



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

October 2010

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Riverdale Park Day 2010

Celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Town of Riverdale Park and have some fun with your neighbors! For kids we will have a moon bounce, pony rides, face painting, piñatas, games, crafts, and a clown, and for the adults we will have good music and great food. Bring a blanket or a lawn chair and join us for the day!

WHERE: Riverside Neighborhood Park, 5801 Riverside Drive.

WHEN: Saturday, October 2nd from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

PARKING: Ample parking available at Riverdale Elementary School, which is a short walk from the park. Limited parking may also be available on Taylor Road.

TRASH COLLECTION

Regular Trash Collection Days

Monday and Thursday

Bulk Trash Collection

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Please call Bates Trucking and Trash Collections at (301) 773-2069

(residents have up to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday to call Bates for Wednesday pickup)

Recycling

Wednesday

Please call Prince George's County Recycling with questions.

(301) 952-7630

Yard Waste

Wednesday collected by Bates Trucking and

Trash Collections

Saturday drop-off

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Metal Pickup (town wide)

Every Thursday by the Department of Public Works

Dia de Riverdale Park 2010

Celebra el 90^{ta} aniversario de la Ciudad de Riverdale Park disfrutando con tu comunidad y amigos! Para los niños tendremos un juego de rebotar (moon bounce), paseos en un poni, pinturas decorativas en la cara, piñatas, juegos, artes, y un payaso, y para los adultos tendremos buena música y buena comida. Trae una cobija y una silla de jardín y únete con nosotros para el día!

DONDE: Riverside Neighborhood Park, 5801 Riverside Drive.

CUANDO: Sábado 2 de Octubre de las 12:00 p.m. a las 5:00 p.m.

PARQUEO: Amplio Parqueo en la Escuela Elementaría de Riverdale, que está a una corta caminata hacia el parque. Parqueo limitado también estará disponible en la calle Taylor.

Council Actions

September 7, 2010
Regular Legislative Meeting

By Waverly Pollitt

- 1) **Approved** - Minutes for regular legislative meeting on July 6, 2010
- 2) **Support**- Preliminary plan of subdivision, #4-09043, Riverdale Park Project (47th Avenue) Hammer Head (T) driveway option.
- 3) **Approved**- Motion to support grant application for CDBG PY37 to fund Kenilworth Avenue Façade, Lighting, and Site Improvements.
- 4) **Removed**- Building application for a 6ft fence to be installed at 4811 Tuckerman Street.
- 5) **Approved**- Street closure of the 6200 block of 43rd Street between East-West Highway and Queensbury Road on Saturday, September 11, 2010, from 11:00am-6:00pm to hold the fourteenth annual block party.

Future Public Hearing -- October 25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall—to discuss possible sale of property at 6401 51st Avenue.



Riverdale Park Police Department:

Child Safety Seat Checks Now Available

By Lani Lindsey

Child safety seats and safety belts, when installed and used properly, can prevent injuries and save lives. Each year, an estimated 975 child occupants under 14 years of age die as a result of a motor vehicle incident. Young children restrained in child safety seats have an 80 percent lower risk of fatal injury than those who are unrestrained. For more information on child passenger safety, visit the website www.safekids.org.



Recently three employees of the Riverdale Park Police Department, PFC Clay Alford, PFC Walter Bustamante, and Communications Manager Lani Lindsey, were certified as Child Passenger Safety Technicians. These employees will now be available by appointment only to check and assist parents and caregivers with the installation of child safety seats in vehicles. Please contact the following for an appointment: PFC Alford (for English speaking) at email calford@riverdaleparkmd.gov or PFC Bustamante (for Spanish speaking) at email wbustamante@riverdaleparkmd.gov or contact the Riverdale Park Police Department at 301-927-4343 to leave a message for an appointment.

