



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

February 2014

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Town of Riverdale Park Contact Information

Town Hall 5008 Queensbury Rd
301-927-6381

Services: park permits, personal property taxes, finances

Department of Public Works 5012
Queensbury Rd 301-864-1803

Services: litter pickup, tree maintenance, leaf collection, street maintenance, snow & ice removal, landscaping, parks & playgrounds used motor oil, street lights (on black metal poles only), metal collection, sign posting

Police Department 5004
Queensbury Rd 301-927-4343

Services: traffic violations, payment of tickets received, records management, fingerprinting, background checks, report criminal activity.

Bulk Trash Collection 301-773-2069

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
Bates Trucking and Trash Collections

Residents must call by 2pm Tuesday for Wednesday pickup

Black History Month Highlight: The Plummer Family

Through Rosalie Stier Calvert's letters, Riversdale has a story, but it also enjoys another story: that of Adam Francis Plummer, an enslaved servant born at George Calvert's Mount Albion in 1819 and brought to Riversdale at the age of 10. An industrious and patient man described as "skilled in planting," Adam served George Calvert and had a close relationship with his second son, Charles Benedict Calvert.

Taught to read by an itinerant minister, Adam began keeping a journal when he married Emily Saunders from nearby Three Sisters Plantation in Lanham on May 31, 1841. They had nine children.

Over time, Emily was sold and moved from Three Sisters to Meridian Hill in Washington, D.C., and then to Ellicott Mills in Maryland. Adam traveled whenever possible to see his family and do what he could as a husband and father.

After emancipation in 1863, Adam remained at Riversdale as a paid foreman. He bought 10 acres of land in present-day Edmonston, named it Mount Rose, and built a log house for his family. They moved there in 1870.

Emily Saunders Plummer died in 1876, and Adam died in 1905. Adam's journal was located in 2003 and donated to the Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum.

Source: <http://www.riversdale.org/plummerfamily.html>

What's Open on President's Day?

Town Services

- Municipal offices in Riverdale Park and University Park will both be closed.
- There will be no yard waste collection in University Park.
- However, there will be normal trash collection in Riverdale Park.

County Services

- Prince George's County Public Schools and Government Offices will be closed.
- The Brown Station Road Sanitary Landfill and all Waste Management services and facilities—including recycling, yard waste, bulky trash and refuse collection—will operate on a regular schedule.

Transportation

- Metrorail will run from 5 a.m. to midnight *on a Saturday schedule*.
- Metrobus will operate on a *Saturday supplemental schedule* with some post-midnight trips cancelled on select routes.
- Metroaccess will operate on normal hours. However, subscription trips will be cancelled unless specifically requested.
- Prince George's County's *The Bus* will provide normal service on all routes, excluding routes 51/51 extended and 52. Call-a-bus, including senior transportation services, will not be operational on Monday.
- Marc trains will not be running.

Source: <http://riverdalepark.patch.com/groups/politics-and-elections/p/what-s-closed-on-presidents-day-97af7852>

Council Actions

Special Legislative Meeting
November 25, 2013

By Waverly Pollitt

Legislative Action Item

1. Motion to waive bid requirements and authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract for General Government staffing - Approved

Legislative Meeting
December 2, 2013

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items- Approved

1. Minutes from the November 4, 2013 Legislative Meeting
2. Minutes from the November 25, 2013 Special Legislative Meeting

Legislative Action Items

1. Motion to introduce Ordinance 2013-OR-09 to authorize TIF bonds for bridge- Introduced
2. Motion to introduce Ordinance 2013-OR-10 regarding temporary parking permits- Introduced

January 6, 2014
Legislative Meeting

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve consent agenda items - Approved

1. Minutes from the December 2, 2013 Legislative Meeting

Legislative Action Items

1. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-OR-09 to authorize TIF bonds for bridge - Adopted
2. Motion to allow a summary of Ordinance 2013-OR-09 to be published in the Town Crier rather than the full ordinance- Approved
3. Motion to adopt Ordinance 2013-OR-10 regarding temporary parking permits - Not Adopted
4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2013-R-26 regarding support of the Prince George's County Municipal Collaboration FY 2014 MEA EmPOWER LMI Communities Grant Application and DHCD Sustainable Communities-Community Legacy Grant Application - Adopted
5. Motion to introduce Ordinance 2014-OR-01 regarding chain link fences - Introduced

During the legislative session on January 6, 2014, the Town Council adopted Ordinance 2013-OR-09, an ordinance regarding tax increment financing bonds for the Calvert Tract Project. Our normal practice is to provide a fair summary of the ordinance in the Town Crier after the legislation is introduced, but since there was no January issue, we advertised the fair summary in a newspaper of general circulation.

