



# The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

## March 2015

Volume 45, Issue 2

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### Town of Riverdale Park Contact Information

**Town Hall**  
5008 Queensbury Road  
301-927-6381

**Department of Public Works**  
5012 Queensbury Road  
301-864-1803

**Police Department**  
5004 Queensbury Road  
301-927-4343

**Bates Trucking and Trash  
Collection**  
Bulk Trash Collection  
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY  
301-773-2069  
*Residents must call by 2 p.m.  
Tuesday for Wednesday pickup*

## Town of Riverdale Park ELECTION NOTICE

In compliance with the terms of the Charter of the  
Town of Riverdale Park, Maryland, an election will be held

**Monday, May 4, 2015**

**To elect Mayor & Council Members**

**Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the  
Riverdale Park Town Hall, 5008 Queensbury Road**

Candidates for office must file Petition and Financial Disclosure Affidavits with the Election Judges at the Town Hall no later than 5 p.m., Thursday, April 9, 2015, in order to have their names on the official ballot. (Financial Disclosure affidavits and filing Petition forms are available at the Riverdale Park Town Hall.) There is a \$25.00 filing fee for all candidates.

All citizens, eighteen years of age or older, who have resided in the town of Riverdale Park for 45 days or more preceding Monday, May 4, 2015, and who are registered to vote in the Town of Riverdale Park, will be entitled to vote.

All residents who wish to qualify to vote in a town election must register with Prince George's County Board of Elections. To qualify to vote, your registration form must be received at the Board of Elections in Upper Marlboro by Monday, April 6, 2015 by 4:30 p.m. You may pick up a voter registration application at Town Hall, or go to [www.elections.state.md.us](http://www.elections.state.md.us)

## La Ciudad de Riverdale Park AVISO ELECTORAL

Conforme a las reglas de la Ciudad de Riverdale Park, Maryland  
Una Elección se llevara a cabo

**El día Lunes 4 de Mayo del 2015**

**Para elegir a funcionarios de la ciudad para Alcalde y Concilio  
Las urnas abrirán de 7 a.m. a 8 p.m. en la**

**Municipalidad de Riverdale Park, 5008 Queensbury Road**

Candidatos electorales deberán llenar una petición y declaración financiera jurada ante los Jueces Electorales en la Municipalidad antes de las 5 p.m. el día Jueves 9 de Abril del 2015 para tener su nombre en la boleta electoral. (Las formas de petición y declaración financiera están disponibles en la municipalidad de Riverdale Park.) Tienen una cuota de \$25.00 para todos los candidatos.

Todos los ciudadanos de dieciocho años de edad o mayores, que han vivido en la Ciudad de Riverdale Park por 45 días o más precedente al día Lunes 4 de Mayo del 2015 y que están registrados para votar en la ciudad de Riverdale Park tienen derecho a votar.

Todos los residentes que deseen calificar para votar en las elecciones de la ciudad deberán estar registrados en Prince George's County. Para votar, su formulario de registro deberá ser recibido en el Consejo Electoral (Board of Elections) en Upper Marlboro el día Lunes 6 de Abril del 2015 a las 4:30 p.m. Puede recoger la aplicación de registración en la municipalidad o ir al internet a la siguiente dirección [www.elections.state.md.us](http://www.elections.state.md.us)

Joyce K. Marcos, Chief Judge  
Geraldine Gee, Deputy Chief Judge

# Council Actions

By Waverly Pollitt

Legislative Meeting  
February 2, 2015

## Consent Agenda

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

1. Resolution 2015-R-03 to establish a candidate filing fee
2. Town Administrator to send a letter of support for Town's application to Maryland Smart Energy Communities (MSEC) grant program
3. Minutes from January 5, 2015 legislative meeting
4. Minutes from January 26, 2015 special legislative meeting

## Legislative Action Items:

1. Motion to approve Building Permit Application for 5023 Riverdale Road to build a 6 foot wooden fence/enclosure for dumpster (Ward 3) - **Approved**
2. Motion to approve Building Permit Application for 5401 Taylor Road to build a 6 foot wooden fence (Ward 3) - **Approved with Conditions**
3. Motion to approve the request for a temporary license and waiver from section 42-14(b)(1), 42-14(b)(4), and 42-14(b)(5) of the Town Code for Teresa's Garden Center to sell flowers at 6111 Kenilworth Avenue February 12-14, 2015 and May 8-10, 2015 (Ward 4) - **Approved**
4. Motion to adopt Resolution 2015-R-06 to appoint and establish compensation for election officials - **Adopted**
5. Motion to adopt Resolution 2015-R-07 to adjust restricted parking at 4704 Somerset Road (Ward 2) - **Adopted**
6. Motion to approve the 2015 Council Calendar - **Approved**

## Code's Corner

By Colleen C. Ferguson

The Riverdale Park Town Code Chapter 55 requires all single family rental homes to be registered and inspected annually. Violations of this code carry a penalty of one hundred dollars.