Town of Riverdale Park

www.riverdaleparkmd.gov

Town Hall

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

Council Members

Ward 1—Alice C. Ewen,
Chair, Econ Development, 301-379-5303
aewen@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 - Keelah Allen-Smith
Chair, Legislative Committee, 240-751-6688
kallensmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Sara Imhulse, **Town Administrator**
simhulse@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Public Works, 301-864-1803

Leonard Addison, **Director**
Code Enforcement 240-898-2500
Colleen M. Ferguson, **Code Manager**

code@riverdaleparkmd.gov
Police Department, 301-927-4343
Teresa Chambers **Chief of Police**
tchambers@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

Charles Ryan, **Chief in-**
fo@riverdalevfd.com, www.riverdalevfd.com
om or, Riverdalefire-
chief7@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

Riversdale Events

HANDS-ON HISTORY: THE GARDENER'S APPRENTICE

Prepare to step back in time! Spend the school holiday, Friday, October 15, at Riversdale House Museum. The program runs from 10 am - 3 pm and is open to children ages 8 - 12. In the early 19th century, young people learned crafts and trades through apprenticeship. Riversdale continues its series of hands-on apprenticeship programs with the trade of the gardener. Participants will spend the day doing activities and crafts in and about the Riversdale gardens. The fee is \$15 for residents of Prince George's and Montgomery Counties and \$18 for non-residents. Capacity is limited. Advanced registration and payment are required by Friday, October 8.

SEASONAL SELECTIONS: APPLES, PUMPKINS, AND AUTUMN COOKING AT RIVERDALE

As fall settles into October, the smells of spiced apples and roasting pumpkin seeds are sure to bring back memories. Caramel apples and carved jack-o-lanterns abound during the countless harvest festivals, hayrides, and Halloween celebrations this month. The Riversdale Kitchen Guild salutes the apple and the pumpkin, staples of autumn cooking as popular now as they were 200 years ago, with two Seasonal Selections programs.

- Sunday, October 17: The Sweet and Savory Apple
- Sunday, October 31: Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater

The Seasonal Selections program, instituted in the fall of 2009, will continue to offer special monthly cooking events with a different topic each month. Holidays, the schedule of seasonal fresh produce, and/or the traditional cycles of an early 19th century farm will inspire each month's Seasonal Selection. These foodways programs are sponsored in part by Giant Food. Viewing the demonstration is FREE! You are also invited to tour Riversdale House Museum. Admission is \$3 adults/\$2 seniors/\$1 students and FREE children 4 & under.

FULL HARVEST MOON WALK AT RIVERDALE

Discover a different view of the Riversdale property by meandering through little-known, hidden, and favorite staff spots on the grounds. Exploring the property of the former plantation, you'll get a little history, a little archaeology, a bit of agriculture and nature all rolled into one pleasant, lantern-lit walk led by museum staff. Warm and relax afterwards by the fire and enjoy music and refreshment in the restored kitchen. Participants must dress for the weather and wear sturdy shoes; although it is an easy walk, there will be some uneven ground and elevation changes. There will be two tours on Friday, October 22 at 7:30 pm and 8:30 pm. Rain date Saturday, October 23. Cost is \$5 and the event is open to visitors 12 years and older. Reservations must be made by October 20 for the timed departure.

Riversdale House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road in Riverdale Park, Maryland. For more information or reservations, call 301-864-0420 TTY 301-699-2544. Visit our website at www.pgparcs.com or email Riversdale@pgparcs.com.

Administration Report

By Sara Imhulse

Did you know that Riverdale Park has a sister city in Guatemala? Ipala, Chiquimula, Guatemala and the Town of Riverdale Park have had a professional friendship for many years. In fact, there are many residents of Riverdale Park who are originally from Ipala!

Both Riverdale Park and Ipala are part of an organization called Sister Cities International, whose mission is "to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation - one individual, one community at a time." Created in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the goal of this organization is to develop municipal partnerships between U.S. cities, counties, and states and similar jurisdictions in other nations.

This summer several teachers in the Prince George's County School District traveled to Ipala to help teach English, and in October we are hosting several teachers from Ipala to participate with area schools. We are extremely excited about this opportunity! Town Council will host a reception to welcome the teachers on Monday, October 4th at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall. All are welcome to attend, so please join us!

