month process, and we will need input from residents during the process about what *you* want to see in a town manager. While e-mail is definitely the best way to reach me (*akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov*), you can call me at 301-927-7407 as well – if you leave a message please mention what times of day I can call back, as I often work on town council items late at night.

Dog Park

Please read the article on the Dog Park written by Lora Katz elsewhere in the Town Crier. I'm looking forward to having this great amenity available for dogs and their owners in Riverdale Park and nearby communities!

Budget

The budget as introduced at the May legislative meeting (a lean budget that focuses on the essentials of town government) was adopted at the June 6 legislative meeting with only minor changes. Funding for the Youth and Community Wing expansion of Town Hall, was not in the proposed budget, and we are determining how best to eliminate the debt that the Town took on to fund the expansion.

M Square

We are continuing to negotiate with the University of Maryland regarding economic development in M Square. The University seems to be moving forward on the flex-space buildings I discussed last month, and is using the "Mandatory Referral" process that is available to state agencies that are building in areas controlled by local governments; I believe that we will be able to improve the design of the buildings during that process.

Farmers' Market

The Farmers' Market is in full swing for the summer! It is open every Thursday from 3pm to 7pm in Town Center (near the corner of Rhode Island Avenue and Riverdale Road). Items available this time of year (through the end of August!) include (but are not limited to) greens, radishes, carrots, scallions, white and sweet potatoes, lettuces, plants for your garden, mushrooms, free-range hen eggs, roasted coffee, tomatoes, green peppers, berries, bread, and salmon. I've given up hope on sugar snap peas. I hope to see you at the market!



Public Works Report

By Leonard Addison

Happy Independence Day

Please be safe traveling and safe with your fireworks!

Office Closing

In observance of the Independence Day holiday, Town offices will be closed on Monday, July 4th.

Saturday Drop Off

Scheduled dates in 2016 for drop off of bulk trash on the third Saturday of each month, from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., are: **July 16**, August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17.

Holiday Trash Collection

Because of the Independence Day Holiday on Monday, July 4th, there will be no trash collected. The next trash collection day will be Thursday, July 7th. Undoubtedly, trash collection on Thursday may be somewhat delayed because Bates will be collecting for two days, instead of one.

Riverside Neighborhood Park Soccer Field Renovation

Starting August 15, 2016, the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) will close Riverside Neighborhood Park in Riverdale Park for much needed repairs. The soccer field is projected to reopen August 12, 2017. As alternatives, the M-NCPPC is offering to overlay a smaller size soccer field where the softball field is now. In addition, the soccer/football field at Riverdale Recreation Park will be available for use. Reservations for that field can be made through the M-NCPPC's Sports Office. Please contact Teresa Robinson, Field Permitting Supervisor, at 301-446-6823, for reservations.

DPW Intern Program

The Town of Riverdale Park has sponsored a successful summer intern program for more than two years. High school students are able to apply for the program to get exposure and experience in the workforce that will be beneficial as they start their careers after graduation. Students are assigned to one of our three departments, Public Works, Town Hall, or the Police Department.

Some of the students assigned to Public Works are now graduating from high school. One of them, Joshua Anaya, praised the Town for allowing him to work in our Public Works department. The experience has enabled him to become a full-time employee at the Greenbelt Public Works Department. Another one, Kelvin Ramirez, is on his way to college. He also thanked the Town and the Department of Public Works for giving him the opportunity to hone the skills he will need to be successful in college and beyond.

Mosquito Control Program

The Town is once again participating in the State/County Mosquito Larviciding/Adulticiding Mosquito Control Program.

Adulticiding began May 31, 2016, and will run through September 21, 2016. Spraying will be contingent upon the results of their standardized surveillance methods. If the area tested needs to be sprayed, spraying will take place on Tuesday nights. They will not spray if the sprayer encounters too many people on the night of spraying.

In order to reduce the presence of mosquitos, residents must keep their property free of mosquito breeding containers, stagnant water, bird baths, wading pools, pet watering dishes, tin cans, old tires, clogged gutters or flower pots. Other water holding containers should be stored upside down.

Complaints about mosquitos can be faxed to the Maryland Department of Agriculture at 301-422-0502 or call 301-422-5080 with questions or concerns.

Guide to Public Works

An updated Guide to Public Works is now available for distribution. It is included as part of a packet of public works services and Town resources that all residents will find helpful as they seek information on how to acquire services in/outside of our community. New residents will find the packets useful for services such as trash/toters, recycling, bulk trash pickup and drop off, yard waste, names of their council members and mayor, and more. In addition, residents can sign up to get the same information sent to them via email by calling the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803.

Yard Waste Collection

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

Trash Toter Repair/Replacement

Residents should call the Department of Public Works for the repair or replacement of damaged trash toters, i.e., broken lids, missing wheels, cracked toters, etc. When repairs or replacements are needed, they will occur on Thursday of each week.