Town of Riverdale Park

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road
Riverdale Park, MD 20737
301-927-6381, Hablamos Español
town@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Mayor Vernon Archer, 240-832-2257
varcher@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Council Members

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

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

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

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

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

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

Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk
jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Public Works, 301-864-1803

Leonard Addison, Director
Code Enforcement 240-898-2500
Colleen M. Ferguson, Code Manager
code@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Police Department, 301-927-4343
David Morris, Police Chief
dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov

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

Brian Carpio, Fire Chief
info@riverdalevfd.com, www.riverdalevfd.com
or, Eng7twr@yahoo.com @ gmail.com

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

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

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

The Town Crier is also available at the Town's Website: www.riverdaleparkmd.info
Submission deadline: 15th of each month.
Submit all copies to
towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
FAIR SUMMARY OF
ORDINANCE 2013-OR-09
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING BONDS
FOR CALVERT TRACT PROJECT**

On December 2, 2013, Ordinance 2013-OR-09 (the "Ordinance") was introduced before the Riverdale Park Town Council. The title of the Ordinance is as follows:

An Ordinance concerning authorization of revenue bonds, notes or other similar instruments to be issued to finance costs of infrastructure improvements for the Calvert Tract Project; for the purpose of making certain legislative findings and determinations, among others, concerning the public benefit of the matters contemplated by this Ordinance; authorizing and empowering Town of Riverdale Park (the "Town") to issue, sell and deliver pursuant to the Tax Increment Financing Act identified herein (the "Act") its revenue bonds, notes or other similar instruments in one or more series from time to time (the "Bonds") in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000.00) and bearing interest at (i) a fixed rate or rates not to exceed eight percent (8.0%) per annum or (ii) a variable rate or rates not to exceed seven percent (7.0%) per annum initially and twelve percent (12.0%) per annum at any such time as the applicable variable rate is reset, in order to finance the cost of certain infrastructure improvements in or relating to the Calvert Tract Development District identified herein and other costs or reserves permitted under the Act; providing that the Bonds and the interest thereon shall never constitute a general obligation debt of or a pledge of the Town's full faith and credit or taxing powers; providing for the further specification, prescription, determination, provision for or approval by the chief executive of the Town (within the meaning of the Act) by executive order of various other matters, details, documents and procedures in connection with the authorization, issuance, security, sale and payment for any such Bonds; providing for certain certifications, representations, designations, elections and determinations with respect to any Bonds issued with the expectation that interest thereon shall be excludable from gross income for federal income tax purposes; providing that the provisions of this Ordinance shall be liberally construed; providing for a sunset date with respect to this Ordinance; providing that the title of this Ordinance constitutes a fair summary hereof but that the Town may publish a fair summary of this Ordinance in any format that meets Charter requirements; and generally providing for the issuance of the Bonds in accordance with the Act.

In accordance with the Charter, a fair summary of the Ordinance was published in *The Enquirer-Gazette*, a newspaper of general circulation in the Town, on December 5, 2013. The Ordinance was passed as amended at a meeting of the Riverdale Park Town Council on January 6, 2014. Pursuant to Section 12-204(f) of the Act identified above, the Ordinance is not subject to petition to referendum in accordance with Section 211 of the Charter.

The Ordinance is available for inspection by the public at Town Hall, 5008 Queensbury Road, during normal business hours, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK
FAIR SUMMARY OF
ORDINANCE 2014-OR-01**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Ordinance 2014-OR-01.

Ordinance 2014-OR-01 would prohibit the use of chain link fencing materials on side yard and rear yard fences in the Town of Riverdale Park; and generally relate to regulating the construction of fences in the Town.

Ordinance 2014-OR-01 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 Lt. Col. Patrick Timmons

During the Holiday Season, members of the RPPD , participated in many charitable activities. Personnel participated in Toys for Tots, Santa with a Badge, “Wreaths Across America” and food basket deliveries. We also had personnel on hand for the Festival of Lights and the Holiday Market.

The Holidays are very busy for all of us at the RPPD, but we always look forward to assisting those in need. RPPD personnel are pictured below taking part in various Holiday activities.



Riversdale Events

BLACK HISTORY MONTH AT RIVERSDALE: THE PLUMMERS' KITCHEN

In February, Riversdale House Museum explores how enslaved workers, including Riversdale’s Plummer family, would have eaten. Join the Riversdale Kitchen Guild for their monthly Seasonal Selections program on **Sunday, February 23, 2013, from noon to 3:30 pm** in the dependency kitchen at Riversdale House Museum. Watch as they recreate early-to-mid 19th century traditional African-American foods. Participants will be able to view these dishes being made on the open hearth by costumed interpreters using period cookware. Seasonality of garden produce will also be discussed in reference to Plummer’s profit-generating produce sales.

