



# The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

**March 2012**

Volume 42, Issue 2

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## **IMPORTANT!**

**Bulk Trash Collection  
WEDNESDAYS  
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY**

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

## **HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!**



## **Explore the Route 1 Corridor by Bus**



Route 1 is experiencing a renaissance and the Route 1 Ride (*TheBus 17*) can take you to every part of it. The Route 1 Ride goes from Mount Rainier to IKEA, and comes every 30 minutes to a bus stop near you. Avoid the hassles of traffic and parking, get there quickly and inexpensively by taking the Route 1 Ride. Find out more at [www.route1ride.com](http://www.route1ride.com) or visit your local town or city hall for more information.

## **Volunteers Needed for Arts Fest 2012!**

Volunteers are being sought to help with ArtsFest2012, Riverdale Park Arts Council's fifth annual arts and music festival. The event will be held in Town Center at the MARC train station Sunday, May 6, 11 am to 6 pm. Help is needed to plan the event, set up and tear down, help artists, artisans and vendors, and to direct visitors to parking spaces, to events, and to help with the children's gardening tables, and to generally represent the Town of Riverdale Park in the nicest possible way.

For details:

- ❖ Visit [www.rpartsCouncil.org](http://www.rpartsCouncil.org) or
- ❖ Email [rpartsCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:rpartsCouncil@gmail.com), [ourdollmom@aol.com](mailto:ourdollmom@aol.com) or
- ❖ Call RPAC president Emily Fanning at 301-864-5561

# Council Actions

By Waverly Pollitt

1. **Approved** – A permit to replace an existing chain link fence with a 6 foot wooden fence located at 6305 45<sup>th</sup> Place Riverdale, MD (Ward 1)
2. **Approved-** A Letter of support with conditions for M-square DSP-09028
3. **Approved-** Ordinance Resolution 2012-OR-01, an ordinance concerning revisions to new ethics ordinance.
4. **Approved-** Nomination for Kate Sharpe for Ethics Board.
5. **Approved-** Minutes for a regular legislative meeting on January 3, 2012
6. **Approved** – Minutes for special legislative meeting on January 9, 2012
7. **Approved-** Minutes for special legislative meeting on January 10, 2012
8. **Approved-** Minutes for special legislative meeting on January 20, 2012

## New Business

**Introduced** - Charter Amendment 2012-CR-01

## TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK FAIR SUMMARY OF CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION 2012-CR-01 ISSUANCE OF DEBT

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Charter Amendment Resolution 2012-CR-01.

Charter Amendment Resolution 2012-CR-01 is for the purpose of amending the Charter of the Town of Riverdale Park to clarify who may make purchases, contracts and expenditures for the Town; to modify the process for opening sealed bids; to eliminate certain contract appropriation requirements; to authorize the Mayor and Council to enact certain additional purchasing requirements; and to provide the procedures to be followed for the effectiveness of the Charter Amendment adopted by this Resolution.

Charter Amendment Resolution 2012-CR-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.

## Town of Riverdale Park

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

### Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road  
Riverdale Park, MD 20737

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

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

### Council Members

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

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

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

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

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

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

Leonard Addison, **Director**

Code Enforcement 240-898-2500

Colleen M. Ferguson, **Code Manager**

[code@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:code@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

Police Department, 301-927-4343

David Morris, **Police Chief**

[dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:dmorris@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

Charles Ryan, **Chief**

[info@riverdalevf.com](mailto:info@riverdalevf.com), [www.riverdalevf.com](http://www.riverdalevf.com) or,

[Riverdalefirechief7@gmail.com](mailto:Riverdalefirechief7@gmail.com)

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

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

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

The Town Crier is also available at the Town's Website: [www.riverdaleparkmd.info](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info)  
**Submission deadline: 15th of each month.**

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

**TOWN OF RIVERDALE PARK  
FAIR SUMMARY OF  
CHARTER AMENDMENT RESOLUTION NO. 2012-CR-02  
ISSUANCE OF DEBT**

This is to give notice that the Riverdale Park Town Council has introduced and intends to take action on Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2012-CR-02.