**§ 55-4. License required prior to occupancy; exceptions.**

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

**Jessica Barnes, Town Clerk**  
[jbarnes@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:jbarnes@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

**Brian Carpio, Fire Chief**  
[Eng7twr@yahoo.com](mailto:Eng7twr@yahoo.com);  
[info@riverdalevfd.com](mailto:info@riverdalevfd.com);  
[www.riverdalevfd.com](http://www.riverdalevfd.com)

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

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

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

The Town Crier is also available at the Town's Website: [www.riverdaleparkmd.info](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info)  
**Submission deadline: 15th of each month.**  
Submit all copies to  
[towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:towncrier@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

(a) The legal owner of record of any rental unit or rental dwelling located within the town shall not, except as provided by the terms of a temporary certificate issued upon application for a rental license, permit or allow such unit or dwelling to be occupied without first having obtained a rental license from the town.

**§ 55-5. Application; forms; fees. [Amended 06.09.03]**

(a) Within thirty (30) days after the effective date of this chapter, owners of all existing rental units/dwellings shall make written application to the town for a rental unit/dwelling license upon such form or forms as the town shall, from time to time, designate. All new rentals shall be initiated by application thirty (30) days prior to occupancy. Such application(s) shall be submitted together with the license and inspection fee(s). The initial amount of such fee shall be two hundred dollars (\$200). The amount of such fee may be revised from time to time by the Council in the same manner as an ordinance and shall be posted on the face of the application form.

(b) A late fee of ten dollars (\$10) per day shall be assessed to the applicant

**§ 55-6. Temporary certificates; inspections; issuance or denial of license.**

(c) An inspection of the rental unit or dwelling shall be conducted by the town's code enforcement officer or by the person(s) or firm so designated by the Mayor and Council, who shall certify that the rental unit or dwelling is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Prince George's County Housing Code -- specifically, Subtitles 4, Building; 11, Fire Safety; 12, Health; 13, Housing; and 27, Zoning, of Title 17 -- and all applicable provisions of town ordinances. The inspection may, but shall not be required to, include a check of all systems and subsystems in the home for safety and operation. Upon such certification, a rental unit/dwelling license shall be issued. The certification and license shall not be considered under any circumstance a warranty by the town as to the safety or operation of any systems and subsystems. The town may, but shall not be required to, have experts such as engineers or the like check any and all systems or subsystems. The town's inspection may be limited to obvious visible problems and shall not be deemed to include any latent or hidden defects or problems.

**§ 55-12. Penalty.**

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person or persons, firm, or corporation to violate any of these provisions, which are hereby declared by the Council to be municipal infractions, and will be subject to pay a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each offense. Each day that a violation continues after assessment of the initial fine shall constitute a separate or repeat offense. Payment of the fines without correction of violation(s) does not constitute abatement of the violation(s).

(b) For purposes of enforcing this chapter, the town is authorized to exercise all powers available to it under state and county law and the Housing Code to prohibit or prevent occupancy of an unlicensed premises subject to licensing under this chapter for which a temporary certificate has not been issued or has expired, or for which a license has expired or been revoked, including, but not limited to, eviction of the occupants and barring entry by occupants to the unlicensed premise.

The Town Code can be reviewed in its entirety at: [www.riverdaleparkmd.info](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info)

Please call the code enforcement division to register or report an unregistered rental property in Riverdale Park.

# Mayor's Report

By Mayor Vernon Archer

## Trains, Horns and Crossings

It has long been a goal of the Town of Riverdale Park to find a way to reduce the noise associated with the railroad that runs through our town. Buffering by trees and bushes to quiet the rumble of the trains themselves have been periodically planted, improved and restored for decades. Also, we have looked periodically for means to reduce the amount of noise cause by the blast of passing train horns (I know they are called whistles, but they are just too loud for me to use that term).

The only way to get any reduction in the use of horns by trains is through achieving a "Quiet Zone" designation for the crossing at Queensbury Road. The process to get this designation has proven complicated and time consuming, but we have persevered. Recently we contracted the services of expert consultants to assist us in moving this forward and they have certainly assisted in moving to the final stage.