Mayor's Report

By Vernon Archer

Safe, Clean and Beautiful, but First SAFE

For years now you have heard me say in a variety of different contexts that the business of town government is to make our town safe, clean and beautiful. While this is, like all slogans, a bit simplified, it is useful to keep all of us in town government focused on our jobs and a reminder that all of our jobs are connected and require cooperation. I place the word "safe" first very specifically because I believe it is the most important and most people when asked say the same thing.

In this report I am concentrating on some safety issues that are of increasing concern during this period of economic downturn. We have seen an upsurge in robberies and thievery of most types. This is unfortunately the trend throughout the region and is to some degree attributable to the fact that many are either unemployed or significantly underemployed. Especially for many people who were in marginal circumstances to begin with, the current difficult times present them with few opportunities for legitimate gain. We see a significant number of "amateurish" robberies and break-ins that produce very little for the felon, but are very dangerous for the victim.

As residents and potential victims we can do some simple things that will help us all stay safer. First, do not present criminals with unnecessary opportunities. For example most burglaries take place in locations where the owner/occupant leaves a significant opportunity to the burglar: leaving a window unlocked or even open; creating a sight shield in front of a door so that breaking the door's lock cannot be observed from the street; and other similar situations. If you want assistance to make your property more secure from forced entry contact our police through Community Policing Officer Roland Alexander 301-927-4343.

We are also seeing an increased number of strong arm type robberies in broad daylight. This scary fact leaves us with little to do other than to be aware of your surroundings and avoid being isolated and thereby vulnerable. To the degree you can try to travel, whether walking or riding, with one or more other persons and avoid displaying purses, wallets and other desirable items any more than you have to.

Finally, if it even crosses your mind that something is amiss, CALL THE POLICE. The police are trained to proceed cautiously and to evaluate a situation so if it turns out that nothing is wrong in what is reported, they will quickly figure that out and no harm is done. However, often crimes are solved and criminals stopped by police piecing together a number of small pieces of information that may seem very insignificant to the person who reports it. The small thing you report many well be the thing that allows them to solve a crime wave.

Our town police department is moving away from a reactive type of policing and towards what we term "problem oriented policing". This means we are looking for new ways to identify and address problems of all sorts in our community and prevent crime before it even happens. In order for this to work we have to see all areas of government work together cooperatively, and we have to have residents supply the police with information. We have dedicated 2 police officers specifically to work in and with the community to problem solve. These officers work with community organizations, other parts of local government, encourage interaction with young impressionable people, and make sure that the rest of the police department is kept well connected to the broader community.

By all of us working together to solve our community's issues and prevent crime we can keep Riverdale Park a safe place to live even in trying economic times.

Teachers Visiting Riverdale Park from Ipala Guatemala

On a happier note I am pleased to announce that we will welcome 6 educators from our sister city of Ipala Guatemala to our area during the first two weeks of October. While here they will visit area schools including Riverdale Elementary, Beltsville Academy, and William Wirt Middle School.

Our visitors are being hosted by local families and there will be several opportunities for you to come out and meet and welcome our guests. They will be introduced at Riverdale Park Day on October 2 and there will be a reception Monday October 4 at 7 PM at Town Hall. On the 4th teachers from our area who taught in Ipala over the summer will also be present and available to chat about their experiences in Central America.

I hope you join me in thanking and welcoming the teachers from our area and Ipala as they have spent their own time and money to travel, learn from and assist the residents of a municipality that is far from home, but connected to us in this increasingly global world in which we live.

Ward and Committee Reports

Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan Thompson
akthompsons@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Finance Committee Report

For many years, the Town has been working on plans to build a community center. One site that was considered for the center, but rejected, was the two residential lots (owned by the Town) where the current "Riverdale Club Building" is on 51st Avenue in Ward 2. The site was rejected because the cost of rehabilitating the existing building was estimated to be essentially the same as starting from scratch, and there would be traffic and parking impacts on the neighborhood that nearby residents spoke out against. We discussed at a meeting on July 22, 2009, the possibility of selling the two lots on 51st as part of the financing for a new community center.