Riversdale, completed in 1807, was home to Rosalie and George Calvert, descendant of the fifth Lord Baltimore. The Calverts owned several slaves, including Adam Plummer. Plummer arrived at Riversdale as a child. Upon George’s death, ownership of the estate and slaves passed to his son, Charles Benedict. His new master allowed Plummer to keep the profits from produce he grew on a part of the estate. Eventually, Plummer married an enslaved woman, Emily Saunders, from Three Sisters Plantation in Lanham, MD. Plummer continued to live at Riversdale apart from his wife.

However, after Maryland abolished slavery, Adam Plummer, reunited with his wife and family, remained at Riversdale as a paid overseer.

Regular admission fees apply and include a tour of the house. \$3/adults, \$2/seniors, \$1/students 5-18, FREE ages 4 & under. No reservations necessary.

For more information or to register, call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544; email Riversdale@pgparks.com; or visit our website: history.pgparks.com.

Riversdale House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road, in Riverdale Park, Maryland. This facility is owned and operated by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George’s County

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan Thompson
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Finance Committee Report

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. I took a week off from work, and I am feeling refreshed in the New Year (although I'm missing the holiday lights, as I usually do in late January). I want to thank everyone who helped with holiday activities in town – residents and town staff contributed a lot of time and energy to make the holidays festive.

Roundabout—The design of the roundabout planned for the intersection where the bridge from the Cafritz project will land (north of the Field of Dreams) has dominated my time over the last few months. The design requires approval by the Town, Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation, and the University of Maryland. In spite of my statement in December's Town Crier that the roundabout was looking to be "larger than ideal," it's now looking like we might end up with a modest reduction in size from the designs we had at that time. We are still negotiating as I write this – stay tuned!

Dog Park—The Dog Park agreement is in legal review with Parks & Planning lawyers. I'll bring it before the Town Council as soon as both their and our lawyers are happy with it. We reached agreement about what Parks & Planning will do, and how we will negotiate the rules of the park. I think the agreement has a good mix of structure and flexibility – now it needs to be verified as an enforceable legal agreement. I want to thank Eileen Nivera of MNCPPC for working with me to work out an agreement both the Town and MNCPPC can be happy with.

Finance Committee—The Finance Committee has not met in the last two months, but I am pleased to report that the Town staff has implemented a system to electronically distribute material to the Town Council for meetings. This allows the Council extra time to review the material, and also allows us to search the documents for key phrases. I know that Town Administrator Imhulse and Town Clerk Jessica Barnes worked hard to bring this project to completion, and did

so during a staffing shortage, and thank them for their dedication.

I anticipate that the Finance Committee will meet in February to review the status of the budget, which looks good on the whole at this time.

Have a happy February, and remember to park on the even side of the street during snow emergencies (or off the street if you can manage it). It really helps our Public Works department clear the streets faster and keep them clear.

Boy Scouts Troop 252

By Robert Killen

On December 21, our Scouts "METROed" to the National Museum of the American Indian and gathered material for their Indian Lore Merit Badge.

We have made plans for our Court of Honor on January 31 - we've invited Mayor Archer and the Town Council to attend. At the Court of Honor, Joseph, our Scribe will be receiving Second Class Scout rank (he needs to pass swimming for First Class Scout); he has also earned the Space Exploration, Cooking and Indian Lore Merit Badges.

Samir, our Senior Patrol Leader, will be receiving Star Scout rank, and has earned Personal Fitness, Personal Management, Citizenship in the World, Citizenship in the Nation, American Cultures, Reading, First Aid and American Heritage (he's been busy, because 18 is sneaking up on him, and he wants to earn the highly-coveted, and seldom achieved, Eagle Scout rank before he turns 18, and his window of opportunity slams shut).

Guillian, our Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, will be receiving First Class Scout rank, and has earned the Indian Lore and Citizenship in the Nation Merit Badges.

Michael, one of our newest Scouts, will be receiving Scout rank, and has already earned the Indian Lore Merit Badge.

Ben, another of our newest Scouts, is still working on the Scout rank, and will receive it soon.

The weekend of January 24-26, some of us (Arrowmen, in the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor camping group) are attending the Eswau Huppeday

Carolina Indian Seminar, at Mitchell Community College, in Statesville, North Carolina.

We'll be attending Scout Sunday on February 9, ushering, handing out programs, and assisting in the clean-up efforts afterward.