Charter Amendment Resolution No. 2012-CR-02 is for the purpose of amending the Charter of the Town of Riverdale Park to alter the authority and process for the borrowing of money and the issuance of certain bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness by and on behalf of the Town of Riverdale Park (“Town”); for the purpose of authorizing the Town to borrow money for any proper public purpose and to evidence such borrowing by the issuance and sale of its general obligation bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness (the “Obligations”); specifying that the Town Council shall authorize by ordinance (1) the maximum aggregate principal amount of any such Obligations to be issued; (2) the purpose(s) for which such Obligations shall be expended; (3) a pledge of the security for such Obligations and, if applicable, a statement that such Obligations shall be payable in the first instance from a specified source of revenue or provisions for the making of such statement by resolution; and (4) a requirement that prior to issuing any such Obligations the Council shall adopt a resolution regarding certain matters; providing that any such resolution shall contain, determine, approve or provide for the approval of various details regarding such Obligations, including (1) their designation, issue date, denomination(s), form(s) and tenor, (2) their rate(s) of interest (which may be fixed or variable or may be determined by a method approved or provided for); (3) their date(s) and amount(s) of maturity, denomination(s) and serial and/or term maturities; (4) whether they will be sold by the solicitation of competitive bids at public sale or by private (negotiated) sale; (5) their price(s), which may be at, above or below par value; (6) any desired redemption or put provisions, including how notice of redemption or put shall be given; (7) the manner of executing and sealing such Obligations; (8) any documents pursuant to which such Obligations are to be issued, offered or secured, including for the purpose of enhancing the marketability of or as security for such Obligations and for securing any tender option; and (9) such other provisions as the Council may determine necessary or desirable, including whether such Obligations shall be sold for cash or other valuable consideration or further providing for application of their proceeds; providing that any such resolution may be introduced and adopted at a single session and shall become effective immediately upon adoption; providing that the Council may instead by ordinance determine, approve or provide for the approval of any of the matters specified as being determinable by resolution; providing for or authorizing the methods by which any such Obligations may be bid for in connection with the sale of the same by solicitation of competitive bids at public sale and the methods by which any notice of sale or summary thereof may be published or disseminated; providing that the powers granted by this Charter Amendment are additional and supplemental to any other applicable general obligation borrowing authority; generally relating to the issuance and terms of such Obligations; and providing the procedures to be followed for the effectiveness of the Charter Amendment adopted by this Resolution.

## **Mayor’s Report**

By Mayor Vernon Archer

Volunteers make the town work. There is no truer statement that I can possibly make, and Riverdale Park needs more! Let me share some areas in which we need help:

1. We need people to serve on the Mixed Use Town Center Committee: This body oversees and makes recommendations to the town government and Maryland National Capital Park and Planning on zoning matters for most of Baltimore Avenue, Town Center north to the end of Maryland Avenue. In particular, we need persons who either own or manage businesses in that area. We also are always interested in persons with technical expertise in areas such as architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, law, or other fields related to zoning and design to serve on the committee. This committee generally meets monthly and requires some pre and post meeting preparations. To serve on

this board please send me a letter of interest and a resume via email at *varcher@gmail.com* or by regular mail at 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737.

2. Ethics board: Our town is required by our own law as well as state law to maintain a strong ethics code and a board to oversee compliance with that code. We need persons with a background in law or compliance to serve on this board. Board members will have to adhere to the same rules and reporting standards that all other town officials have to follow. The board meets annually for review of the system and as needed if there are questions or complaints to review. If you are willing to serve in such a capacity please contact me at *varcher@gmail.com* or by regular mail at 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737.

3. Recreation Board: This board oversees a number of town events, the largest of which is Riverdale Park Day, but also includes the town's Christmas Party, Easter Egg Hunt, and other ad hoc events. These events are some of the most joyous in our community for children and their parents. Those of you with children might well find this a great place to give a little time together with your kids to our town. Please contact Councilman Raymond Rivas or Chairwoman Nova Johns through town hall at 301-927-6381.