In a meeting with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) earlier this year, Mayor Archer brought up the two lots and whether MNCPPC might be interested in buying them as a way to expand the park. He thought (and I agree) that keeping the lots as open green space would be a good idea.

MNCPPC contacted Mayor Archer recently and has offered to buy the lots. Whether to accept the offer is a decision that the Town must make carefully and deliberately. The Town Council will be having a public meeting on Oct. 25th at 7:30 p.m. to solicit public feedback on the offer, but I welcome feedback from Ward 2 residents, especially those that live near the site, at any time. Please let me know how you feel.

In other news in Ward 2, the Police Department completed a traffic study on Lafayette Avenue in mid-August. The study ran from August 9 through August 13. The speed of cars on Lafayette during most of the week was generally reasonable, with an average speed very near the speed limit, except for a spike of speeding on August 13....Friday the 13th. We are working to verify and understand this data before taking action. Please contact me or the Town Office if you are interested in the full report.

On another topic, I would like to thank the Public Works Department staff, particularly Director Leonard Addison and Janice Euell, as well as staff from County Councilman Olson's office (Wanda Brooks and Riverdale Park's own Dannielle Glaros) for working with WSSC to resolve a Ward 2 resident's sewer problems. This was an unpleasant problem that needed a quick response, and it got one.

I will close my report with a few small items. First, the Hyattsville City Council approved their city's participation in the Inter-Municipal Collaborative Committee on Wells Run, so meetings of that committee should start soon. Second, the Finance Committee will have met by the time you read this article; watch this space for a report of what happened.

Ward Three Report

By Council Member David Lingua
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Public Safety Committee Report

It's October. Have you checked your smoke alarm?

On September 9, 2010 the Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization (CKAR) Board held their first meeting at which time officers were elected. Leonard Wertz will serve as President,

Dennis Nola will serve as First Vice President, Alice Bishop will serve as Second Vice President, Martha Newman will serve as Treasurer and Norman Livsey will serve as Secretary. Congratulations to all on their appointments.

The town continues to work with the property owner of the former Joseph property, now Danner property, located on Lafayette Place as it moves toward a preliminary hearing on the proposed development. Of concern is the storm water management plans for the proposed seven houses on the 1.6 acre tract. Director of Public Works Leonard Addison has been working both with representatives for the developer and the county DPW&T to come up with a functioning plan to minimize the runoff from the proposed development in relation to the existing properties as well as current efforts to manage runoff

nearby. The hearing is to be scheduled for the middle of November.

Coming out on the eve of Riverdale Park Day, hopefully this reaches you in time so as to remind and encourage you to come celebrate this special day at Riverside Neighborhood Park.

Councilman Raymond Rivas along with the organizing committee and the Riverdale Arts Council have put forth a great effort towards this year's event. Mr. Rivas is a firm believer in the sayings "Many hands make light work" as well as "the more the merrier". That being said, if volunteering to help make this and other events in town come to fruition has ever crossed your mind, participation is wholeheartedly encouraged.

Remember the smoke alarm? Be sure to visit the Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department at Riverdale Park Day. Sunday October 3 begins Fire Prevention Week and Company 7 will have plenty of information and advice to help prevent a home fire and on formulating and escape plan.

Ward Five Report

By Council Member Raymond Rivas
rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Community Affairs Committee Report

The weather is changing the environment into a crispy gold-covered landscape. With all the leaves falling onto the area, it is eye appealing to see such calmness. Noticeably, the Riverdale Park School children are behaving and trying so hard in their learning process. Some are paying attention in class but others only know so well that the holidays are around the corner. We as community leaders have to keep setting examples and give a guiding hand. In implementing much needed good moral support programs for the children it will help build and prepare them for the next level. We are in the process of applying for grants that may relieve some hardships in a program with a minimum amount of funding. For example there are various programs such as: Maryland University 4H Club, free tutoring and recreational activities, reading programs with audio CD's, cinema theater in Town Hall and job counseling to prepare youth for young adulthood. We believe that these are exciting and rigorous programs to pursue and accomplish. This is why we need volunteers and donations to help us with our

causes. The children of Riverdale Park need more exposure to the ARTS. It seems that it's been forever in finding volunteers to assist in helping with the youth group. We appreciate the few volunteers that have come out but still would welcome more. High school youths that need community hours please feel free to contact us.