And, of course, we'll be attending the Religious Retreat, moved this year from Upper Marlboro to College Park, as well as bicycling the Baltimore-Annapolis Rails-to-Trails trail again from Annapolis to BWI Marshall Airport and back, with the most delicious pizza (after riding 23 miles on a bicycle) in the world, as a reward. This is part of the Cycling Merit Badge, after which we only have to do a 50-miler in 8 hours to complete it. We're missing out on the Klondike Derby, which is the same weekend as Esau Huppeday.

We can't forget our fishing, hiking and survival weekends coming up. We haven't nailed the exact dates yet, but we're working on it.

Some of our Scouters will be attending the University of Scouting, geared to make us better Scouters.

Oh, yes, I almost forgot - We donated over 106 packages of non-perishable food to the BSA Scouting for Food campaign.

And now the commercial - It's a shame that we're having so much fun, and our young men are learning to be better and better, and they are still having so much fun - you're missing out! Please contact Eneida Martinez-Brown (240-687-4621), Sandra Tolson (301-927-2275) Keandra Bell-Landra (240-770-7965) or Bob Killen for more information.

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, are as follows:

February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18 and June 15.

IMPORTANT YARD WASTE COLLECTION – Effective January 1, 2014, The Waste Management Division of the Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources (DER), 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.

Holiday Trash Collection –

- Regular trash **WILL BE** collected Monday, February 17, 2014, in recognition of President's Day.
- **Holiday Closing** – The Department of Public Works will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2014, in recognition of President's Day.

Snow Emergency Conditions – Snow emergency conditions shall be considered in effect within the Town of Riverdale Park whenever a snow emergency is declared in effect in Prince George's County by the Prince George's County Executive, the Maryland State Highway Administration or the Maryland State Police.

Laws that apply:

- During any period in which a snow emergency condition exists and a snow emergency is in effect, it shall be unlawful to park any vehicle on any part of any street designated as a snow emergency street, provided that signs have been erected on that street giving notice that such street is a designated snow emergency street.
- During any period in which a snow emergency condition is in effect, it shall be unlawful to park any vehicle on the odd-numbered side of any public street in the Town of Riverdale Park regardless of whether such street has been designated a snow emergency street. Streets with parking restricted on one side are exempt from this section.
- Any vehicle parked in violation of the snow emergency provisions of the section may be removed and impounded by or under the direction of any duly-authorized police officer. The owner of said vehicle, in addition to any towing or impound fee, shall be liable for a fine of \$250.

Snow and Ice Removal

As we enter into the snow season, please note that Public Works crews will be plowing and salting Town streets and parking lots to clear snow and ice. As in the past, we will treat our streets in the following method:

Primary Streets - i.e., Riverdale Road Taylor Road Lafayette Avenue, Queensbury Road, etc.

Secondary Streets – i.e., DuPont Circle, Cleveland Avenue, Rhode Island Avenue, Quesada Road, Beale, 49th and 48th Avenues., Silk Tree Drive, etc.

Residential Streets – i.e., Oliver St., Madison St., Rittenhouse St., 47th Ave., Somerset Rd., Sora Ln., etc.

Please note: our major roadways, (Rt. 201, Rt. 1, Rt. 410, and Good Luck Road), will be treated by the State and County.

Residents of our Town should note that they will be responsible for doing their part by keeping the walkway in front of their property cleaned of snow and ice after each event.

What Residents Can Do?

- Whenever possible, move parked cars off the street so that snowplows can remove the snow from the street from curb to curb.
- If off-street parking is not available, **park on the even side of the street** (*violators will be subject to having their vehicles impounded and fined \$250 – 64-10(b)(c)*).
- Be patient during any snow emergency as crews work around the clock to clear the streets.
- Clear sidewalks in front of residence and refrain from depositing snow back on to the roadway (this can potentially cause an accident).



Leaf Collection - The deadline for fall leaf collection service was **January 15, 2014**. Therefore, curbside leaf vacuum services are no longer in effect. Bates Trucking Company will continue to collect LEAVES weekly on Wednesdays in accordance with the new yard waste collection conditions as described above. Please do not include tree branches, wood or other debris in the bags.

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.**

Community Circles

Local Organizations

Lion's Club Meeting: Every Fourth Wednesday.

Contact President Patrick J. Prangley at (240) 882-4993.

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

Riverdale Park Boys Scouts Troop 252:

Contact: Scoutmaster Bob Killen at (301) 483-8455.

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

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

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

Riverdale Boys & Girls Club: E-mail riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com (301) 277-KIDS.

Riverdale Park Business Association: Contact Bruce Wernek at 240-684-0795 for meeting site.

Riverdale Park Arts Council: Contact Jeffrey Yorke at (301) 502-1243 or yorkedial@gmail.com

The Historical Association of Riverdale Park (HARP): Website: www.riverdaleparkhistory.org E-mail: harp@riverdaleparkhistory.org