4. Riverdale Park Arts Council: Sunday May 6th RPAC will hold our 5<sup>th</sup> annual Arts Fest and they need help planning and carrying out the event. Lovers of the arts of every type this is a great opportunity to get involved in what you love and help build our community too. RPAC Doll Club needs volunteers too! If you are "crafty" and/or like to work with kids, please help out. To volunteer for RPAC please contact Emily Fanning at 301-864-5561 or *OurDollMom@aol.com*

5. Riverdale Park Framers' Market: There have been numerous exciting improvements over the last couple of years in this beloved amenity that residents of our town created for us all to enjoy. The yearly organizing meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday March 17<sup>th</sup> 10 AM at Town Hall. This year coordinator Jim Coleman will be looking for volunteers who can run the new EBT/debit/credit system that will allow us all to use our plastic at the market. If you have experience, or are willing to learn to run a checking system we need you! Also, there is weekly need for simple assistance in set up/take down. You can contact coordinator Jim Coleman at 301-586-5973 or *rpkfarmmkt@gmail.com*.

## Riversdale House Museum Events

### **EXHIBIT: WHAT THEY WORE IN 1812**

Two hundred years ago, the United States declared war on Great Britain. Over the next three years, Riversdale House Museum joins other sites on the Star-Spangled Banner Trail to commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812.

This spring, *What They Wore in 1812* will feature garments from the collection of Mary Doering, one of the foremost private collectors in the United States. The exhibit may be viewed from Sunday, March 11 – Sunday, May 6 during the museum's regular open hours, Fridays and Sundays, noon to 3:15 pm.

Fee: \$3 adult; \$2 senior; \$1 student.

### **HANDS-ON HISTORY: THE CURATOR'S APPRENTICE**

Step behind the museum ropes and take a peek at life behind the scenes of Riversdale House Museum! Spend the school holiday, Friday, March 30, 2012 at Riversdale House Museum. The program runs from 10 am – 3 pm and is open to children ages 8 – 12. Participants will curate their own exhibit, create a reproduction of a piece in the collection, have the rare opportunity to tour parts of the museum not open to the public, and more!

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 March 16. Please note the program may sell out before this date.

## **TAVERN NIGHT AT RIVERSDALE**

Transforming the servant's quarters into a candle-lit, subterranean tavern, Riversdale House Museum presents the always popular Tavern Night. Ship's Company Chanteymen provide the best of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century's sailor's entertainment, and costumed hands serve up tavern-style food and beverages.

Saturday, April 14 at 8:00 P.M. \$22 resident, \$27 non-resident; advance payment required by March 30; must be at least 21 years of age. Please note that this popular program will likely sell out before March 30. Register early!

Riversdale House Museum, a National Historic Landmark, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road, in Riverdale Park, Maryland. It is owned by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

For more information, call 301-864-0420; TTY 301-699-2544; or email at [riversdale@pgparks.com](mailto:riversdale@pgparks.com).

## **WHAT TO WEAR? AMERICAN CIVILIAN CLOTHING IN 1812**

From 2012 to 2015, the U. S. and Canada will be commemorating the War of 1812. This is your chance to put your love of Federal era history into practice as a reenactor at local, national, and international events! Every living history impression must start with what to wear. Attend one or all of these sessions—for women, children, and men on Saturday, March 10, 2012. Costume historian Dr. Ann Wass will present illustrated lectures and a show and tell of patterns, fabrics, and reproduced garments. There will also be authentic period garments on display. Whether you are brand new to the period or have been interpreting for years and want to fine-tune your kit, this day is for you. Bring a bagged lunch if you plan to stay all day. We will provide a place to eat.

Women: 9:00-10:30 am

Children: 11:00 am–12:15 pm

Men: 1:00-3:00 pm

Advance payment required by March 7.

Fee: \$6 for each session; \$15 for all 3.

Call 301-864-0420 or email [riversdale@pgparks.com](mailto:riversdale@pgparks.com) to make a reservation. Riversdale, a historic house museum of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is located at 4811 Riverdale Road in the town of Riverdale Park, Maryland.