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

I want to pose a question to all the resident and citizens of the Town of Riverdale Park! Should the Town of Riverdale Park charter be changed to permit residents of The Town of Riverdale Park who are not United State citizens to vote in Town of Riverdale Park Mayoral and Council elections?

I believe this is my civic duty to the public to come forward openly and ask this question. I am being transparent and have no hidden agenda. After speaking to a dozen or so residents that are non-citizens, they really want their voices to be heard. Also even in accepting on paying our property, state and motor vehicle taxes, they still believe in the American dream and support our local government. Your response to this question will be greatly appreciated. You can e-mail me at *rriivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov* or call me at 301-625-9435.

El clima está cambiando el ambiente a ser un paisaje crujiente cubierto de oro. Con todas las hojas cayendo en el área, es atractivo para los ojos ver toda esta tranquilidad. Notablemente, los niños de la Elementaría de Riverdale Park se están comportando y tratando con tanto empeño en su proceso de aprendizaje. Algunos están poniendo atención en clase y otros solamente saben muy bien que las vacaciones para las fiestas están a la vuelta de la esquina.

Nosotros, como líderes de la comunidad debemos de darles ejemplo y darles una mano para guiarlos. En implementación de nuevos programas para el apoyo moral que es muy necesario para los

niños y les ayudara para prepararse en el siguiente nivel. Estamos en el proceso de aplicar para subvenciones que podrá aliviar algunas dificultades en el programa con un mínimo financiamiento.

Por ejemplo hay varios programas como: El Club 4H de la Universidad de Maryland, actividades de recreación y tutoría gratuita, programas para leer con audio CD's, cine en la alcaldía y asesoramiento profesional para ayudar a los jóvenes a entrar a la vida adulta. Creemos que estos son programas son emocionantes y rigurosos para perseguir y comprar. Por esta razón necesitamos voluntarios y donaciones para ayudar a nuestra causa. Los niños de la Elementaría de Riverdale necesitan ser más expuestos a las ARTES. Parece que la búsqueda siempre ha sido por voluntarios para asistir y ayudar con los grupos de jóvenes. Apreciamos la ayuda de los pocos voluntarios que han salido ayudar pero aun le daremos la bienvenida a mas. Estudiantes de High School que necesitan sus horas de servicio a la comunidad por favor contáctenos.

El barrio del distrito 5 ha estado un poco calmado. Por favor no deje que este silencio engañe a sus ojos. Todavía tenemos sujetos ahí asechando a los vecinos y a personas ingenuas que no se dan cuenta de que ellos están a los alrededores. Si necesitas caminar por la tarde a la tienda de la esquina por favor mantente pendiente de tus alrededores. Si ves algo sospechoso o fuera de lo normal, por favor siéntete seguro y libre de llamar al Departamento de Policía de Riverdale Park 301-927-4343 or 911.

Quiero plantearles una pregunta a todos los residentes y ciudadanos de Riverdale Park! Debería la ciudad de Riverdale Park cambiar los estatutos para permitir que residentes de la ciudad de Riverdale Park que no son ciudadanos americanos voten en las elecciones de la ciudad?

Creo que es mi deber cívico para los ciudadanos de venir y presentar esta pregunta de manera abierta. Quiero ser transparente sin tener intenciones ocultas. Después de haber hablado con una docena de residentes que no son ciudadanos, ellos realmente quieren que sus voces sean escuchadas. Además, incluso en la aceptación de pagar nuestros taxes de propiedad estado y vehículos, ellos también creen que el sueño americano también consiste en apoyar su gobierno local. Tus respuestas a esta pregunta serán muy apreciadas. Me puedes mandar un correo a rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov o llámame al 301-625-9435.

Public Works Report

By Leonard Addison

BULK TRASH PICKUP - Bulky Trash Collection is provided by appointment only. To schedule an appointment, call (301) 773-2069 before 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays for pickup on Wednesdays. All bulk trash items must be curbside no later than 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays.