There is good news and there are some new challenges as we move to the next stages on this quest. It seems we are likely eligible to achieve the designation for the vehicle crossing at Queensbury Road under the rules laid out by the Federal Rail Administration (FRA), which oversees this process. An unexpected challenge that has surfaced is that the MARC commuter rail station that is immediately north of the vehicle crossing is treated as an entirely separate feature, and the operating procedures are controlled by the owner of tracks, in this case CSX Railroad, and not included in the FRA-regulated Quiet Zone. CSX has given a tentative statement that they do not have "quiet zones" at any passenger rail stations, but have not given a final written answer.

Another type of issue that has surfaced is an issue of trespassing by pedestrians along the tracks. By trespassing I mean crossing the tracks or walking along the tracks at any point except a designated crossing point like Queensbury Road or the Marc Station. Both the FRA and CSX have stated that because of this situation there may be the need to put up fencing too. This would of course substantially alter the neighborhoods adjoining the tracks and might in some cases be incompatible with the trees and bushes planted for buffering.

As the issues have become more complicated than initially foreseen I'm working with the FRA, CSX and our consultants to have a public forum/discussion of the issues related to getting it quieter in our town. We have tentatively scheduled this for Tuesday May 26 at 8:00 p.m. as the opening agenda item for the Council Work Session on that date. While we will be reminding residents of this event as we get closer, interested residents should mark their calendars.

## Wells Run and Storm Water Management

One of the most important things our town does for residents is to look out for our interests with regional entities. Storm water management is just one such issue and we are currently particularly interested in several developments and possibilities along the Wells Run drainage that serves the northwest part of town. Prince George's County Department of Public Works

(PGDPW) has started the design/engineering phase to reconstruct and rebuild the much dilapidated channel after years of pressure from us and other interested stake holders. This is a great step forward, but it also puts a new type of pressure in place.

As the PGDPW starts the process they are not currently planning to in any way improve the system either to increase water quantity capacity or provide for better water quality. Town government has not given up on seeing at least some improvements come along with this rebuild, and we are seeing some interesting opportunities arise.

The Anacostia Watershed Society has a grant and is partnering with the town to redesign the last 500 feet of Wells Run prior to its entering the Northeast Branch. The design will provide natural filtering of the water just prior to leaving the Run and will have a substantial natural catchment that will hold a significant amount of water in storm events prior to allowing it to enter the Northeast Branch. This exciting possibility to work with one of the most dynamic and import local nonprofits is very exciting.

Upstream we are also looking into other possibilities that might lead to our getting not just a new system but an improved one too. Last June’s flood showed us the limitations of our existing design to handle flash events. We need to find ways to implement solutions to the problems that were exposed.

To date I have no definite changes to champion but we are looking with our partners in the County and neighboring municipalities for ways to hold more water in a safe manner while it’s still up stream. A holding proposed for Hyattsville commonly called “9 Pond” would provide substantial new holding capacity during rain events at the very headwaters of Wells Run. We are also re-examining the Cafritz development’s storm water management plans. While it already exceeds legal requirements, all three partners—town, county and developer—have the same interest in making sure that we get the best system possible for the money put in. We are still looking to improve.

## Ward and Committee Reports

### Ward Two Report

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

The month started out on an unfortunate note when Potomac Phil (a local relative of the world-famous groundhog Punxsutawney Phil) saw his shadow, predicting six more weeks of winter...which we’ve been seeing this month, for sure. I’m looking forward to spring, and hope both Phils are wrong, and we see warm weather soon.

#### Code Enforcement

I’m very happy to help residents report violations of Town Code, and definitely want to know if you feel that an ongoing issue hasn’t been properly handled. The fastest and most efficient way to get a response is to report it immediately and directly to Code Enforcement. If you prefer e-mail, you can contact them at [code@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:code@riverdaleparkmd.gov); the phone number for Code Enforcement is 240-898-2500. On nights and weekends you can contact the Police Department non-

emergency number – 301-927-4343 – to report issues that can't wait for normal working hours. As I said above, do feel free to call me (or Mayor Archer) if you don't see the response you expect.

### **Cafritz Development**

The Cafritz team has been making several minor updates to their plans for the Riverdale Park Station project. Some of these changes were at the request of the Town (for instance, a request to change the streetlights used to be consistent with ones used elsewhere in town, so the Town would not have to maintain a stock of two types of lights). Others are refinements to the design, such as updating benches and hand railings in the "gateway" park to mesh better with the overall design sense of that area. The Mixed-Use Town Center Local Design Review Committee ("M-U-TC Committee" for short) has reviewed these changes and approved almost all of them. Councilman Ebbeler and I, who represent the Town on the M-U-TC Committee, mentioned in our Ward reports in February that we were pleased that the Cafritz team was still working to improve the project – many other developers would not have taken on the additional expense and review to make the project better than originally improved.