# **Ward and Committee Reports**

## **Ward One Report**

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

### **Economic Development Committee Report**

The Cafritz/Whole Foods development continues to make progress through the approval process. The final resolution was before the Planning Board for approval on 2/16/12 with the next step being the District Council. The developer has filed a notification of intent for the Preliminary Plan of Subdivisions (PSP). The current approval making its way through the approval process concerns changing the land's zoning from R-55 (single family detached) to M-

U-TC (mixed use town center). The PSP is the more interesting negotiation where the developer's feet are held to the fire and we finalize roads and building placements as well as conduct an Adequate Public Facilities study. The APF will address any mitigation the developer is responsible for in terms of traffic, schools etc.

Town Center Market continues to make progress towards their build-out and I am hopeful by the time this article is published they will be open for business. This development will be a key and critical component to the potential of other tenants in our town center. It represents a large financial investment by the Spiropoulos family towards improving our town's economic future. It will complement the work Jim Coleman has done with the Farmers Market and encourage other tenants to look at our historic core as a

viable place for commercial enterprise. I hope everyone will join with me in supporting the market by shopping there.

For those of you that have not realized it by now, the Farmers Market has continued to operate throughout the winter, albeit in a limited capacity. Every Thursday you can continue to get farm-fresh meats/eggs, apples, potatoes, kale, artisan cheese, bread, and soap. Douglas Development has allowed the town to use one of the vacant buildings to hold the market out of the elements.

We have a substantial opportunity now to make progress towards revitalization of our town's commercial core. It takes the participation of more than just the Mayor and Council; it will take all of you as well. As we move into the budget season, I plan to introduce thoughts and ideas on ways we can improve our ability to attract potential tenants. The proposals will have to be revenue neutral and mindful of our budget position. We cannot afford to sit back and wait for the situation at town center to change nor can we afford to be profligate. There is a balance and I am confident that our town's leadership will find it.

As we move forward into the bicentennial celebrations of the War of 1812 we have an opportunity to reflect back on our town's place in history as well as defining our role in the future. In recognition of this, I am establishing a scholarship fund for town residents to be used towards college or trade schools. Details will be forthcoming with applications due later this spring. The message I would like to leave all of you with is to get involved, stay involved, and recruit others for volunteer opportunities in our town.

## Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan K. Thompson  
[akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

### Finance Committee Report

As many of you may already know, the Cafritz project has cleared its first hurdle, the County Planning Board. I was surprised to find out, at their February 2 meeting, that the Planning Board was required to approve the project by the zoning code, and all they could do was attach conditions to the rezoning. Fortunately the town (in close cooperation with representatives of University Park, College Park, and Park and Planning staff) had developed a detailed set of recommendations, which were slightly adjusted to become the recommendations of the Planning Board. Among these

conditions is an overpass that will allow traffic to enter and exit the Cafritz development from the east, allowing access from the Kenilworth Avenue corridor. This condition should reduce the impact of traffic on Route 1, in addition to making the property more accessible. I was heavily involved in the negotiations between the municipalities, and although we didn't get all of the conditions we wanted, I believe the project, with these conditions, is something we can be proud of. The next step in this project, and a more difficult one, will be getting approval from the District Council (which is just the County Council when it considers zoning and planning issues). Stay tuned!

The Finance Committee met twice in January. One of the topics we discussed was the fact that revenues from speed cameras have been lower than expected. This is great news for public safety! We also discussed how to make reimbursed expenses (such as grants) more transparent in financial reports and the budget. Finally, at the January 31 meeting, we discussed two legal issues: the process we use to enact the budget, and council oversight on spending and contracts as specified in the Town Charter. The Town Attorney advised us that, while the process we use for the budget is essentially sound, we need to adopt the budget as an ordinance rather than as a resolution. We will work out the details of this process before the budget season starts in May. For the Town Charter, I introduced a charter amendment at the February town council meeting that will clarify the language of the charter. This amendment will make the Charter consistent with the council oversight process that has been in place for the more than fifteen years that I have been involved with town government.

I'll close my report with some sad news from Ward 2, the passing of long-time resident Jim Reed. Jim has been tirelessly involved in Riverdale Park for far longer than I have lived here, including being a driving force behind the Traffic Study Committee, a regular volunteer at Crescent Cities, participation in the Town Vision and 2004 M-U-TC Zone creation, and regular attendee at town council meetings and public hearings. But Jim was more than just a devoted volunteer and activist – he was a genuine and pleasant person. I always enjoyed talking with him, and we had a lot of conversations sitting in the back row at town council meetings. I will miss him, and extend my condolences to his friends, neighbors, and family.