Riverdale Park Business Association

By Audrey Bragg

The Riverdale Park Business Association hosted the two Ward 1 candidates, Marsha Dixon and Dan Behrend, at our June 8, 2016 meeting. The membership had questions about economic development and business

relationships with the town. Both candidates were interested in our concerns and helpful with their ideas. Our town is fortunate to have these two very capable and knowledgeable people running for office. We appreciate their time and attention.

Our President, Ted Spiropolous updated us on the 7-11 project and Jey's Auto. There will be a hearing in Upper Marlboro regarding the 7-11 and Ted will attend. The RPBA takes no position on the 7-11. The town will repeal eminent domain on Jey's Auto and Jey has some plans for the property, Bruce Wernek has plans to meet with the Mayor regarding Jey's.

East Beale Circle Clean up – We were informed that the flagpoles were not useable and would therefore be removed. The dead trees will also be removed. There is to be work done regarding a sewer line. The RPBA will still plan to have a clean-up day, but we will not plant any flowers until the sewer work is complete.

Artwork will be installed at the JD Williams Building on the corner of Route 1 and East West Highway. It will be "3 Blue Heron".

The association donated to End Times Harvest Ministries on their anniversary ETHM is a program that helps young people grow up to be productive adults.

We are planning our Annual Dinner and Silent Auction for Oct. 12th this year.

Here are some great offers from our local Business Members:

Shine Massage and Wellness Center

20% off a massage if you mention this article.
Call 240-487-9427

Robert Harper Books

Sunday July 10, 2016 at 2 p.m. A Colloquy: Duets of Poetry and Music. Call 301-927-1963 for information on other events and children's story time.

Town Center Market

10% off any growler fill when you mention this article.

Ernie's Lock

5% off storewide if you can show you are a resident of Riverdale Park.

Riverdale Park Animal Hospital

15% off wellness blood work and Dental cleaning. For new clients who live in Riverdale Park \$30 off office visit. Call 301-277-5408 for appointment.

Thank you for supporting our local businesses.

Boy Scouts Troop 252

By Robert Killen

Another month has flown by, and Troop 252 has been flying along, too. Guillian Cañete is planning his Eagle Scout project! Five Merit Badges and the project, and our Eagle's nest will have another Eagle Scout! June 4 was a long day! We started with the meeting Friday night, June 3 (Michael Aquilino's notes are below), and the cleanup after the meeting. Saturday morning from 9-noon Scoutmaster Killen was the Skating Merit Badge Counselor for eight Boy Scouts from Troop 1657, and we held the tests in the parking lot of the First Baptist Church of Glen Arden. After some knees with road rash, and some wounded pride, six of the Scouts completed all of the requirements. We were all thrilled.

That afternoon, S/M Killen drove to Pig Point, where he participated in an Archaeological Dig. Native Americans occupied this area of the Patuxent as early as 8,500 B.C, according to evidence discovered in the Jug Bay area. An archaeological dig at Pig Point, located just a mile from the Sanctuary, uncovered the oldest know artifacts in the Mid-Atlantic states. Ax heads, pottery shards, projectile points, ornamental collars, and remnants of longhouses, fires, and foodways tell the story of Native American communities of long ago. In fact, the wealth of artifacts found along the Patuxent River suggests that early Native American groups found the area a very fertile place. For further information, visit

<http://www.capitalgazette.com/news/environment/ph-ac-cn-point-dig-0605-20160605-story.html>. History unmasked: More evidence of Native American life at Jug Bay.

After the dig, Killen participated in the feast. Our Scribe, Michael Aquilino has already earned the Archaeology Merit Badge, and had previous engagement, as did our C/C and CoR Eneida Martínez-Brown, or they would have brought other Scouts from Troop 252 to join in the dig.

After the feast, he joined his other Boy Scout Troop 602, from Baltimore Area Council for their evening activities. This was truly a long day.

Meeting Notes: Hello everyone. To start off, the following people attended the recent meeting- Mr. Killen, Ms. Brown, Ms. Rosalina, Mr. Aquilino, Anthony and Lizandro Juarez, Bladimir Martínez, Guillian Canête, Joseph Elliott, and myself, Michael Aquilino.

Anthony, Lizandro and Bladimir worked on their personal fitness, memorizing the Outdoor Code and joining requirements. Guillian was reinstated as Senior Patrol Leader under the condition that he will attend all the meetings until his vacation date. Joseph is back to Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and as for myself, I'm back to being the Scribe.

Recently, I had my Scoutmaster's Conferences for Second and First Class Scout, and hoping to have my Boards of Review done soon, if the counselors are present. We are also planning to have a court of honor in November- still waiting on the Senior Patrol Leaders to make a decision.

We still plan to attend the Chincoteague Pony Penning on July 27 and the Howard County Powwow the weekend of July 22-24. We also plan to bicycle down the entire 184 miles of the C&O Canal Towpath this August after the Cañete family returns from the Philippines and the Aquilino family returns from Mexico.