Acceptable materials include:

- Furniture and refrigerators - (Remove doors, for safety reasons, from all appliances)
- Washing machines and dryers
- Hot water heaters and lawn mowers (Remove the gas tank and drain the oil from lawn mowers)
- Other large materials generated in the household that are not picked up by refuse collection
- Vehicle Tires (Limit 4, No Truck Tires)

Unacceptable Materials

- Materials from evictions, foreclosures, unoccupied properties, commercial properties or apartment complexes
- Construction and demolition debris
- Stumps and logs
- Skids and pallets
- Drums, tanks, kegs and barrels (plastic and metal) greater than 55 gallons in size unless the sides are removed and the vessel flattened prior to collection
- Hazardous and bio-hazardous medical waste
- Compressed cylinders of any size, shape or condition
- Asbestos
- Liquids, including paint, sewage and septic waste
- Radioactive material
- Animal carcasses
- Automobiles or auto parts
- Chemical and/or petroleum cleanup waste
- Plastic packing materials and plastic sheeting
- Soil, rocks, grubbing material and spoil
- Ash
- Shingles, roofing materials

- Fencing/Sheds/Gazebos
- Riding lawnmowers
- Mirrors
- Windows
- Glass
- Wood (unless it is a piece of furniture)
- Home Renovation/Remodeling debris

Yard Waste - Yard waste is collected on Wednesdays and should be at curbside by 7:00 a.m. on Wednesdays. Yard waste includes branches, shrubs and trees; bundle items and tie with rope or string (do not use wire). Items must be less than 4 feet long, not more than 4 inches in diameter and weigh less than 60 pounds. These items are collected by Bates Trash and Trucking Company



These materials are NOT ACCEPTED for Collection - Roof shingles, dirt, rocks, concrete, bricks, tree trunks (over 3" diameter), stumps, pressurized containers, explosives, paint (unless paint is dry in cans), poisons, caustics, any hazardous materials, construction and demolition debris, asbestos, free liquids, sewage, sludge. Residents must make private arrangements to dispose of these items.

Leaf Collection - As part of our fall leaf collection services, leaves will be collected from November 15th through January 15th. DPW will vacuum leaves from Town streets following our old trash collection schedule, please see below through January 15th but not after. Bagged leaves will continue to be collected by Bates Trucking Company on the schedule below.

Leaf vacuuming service is provided by the Department of Public Works from November 15th – January 15th. In order to make this process work as efficiently as possible, residents are encouraged to:

- Rake leaves to the curb. Pile leaves away from cars and storm drains. The leaf vacuum cannot reach around cars.

- Remove tree limbs, rocks and other debris from leaves to be collected. They can damage the equipment and cause delays.
- Please put bagged leaves out on Wednesdays with the yard waste. **Do not put them out with regular trash.**

Noise and dust may be noticeable during the leaf vacuuming process. Dry conditions generate more dust. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Riverdale Park Business Association

By Carol Patsel

The next meeting of the Riverdale Park Business Association will be held on Wednesday, October 13, 2010, 5:30 p.m. at the Riverdale Park Town Offices, 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, Maryland. It was decided at the last meeting on September 8 to postpone the elections of officers until November. Therefore, the October meeting will be devoted to identifying all nominees for office. It is very important that all members attend both meetings.

Election Night will be generously hosted by Crescent Cities Center on Tuesday, November 9 at 5:30 p.m. Once a year, Crescent Cities invites RPBA members to join them for dinner as they celebrate their anniversary in Riverdale Park. Business owners and staff of Riverdale Park are welcome to take part in the opportunity to network with their constituents and enjoy a meal prepared by Chef George.

The Riverdale Park Business Association is a group of business owners and managers who work in the town of Riverdale Park. They are dedicated to building the community where their businesses are located. They are committed to sharing their profits, experience, talents and time with the residents of Riverdale Park. They participate in a number of events, charitable works and town projects throughout the year. Members of the association consider all town residents as family! A helping hand is always extended.

Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department

By Nova Johns

The Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department would like to welcome Probationary Members **Christopher Michael Wakefield, John Campbell, Stephen Lyles, Matt Eckert, Roberto Ramirez, and Ramon Zapata.** Again, welcome to the family! Congratulations to **Mike Eppard, Sarah Gignac, James Campbell, and Ramon Zapata** for completing the Emergency Medical Technician Basic Course (131 instructional hours). Well done Tower Lieutenant **Anthony Anastasi** on passing his Maryland CLASS B test.

Riverdale Park Day October 2, 2010.

Join us at Riverside Park for a family fun day filled with safety activities, life safety and fire prevention information, live demonstrations, and much more! Come celebrate Engine 73's 1st birthday! It has been almost a year since our new pride and joy has been serving the community of Riverdale Park. Free cupcakes while supplies last!! Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department will also be selling food at Riverdale Park Day. All proceeds made by Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department on October 2, 2010 will be donated to the D.C. Firefighters Burn Foundation. The D.C. Firefighters Burn Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization founded by active and retired Washington, D.C. Firefighters. The Foundation is dedicated to assisting in the recovery and rehabilitation of injured firefighters and burn patients in the D.C. Metropolitan Area.

FALL SAFETY

Fire Safety Tips for Holiday Decorations

- Do not use candles in Halloween jack-o-lanterns. Flashlights are much safer.
- Make sure that children's costumes are made with fire retardant materials.
- Use only fire retardant holiday decorations.

Outdoor/indoor Fall Fire Safety Tips

- Clear your roof and gutters of unnecessary build up of debris, such as pine needles and leaves.
- No outdoor burnings except in commercial fire pits.

- Have your furnace checked and cleaned as well as fire places.
- Check your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors to insure that they are in working order

Family Fire Safety Tips

- Teach your kids how to respond in the event of a fire.
- Make sure young children know how to dial 911.
- Establish and practice a fire escape plan with your family that includes a designated meeting area outside the home.
- Practice stop, drop and roll with your children so they learn how to escape beneath a fire.
- Teach everyone in your family multiple ways to escape from every room in the event of a fire.
- Make sure that there is a sufficient quantity of smoke detectors in your home.
- Verify each month that smoke detectors are in working order.
- Make sure everyone in your family knows how to use a fire extinguisher.
- Do not place lit candles where they can be reached by children.
- Never leave burning candles unattended.
- Do not leave candles burning when you go to sleep.
- Don't leave cooking food unattended on the stove.
- Keep everything that might be flammable away from your stove.

If you have any questions or need assistance please call 301-927-0356 (Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department). If it is an **EMERGENCY** call **911**.

Riverdale Boys and Girls Club

Riverdale Boys & Girls Club is a non-profit sports organization operated solely by dedicated volunteers. RBGC provides youth (ages 5-18) in Riverdale the opportunity to participate in structured sports programs such as basketball, spring/fall soccer, baseball, softball (girls), t-ball, track, flag

football, tackle football, cheerleading and dance. Youth will learn basic fundamentals, sportsmanship, teamwork & team spirit. There are minimal fees for each program which covers county, registration & sport fees. We encourage our parents to register early and set up a payment plan. We also offer fundraiser opportunities in an attempt to keep out of pocket fees at a minimum.

RBGC is in desperate need of volunteers to coach or fill commissioner vacancies for Basketball, Soccer, Baseball/Softball, Cheerleading, Track and Football. There are also management positions available for administration, concessions, fundraising, uniforms, equipment, or fields and banquet. If you can commit a few hours per month to volunteer please let us know. Volunteers are required to submit a copy of their driver's license and sign a background check authorization form.

Future activities include but are not limited to fun exercise programs in the fight to overcome childhood obesity, game nights, ice cream socials and arts & crafts. Suggestions, donations & volunteers are always welcomed!!!

Riverdale Elementary School Update

By Danielle Glaros

The school year is off to a busy start at Riverdale Elementary with 717 students enrolled. Some highlights: MSA scores were met for the previous school year; teachers will be participating in a new incentive program based on performance; students will be receiving free healthy snacks during the day starting soon; and a student government association will be starting in a few weeks. A special thanks to the Riverdale Park Public Works Department for helping to get the school ready for the school year.