# Ward Three Report

By Council Member David Lingua  
*djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov*

## Public Safety Committee Report

Starting in the ward, Mayor Archer and I have been approached by Thrifty Iron Works, located on Lafayette Avenue along the town's border with Edmonston, about resolving parking issues on Lafayette Avenue. The mayor and I suggested to the ownership to draft a conceptual plan for the town to consider.

I will be in contact with those neighbors adjacent and near Thrifty, as well as the ward as a whole, as this progresses.

The second round of workshops for transit-oriented development (TOD) along the proposed Purple Line were held during the first half of February by the Planning Department of M-NCPPC. The Riverdale Park Station workshop was held at St. Bernard's Church, 5700 St. Bernard rive, on January 25 and the M Square Station workshop on February 1at the administration Building, 6600 Kenilworth Avenue. A third round is scheduled for March and April. The Planning Department encourages attendance to foster the dialogue on the community's collective vision as to streetscape, architectural character, station identity, as well as building on the opportunities offered by the Purple Line. The workshops start at 6:30 PM.

The Anacostia trails Heritage Area Governing Board met in mid January at the National Agricultural Library and received an update on ATHA wide and War of 1812 programs and the overall marketing program. The next two events marking War of 1812 are the Perilous Fight at the College Park Arts Exchange on March 9 and a lecture at Montpelier Mansion in Laurel on March 21. Closer to home, mark June 25 on your calendars for the Star Spangled Summer Days at Riversdale. As part of the general marketing program, ATHA has launched Maryland Milestones "to celebrate the unique transportation networks, the major moments, and amazing communities of the region," as described on their website, [anacostiatrials.org](http://anacostiatrials.org). Being an organization charged with marketing out area to the region and beyond, Executive Director Aaron Marcavitch made the point several times during the meeting about how important it is for communities to notify him of events they have so as to place them on their calendar.

As you may know, with the Planning Board's unanimous vote to approve the rezoning with the considerations agreed to by Calvert Tract, LLC, Riverdale Park and University Park, the proposed

development of the Cafritz property is now before the District Council. A great deal of work and effort went into creating a consensus agreement prior to the Planning Board hearing. Mayor Archer, CM Alan Thompson, CM Jonathan Ebbeler, Town Administrator Sara Imhulse, Town Attorney Fred Sussman, and Architect Paul Mortensen have been instrumental in protecting the town's interests should this rezoning be approved at the county level. Should you have an interest in this rezoning, consider providing your comments to the District Council.

I will conclude with this consideration for those looking for a fundraising event. Rinaldi's Riverdale Bowl would welcome the opportunity to host such an event at their establishment, 6322 Kenilworth Avenue. You can contact Pat Rinaldi at 301-864-5940.

# Ward Five Report

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

## Community Affairs Committee Report

My report is about giving back to the community. As a community we in general should be helping and supporting each other in the time of need. In the past several years as a Councilman, I have not seen much support with the mentoring and assisting the youth of Riverdale Park in various programs and events. We need young and old volunteers either from high school, local colleges or retirement homes to step up to the plate and give some community support. In this day and age it seems that everyone is stuck behind their computer making their opinion and suggestions but not doing anything about it. Sure everyone wants a better environment and more activities for their children but do you give two hours a week to assist in mentoring the youth of Riverdale Park? If your answer is no then you are not doing enough for your community. What has this community come down to? This hiding behind social networking communication has created non-socializing zombies who cannot physically and affectively communicate with the youth of today. I am not afraid to point this out but we as a community need to get back to the old fashion face to face interaction. This is the least we can do show the children these lost an hidden skills that we cherished back in our time of growing up.

Please shut off the lap top, note book, smart phone, play station, XBOX or any electronically communicating device and step outside for some good old fashion fun and physical interaction. The mold of

face to face interaction has not been broken and thrown away but just sitting on the top shelf collecting dust. Lets dust ourselves off and jump down into heavy traffic of kids to give our much needed quality time to the community. Believe me when I say this, "it will make a positive difference to the children". I thank you in advance for your support and volunteering efforts.