### **Farmers' Market**

The Farmers' Market is open every Thursdays from 3pm to 7pm (indoors) at 6204 Rhode Island Avenue. If you haven't been to visit since it re-opened indoors, you should come! One room has tables and live music; the vendors are in an adjacent room, and you can buy freshly-prepared food on the sidewalk outside. It has such a nice community feel, and it's really great to be able to buy all our favorite things

throughout the winter. Recent markets have included radishes, cilantro, beans, butternut squash, spaghetti squash, white potatoes, sweet potatoes, rabe, turnips, chard, jams and jellies, apples, pastured meats, Riverdale special roaster chickens, fresh small batch roasted coffees, goat gelato, fried goat cheese curds, artisan aged and raw milk goat cheeses.

In addition to the Farmers' Market, the Riverdale Rooster Sunday Coffee House is operating in the same space on Sundays from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. The offerings have varied from week to week, but every week has had live music, Zeke's Coffee (brewed and beans, and hot chocolate as well), hot apple cider, and baked goods (including scones, cookies, croissants, empanadas, cinnamon rolls, etc.). This is a great opportunity to meet and visit with other people in the community – I encourage everyone to attend. The Coffee House will continue through March 22. Special thanks to Jim Coleman for pulling this together; this is community building at its finest. I hope to see you there!

## **Public Works Report**

By Leonard Addison

**Saturday Drop Off** – The next scheduled dates for 2015 for drop off of bulk trash on the third Saturday of each month, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM, are: **March 21**, April 18, May 16, and June 20. July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21 and December 19

**Community Clean Up** - Riverdale Park is having its annual community spring cleanup on **April 25, 2015; collections end at 2:00 PM**. Residents are offered the opportunity to put their yard waste/bulk trash items on the curb the evening of Friday, April 24th

for pick up on Saturday, April 25, 2015. **This event replaces the April Saturday Drop Off, normally on the third Saturday of each month. The Public Works facility will NOT be open for drop off of any bulk trash items on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>.**

**The following items WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR PICKUP:**

- Remodeling lumber, flooring material, plaster, plasterboard and interior tile
- No fencing material or poles
- Air conditioners, refrigerators and freezers
- Lawnmowers, other gas powered tools
- Automobile major components
- Tires
- Dirt, stone, gravel and sod
- Concrete blocks and bricks, cement
- Antifreeze and/or oil  
Glass, windows, door panels, fish tanks
- Paint
- Hazardous materials and/or chemicals

**Earth Day** - The Town supports and participates in the Anacostia Watershed Society's annual Earth Day Celebration in its efforts to clean up the Anacostia River. The event will be held on Saturday, **April 25, 2015**, from 9:00 a.m. – noon.

Residents, youth groups, students and all interested parties are asked to join us as we do our share to clean a portion of the river. The site designated for our area is at Riverside Park, located on Nicholson Street in Riverdale Park.

Volunteers wishing to participate in the Earth Day event are asked to call the Department of Public Works at 301-864-1803. **Student volunteers earn community service hours for this activity. Refreshments will be available.**

**Prince George's County Information** – To expedite requests for services provided

by Prince George's County's, residents should utilize their information number, **which is 311**. Using that number will enable residents to address county related concerns such as questions, complaints, animal control requests, or other service needs for which the county is responsible.

**Animal Control** – The Department of Environmental Resources – Animal Management Division handles **all calls** related to animal control in your community. Please contact them if there are animals in a trap, sick, any cruelty to animals, animal spaying or neutering, dangerous animals, animal carcasses, or other animal related issues in your neighborhood, please call the Animal Management Division at **301-780-7200**. **Office hours are Monday, Tuesday and Friday, 11:30 am – 7:30 pm, and Saturday, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Closed Sundays and Thursdays.**

**The public can view animals on Monday, Tuesday and Friday 12:00 noon – 6:00 pm and on Saturday from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm. Closed Sundays and Thursdays. The office is located at 3750 Brown Station Road, Upper Marlboro 20772.**

**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, 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, 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).

## **Boy Scouts Troop 252**

By Robert Killen

Troop 252 is still in action! Our Senior Patrol Leader, Guillian Canéte, passed his Scoutmaster Conference for Star Scout rank; Joseph Elliott is still working on his swimming (he can advance in rank when he passes his swim test); and Michael Jarquin is busily completing many of his "partial" blue cards; they are all working on the Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge.