As always, your volunteer assistance and donations are greatly appreciated. The school is always looking for extra school supplies, uniforms (blue or black shirts and bottoms), anything that be given as an incentive/reward to a child (book, stuffed animal, etc). To donate, just bring the items to the school's main office. This year, I'm working to help the school start a Science Fair Club to help 3rd-6th graders with their individual

science fair projects. The Club would likely meet after school for a few months during the winter. Please consider volunteering or if this isn't your niche, let us know what you are interested in and we'll try to figure out a way to make it happen. I can be reached at dmglaros@gmail.com or 301-779-5915.

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) contacts—

Tina Davis, PTO President

johnandtinadavis@gmail.com

Christina Burton, Acting Vice-President and Volunteer Coordinator

cdburton1989@gmail.com

Important Dates:

October 5th-PTO meeting and movie night for students 6-8pm,

October 13th-Multicultural Dinner
(Bring a Dish and celebrate.)

October 14th-Student Half Day

October 15th-Schools Closed

Craft Show: Develop a World of Difference

By Su Flickinger

On November 5-6, 2010, Hyattsville Mennonite Church (4217 East-West Highway) will host the 25th annual International Craft Sale. The event features handcrafted items from around the world – from India and Vietnam to Kenya and South Africa to Peru and Nicaragua. This event is conducted in partnership with Ten Thousand Villages, a project of the Mennonite Central Committee, which provides high quality, fairly traded items to the U.S. market, providing vital and fair income to artisans in developing countries who would otherwise be unemployed or underemployed.

The International Craft Sale is run entirely by volunteers and does not benefit Hyattsville Mennonite Church. Selected items at the sale include jewelry, weavings, pottery, carved wood, children's toys, and holiday decorations. Holiday shopping couldn't be easier! Location, dates, and hours: Hyattsville Mennonite Church, 4217 East-West Highway. 301-927-7327, www.hyattsvillemennonite.org.

Friday, November 5 (4-9 pm); Saturday, November 6 (9-4pm).

Community Circles

The Nursing Assistant Academy

Interested in a career in nursing? Riverdale Park welcomes its newest addition, The Nursing Assistant Academy. *“Our Mission is to provide the highest quality training for Nursing Assistants.”*

Earn your CNA in less than 4 weeks!

Visit us at 5811 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 101 Riverdale Park, MD 20737 or contact President Herma Marks, MSN, GNM, RN at hmarks@tnaa.com

Riverdale Boys and Girls Club Seeks Help

Riverdale Boys & Girls Club is currently holding open registration, every Wednesday for the months of October & November, for all sports & activities. The next activities are basketball, soccer & dance. Please register early to ensure proper staffing. We are also in desperate need of volunteer coaches. Please let us know if you can volunteer your time to a good cause, our youth. For additional information email riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com or call 301-277-KIDS (5437). Stay tuned for our future website...

College Park Aviation Cadets Seek Members

Interested in aviation? Join the Civil Air Patrol Cadet program!!! Youth from 12 to 18 years of age are eligible to join this outstanding aviation based leadership training program.

Through Civil Air Patrol's Cadet Program, young people develop leadership skills, learn about aviation, and participate in search & rescue missions. Activities include flying, camping, first aid training, and an international Aviation Cadet Exchange! College Park Squadron meets the first four Wednesdays each month from 7:00-9:00 PM in the Hap Arnold Center (1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive) at the historic College Park Airport, College Park, MD. Learn more at www.MDcap.org or call 1-800-FLY-2338!

RPAC Needs Your Help

The RPAC/Park Tanglewood Youth Group has grown to 20 kids. We could use the following donated in good shape: computers, printers, monitors etc. to teach skills; digital cameras; volunteers to work with the kids after school and on weekends --- they are truly great kids and fun. Email Emily at ourdollmom@aol.com or call 301-864-5561.

Local 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

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.

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

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

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

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

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