Mi informe trata de devolverle a la comunidad. Como una comunidad en general deberíamos ayudarnos y apoyarnos mutuamente en tiempos de necesidad. En los últimos años como concejal, no he visto mucho apoyo con el asesoramiento y asistencia en los diversos programas y eventos para la juventud de Riverdale Park. Necesitamos a jóvenes y viejos voluntarios ya sea desde la escuela secundaria y colegios locales a que se acerquen y den apoyo a la comunidad. En esta época parece que todo el mundo está atascado detrás de su equipo haciendo sus opiniones y sugerencias, pero no haciendo nada al respecto. ¿Seguro que todo el mundo quiere un medio ambiente mejor y más actividades para sus hijos, pero dan dos horas a la semana para ayudar en la tutoría de la juventud de Riverdale Park? Si su respuesta es no, entonces no están haciendo lo suficiente para su comunidad. ¿A que ha llegado esta comunidad? Este escondite detrás de redes sociales ha creado zombis que no saben socializar y que físicamente no pueden comunicarse efectivamente con los jóvenes de hoy. No le tengo miedo a esto pero nuestra comunidad necesita volver a la moda antigua interacción de cara a cara. Esto es lo menos que podemos hacer mostrar a los niños las habilidades ocultas que atesorábamos en nuestros tiempos.

Por favor, apaga el teléfono inteligente, la computadora el juego de estación, Xbox o cualquier dispositivo electrónico y sal afuera para tener diversión de moda antigua con interacción física. Se ha roto el molde de la interacción de cara a cara y han sido arrojadas a la basura. Sacudámonos el polvo y a saltar al pesado tráfico de niños para dar nuestro tiempo necesario a la comunidad. Créanme cuando digo esto, "harán una diferencia positiva para los niños". Les agradezco de antemano por sus esfuerzos de apoyo y voluntarismo.



# Public Works Report

By Leonard Addison

## The Department of Public Works

**Saturday Drop Off** – The schedule for drop off of bulk trash (rear of DPW yard) is the third Saturday, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, of each month. Drop off dates for the next six months are scheduled for: January 21<sup>st</sup>, February 18<sup>th</sup>, **March 17<sup>th</sup>**, April 21<sup>st</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup> and June 16<sup>th</sup>.

### 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, 49<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> Avenues., Silk Tree Drive, etc.

**Residential Streets** – i.e., Oliver St., Madison St., Rittenhouse St., 47<sup>th</sup> Ave., Somerset Rd., Sora Ln., etc.

Please note: our major roadways, (Rt. 201, Rt. 1, Rt. 410, 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 the even side of the street (violators will 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).

### **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 appointment for the items to be picked up 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.**

**Community Clean Up and Earth Day** - Riverdale Park is having its annual community spring clean up on April 21, 2012, from 9:00 AM - Noon. Residents are offered the opportunity to put their yard waste/bulk trash items on the curb the evening of Friday, April 20th for pick up on Saturday, April 21st.

• **Earth Day** - As part of its contribution to the Anacostia Watershed Society's efforts to clean up the Anacostia River in celebration of **Earth Day**, residents are asked to join us as we do our share to clean a portion of the river. The site designated for our area is Riverside Park, located at Riverside Drive. Volunteers wishing to participate in either the community clean up or the Earth Day events are asked to call the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.** Student volunteers earn community service hours for this activity.

## **Boy Scouts Troop 252**

By Robert Killen

Since our last entry in the Crier, four Scouts in Troop 252 have successfully completed the First Aid Merit Badge, and the Scouts are now working with our Assistant Scoutmaster, Mike Delaney (formerly an electrician), on the Electricity Merit Badge, a good resource in anybody's book! He finds the Scouts interesting, and the Scouts are hanging on his every word - Electrified (shocked) by his presentation and life experiences. A good deal all the way around, since we are meeting (and eating) at the Delaneys' house.