In case you can't stand not having the fun we have, and if you must contact us to join, our email addresses and phone numbers follow:

Sandra Tolson saanee@yahoo.com 301-927-2275; Eneida Martínez-Browne.martinezbrown@gmail.com 301-864-0059; Bob Killen rfkille@yahoo.com 301-483-8455. We meet Friday evenings at the Town Hall.

Storm Storage Preparation

The beginning of hurricane season is just a few days away. Living in the Mid-Atlantic region, we know that we are susceptible to these major weather events that can be devastating to our communities.

AccuWeather predicts that at least three named storms will make landfall in the United States during the 2016 Hurricane Season.

We know all too well that hurricanes have the potential to disrupt lives with power outages and cause damage to buildings and homes from downed trees or flooding. To help everyone get ready for these major storms, we want to share how we are preparing.

Our efforts include implementing a planned, strategic response to restoring service as quickly and safely as possible. This includes:

- Prioritizing the safety of our employees and the public above all else;
- Providing customers with information on how to prepare for storms and potential power outages;
- Planning for additional personnel and resources, as needed, to restore service after a major storm; and
- Working with local government, public safety personnel and first responders through our Emergency Services Partnership Program to respond quickly, safely and effectively to emergencies.

Between 2014 and 2015, Pepco made more than \$855 million in improvements to the electric distribution system, including upgrading

substation equipment and installing automated switching technology on feeders which helps us isolate outages and restore power to customers more quickly if it does go out. Since 2010, we have replaced hundreds of miles of power lines with sturdier, more resilient wire and trimmed trees along nearly 9,900 of miles of power lines in the Pepco Region.

Our employees prepare for the possibility of storm-related power outages by regularly participating in emergency drills. We maintain a supply of essential equipment, such as poles, wires and transformers. And we communicate and coordinate with other utilities so that we have the ability to quickly request their assistance if needed.

We also provide a "Storm Preparation Handbook" to new customers, and make it available online at pepco.com/storm. You can call Customer Care at 202-833-7500 to request a copy via mail.

Help us spread the word about emergency preparedness to your constituents, our customers.

Below are a few helpful links so we can all be ready to weather the storm.

- Pepco Storm Preparation Handbook: www.pepco.com/storm
- Report an outage online: www.pepco.com/reportoutage
- Track the restoration process with our Outage Map: www.pepco.com/outagemap
- Download the Pepco Mobile App: www.pepco.com/mobileapp



MOSQUITO AND ZIKA PREVENTION

The Zika virus is spread primarily through the bite of certain species of infected Aedes mosquitoes. The best way to avoid the Zika virus is to prevent mosquito bites. And the best way to avoid bites is to eliminate areas where these mosquitoes lay their eggs. These areas are called "breeding sites." Follow these tips to help prevent mosquitos around your home and neighborhood.

- ▶ Eliminate standing water in and around your home to reduce mosquito populations;
- ▶ Use an insect repellent with an active ingredient such as oil of lemon eucalyptus to prevent mosquito bites;
- ▶ Use screens on the exterior of your home to keep mosquitoes outside; and
- ▶ Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants.

Source:
cdc.gov/vitalsigns/zika/index.html
mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/Zika.aspx

Local Organizations

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Town of Riverdale Park | August 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 <i>Trash Collection</i>	2 National Night Out 6p-8p, RPPD	3 MUTC, 7:30p, TH <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>	4 Farmer's Market, 3p-7p, Town Center <i>Trash Collection</i>	5 Riversdale Mansion Tours, 12p-3p Boy Scouts, 7p-9p, TH	6
7 Riversdale Mansion Tours, 12p-3p Doll Club, TH, 3p-6p	8 <i>Trash Collection</i>	9	10 RBA, 5:30p, TH <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>	11 Farmer's Market, 3p-7p, Town Center <i>Trash Collection</i>	12 Riversdale Mansion Tours, 12p-3p Boy Scouts, 7p-9p, TH	13 Madison Hill HOA, 10:30a, TH
14 Riversdale Mansion Tours, 12p-3p Doll Club, TH, 3p-6p	15 <i>Trash Collection</i>	16	17 <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>	18 Farmer's Market, 3p-7p, Town Center <i>Trash Collection</i>	19 Riversdale Mansion Tours, 12p-3p Boy Scouts, 7p-9p, TH	20
21 Riversdale Mansion Tours, 12p-3p Doll Club, TH, 3p-6p	22 <i>Trash Collection</i>	23	24 Lion's Club, 7p, TH <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>	25 Farmer's Market, 3p-7p, Town Center <i>Trash Collection</i>	26 Riversdale Mansion Tours, 12p-3p Boy Scouts, 7p-9p, TH	27
28 Riversdale Mansion Tours, 12p-3p Doll Club, TH, 3p-6p	29 Work Session, 8p, TH <i>Trash Collection</i>	30	31 <i>Yard Waste Collection</i>			

Riverdale Park National Night-Out
Riverdale Park Police Department
5004 Queensbury Road

Tuesday, August 2, 2016
6 pm-8pm