Scoutmaster (SM) Killen was present in Annapolis on 9 January when Gov. O'Malley signed two Executive Orders recognizing the Piscataway Indian Nation and the Piscataway Conoy Tribe as the first indigenous tribes recognized in the history of Maryland. This has evolved from his participation and interest in the Order of the Arrow.

On 10-12 February, SM Killen camped out in the snow at Broad Creek (almost in Pennsylvania) with Troop 602 of Baltimore Area Council as their Cooking Merit Badge Counselor.

On 13 February, SM Killen was confirmed by the Maryland Senate as a Md. Commissioner of Indian Affairs for the next 3 years.

On 18 February, Troop 252's Court of Honor was held at the Washington Monument State Park near Boonesboro, MD., after a .9 mile trek up the hill, where we read posters of the different stages in George Washington's life, and from the top, where we could see four states (MD, VA., W.VA. and PA.). They also ran (we Scouters walked) a couple hundred feet north, then south, on the Appalachian Trail, entitling us to wear the Appalachian Trail patch.

Recipients of the awards were - First Aid Merit Badge - Michael, Samir, Joseph and Gillian; Citizenship in the World Merit Badge- Michael and Samir; Arabic Translator Strip - Samir.

This summer, we will celebrate the raising up of two of our Scouts, Joel Sandoval and Yorman Amador, to the highest honor Boy Scouting can offer - Eagle Scout - at Eagle Scout Courts of Honor - when both men are back in town, between their Freshman and Sophomore years in college.

At the University of Scouting, Committee Chair/Chartered Organization Representative Eneida Martinez-Brown (MHB) and SM Killen both received their PhDs in Scouting.

We haven't had enough snow to go skiing (when we were ready, there was no snow, and when there was a

little snow, we couldn't go) this winter, and we are still planning on spring skiing, tubing (BRRR), canoeing, bicycling, hiking, primitive camping, orienteering and swimming - Get the kinks out and hang out with us - we're having all the fun, and you don't have to miss it. Call MHB (301-864-0059), or Bob Killen (3010483-8455).

## Wayne Brown & 2nd Conspiracy, Brulee Back for ArtsFest 2012

WTOP FM's David Burd to Emcee

By Emily Fanning

ArtsFest2012, the fifth annual arts and music festival set for Sunday, May 6, 11 am to 6 pm in Town Center, presented by the Riverdale Park Arts Council, will feature more than three dozen artists and vendors along with a handful of musical groups. Returning to the RPAC soundstage will be Oldies band Wayne Brown & 2nd Conspiracy, bassist Andrew Brown and the jazz-infused, Americana-marinated Alternative-Pop Brulee. Troubadour Eduardo Sanchez returns with a reconstituted six-member troop playing authentic, upbeat regional Mexican rhythm. One String Willie returns with string instrument-making workshops members of the Archie Edwards Blues Heritage Foundation perform throughout the day.

All News WTOP-FM personality David Burd will again emcee the day's events delivering interviews with artists, musicians and local notables. A Feb. 12 article in The Washington Post cited Burd, a 28-year Washington radio legend, for his "wit and personality," a rare but welcomed trait at an All-News radio station. Chris Benjamin, who comes from a long line of railroad men and who is Riverdale Park's chief model railroad enthusiast, will have several sets of trains operating on a near-100-foot course.

ArtsFest2011 attracted 650 festival goers who took advantage of the wide variety of artist's unique wares, getting great deals in advance of Mother's Day. And many attendees danced to lively musical performances until the sunset.

Even the artists had fun. "As usual I loved it. The location is excellent," artist Australia Worsley said after last year's festival. "Of all things, I hope that you do not change that. The volunteers are always friendly and helpful. As a vendor, I look forward to always coming back, so do my family and friends.

They love it. And I get a chance to meet a lot of great people." So, mark your calendars now for Sunday, May 6, 11 am to 6 pm in Town Center. There are a number of high-profile sponsorship opportunities for businesses, schools and non-profit organizations so contact Director of Sponsorships, Tracey Toscano at 301-706-5706, or [traceyjt@gmail.com](mailto:traceyjt@gmail.com).

Artists and vendors interested in participating in ArtsFest2012 can get information about signing on at [www.rpartsCouncil.org](http://www.rpartsCouncil.org) email [RPArtsCouncil@gmail.com](mailto:RPArtsCouncil@gmail.com). To reach Emily Fanning, call 301-864-5561, or email [OurDollMom@aol.com](mailto:OurDollMom@aol.com).

## Doll Club Needs Volunteers

By Emily Fanning

A whirlwind of War of 1812 observations, celebrations and events will soon sweep the immediate area. Locally based regional organizations such as the Anacostia Trails Heritage Association and the Anacostia Watershed Society have begun marking the 200th anniversary of Britain's two-year-long effort to take back the United States as an English entity. Nearly two-dozen children, members of the Doll Club, which is sponsored by the Riverdale Park Arts Council, have been busily sewing period doll clothes and accessories and making their own costumes to wear at upcoming reenactment events. Adults are needed to teach sewing techniques, and to assist youth teachers.

Sewing classes are held Mondays, 2:30 to 4:30 pm at Aunt Emily's Doll Hospital/Doll Shop, 6220 Rhode Island Avenue, Riverdale Park; Thursdays 5 to 7 pm at the adjacent Riverdale Park Farmer's Market in Town Center; and Wednesdays, 5 to 7 pm at Park Tanglewood Apartments, 5309 Riverdale Road. Adults, insured and licensed to drive in Maryland are also needed to carpool the youngsters to and from classes, and roundtrip to events and to occasionally serve as chaperones. If you have time to make an important, and welcomed investment in the community, please contact RPAC president Emily Fanning at 301-864-5561 (tel: 301-864-5561), or email her at [OurDollMom@aol.com](mailto:OurDollMom@aol.com)





Eighteenth-century Irish soldiers fighting with the British in the U.S. Revolutionary War held the first St. Patrick's Day parades. Some soldiers, for example, marched through New York City in 1762 to reconnect with their Irish roots.

Other parades followed in the years and decades after, including well-known celebrations in Boston, Philadelphia, and Chicago, primarily in flourishing Irish immigrant communities.

"It becomes a way to honor the saint but also to confirm ethnic identity and to create bonds of solidarity," said Meagher, of Catholic University in Washington, D.C.

Source:

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2011/03/110316-saint-patricks-day-2011-march-17-facts-ireland-irish-nation/>

## Community Circles

### 5th Annual Arts Fest

What: 5th Annual ArtsFest

When: Sunday, May 6, 11 am to 6 pm

What: Nearly 40 Artists, Artisans, Vendors, Diverse Musical Acts

Where: Riverdale Park's Town Center at MARC Station

Why: 'Cause It's A Lot of Fun

### St. Patrick's Day: Made in America?

Until the 1970s, St. Patrick's Day in Ireland was a minor religious holiday. A priest would acknowledge the feast day, and families would celebrate with a big meal, but that was about it.

"St. Patrick's Day was basically invented in America by Irish-Americans," Freeman said.

Irish-American history expert *Timothy Meagher* said Irish charitable organizations originally celebrated St. Patrick's Day with banquets in places such as Boston, Massachusetts; Savannah, Georgia; and Charleston, South Carolina.

## Local Organizations

**Lion's Club Meeting:** Every Fourth Wednesday.

Contact President Guy Tiberio at (240) 375-8902.

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

**Riverdale Park Daisy Troop #2546:** Contact Dannielle Glaros at (301) 779-5915.

**Riverdale Park Boys Scouts Troop 252—**

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

**Madison Hill Homeowners Association--** For

information, call (301) 583-8857 or

[www.madisonhill.biz](http://www.madisonhill.biz)

**Riversdale Historical Society –** Riversdale Mansion.

Contact (301) 864-0420.

**Riverdale Park Farmer's Market --** Contact Jim

Coleman at 301-332-6258.

**Riverdale Boys & Girls Club—**Email

*riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com* (301) 277-KIDS

**Riverdale Park Business Association—**call Audrey

Bragg at 301-277-7393 for meeting site

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

**The Historical Association of Riverdale Park**

(HARP)—Website: [www.harp1920.com](http://www.harp1920.com)

Email: *harp1920@yahoo.com*