Mr. Killen and three Scouts (all Arrowmen) from Baltimore Area Council's Troop 602, in Laurel, attended the Esauw Hupeday Lodge Carolina Indian Seminar at Mitchell Community College in Statesville, NC. 23-25 January. They all learned a lot and danced a lot, and re-met friends they hadn't seen since last year.

Saturday, 07 February, Mr. Killen successfully completed the 10 Commandment Hike in Manassas with another 500 or so Scouts and Scouters. The weather was great, and the companionship was even greater. MHB, Mr. Killen, Guillian, Michael and Joseph helped staff the annual Protestant Committee on Scouting Scout Sunday the afternoon of 08 February with another 300+ Scouts and Scouters in Arlington, VA.; our Scouts did the registration, and MHB and Mr. Killen helped take up the collection. Mr. Killen had already attended Scout Sunday at Emmanuel UMC in Scaggsville, MD. that morning.

Joseph and the Canéte family went to Liberty Mountain on St. Valentine's day. There they learned how to snowboard. By the time they finished, both boys were able to keep on the snowboard without falling. Guillian learned how to turn an "Ollie" jump into a 180 degree spin. Joseph learned how to snowboard with a camera in his hand. They had a great time and will definitely plan on going again.

We (Scouters) have signed up for the Baltimore Area Council University of Scouting at Carroll Community College on 24 March. AJ Jarquin is up for his Bachelor's Degree; Dixie and Arnel Canéte and Rebecca Johnson-Stone are up for their Master's Degrees; Sandra Tolson already has her Master's, headed for her Doctorate; MHB and Mr. Killen already have their Doctorates, going for Fellows Awards.

The weekend of April 17-19, we're helping re-enact the Civil War at the New Market Battlefield. We're the only troop who chose to portray the Union (North) Army - are we the only ones who read our history books?

April 24-26, we're helping staff the Protestant-Catholic Religious Retreat in College Park, camping out with the tipi.

May 23-25, we're signed up for the James E. West Hike, which should be interesting, at least. Winter should be over by then.

Yes, this summer we're planning (again) on bicycling the C&O Canal (184 miles), and we'll do it if we can arrange the scheduling between family international trips.

That's it for now; I'm certain I've left something out, but I'll put it in next time. Stay tuned.

## **Catching Up With CKAR CDC**

Submitted By CM David Lingua

The Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Community Development Corporation (CKAR CDC) is as a community-driven organization to bring together a multi-ethnic populace to promote the social, economic and business interests of the Greater Riverdale community. Since its founding in 2007, the CDC involves itself with community and business outreach, resource development and collaborating with other agencies and groups towards the area's benefit.

The CDC has visited businesses individually and conducted business information sessions both in English and Spanish. Working with the county and state offices along with the Maryland Transit Authority, the CDC had co-sponsored

community information workshops about the proposed Purple Line. The CDC also has fostered a longstanding and developing relationship with the University of Maryland's School of Landscape Architecture and the Center for Educational Partnerships. As well the CDC is working with Prince George's Community College to develop a workforce project. The CDC has a MOU with CASA de Maryland for the development and creation of an Empowerment Center. The CDC continues to work with the Town of Riverdale Park and Prince George's County to address public safety and code enforcement issues as they arise.

Being a 501(c)3, the CDC has recently received a county grant as well as a state bond for the creation of a Welcome Center. Currently it is working with the county's Department of Public Works and Transportation on a gateway rain garden at Kenilworth Avenue and Edmonston Road. Also at this time the CDC is working with M-NCPPC to complete a Sustainable Communities Application for submission.

The CDC has been able to achieve all this through the continuing hard work and dedication of its board members and other volunteers as well as through the hiring of part time help. The CDC will be working towards identifying and securing funding so as to be able to hire a full time employee, hopefully over the next year. Until then the CDC relies on the talents and abilities of its board. The CDC welcomes and appreciates those who are willing and able to afford their time and talents to help revitalize the central Kenilworth Avenue corridor.

## Community Circles

### **MMP TriplePlay in Prince George's County**

Available through the Maryland Mortgage Program, MMP TriplePlay gives eligible homebuyers in Prince George's County incredible financial incentives that put homeownership within reach. MMP TriplePlay gives you more buying power and makes it easier for your family to make the move. For more details visit: [mmp.maryland.gov/TriplePlay](http://mmp.maryland.gov/TriplePlay)

### **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](mailto:NCSA@soccer.net) or (301) 577-3559.

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

**Madison Hill Homeowners Association:** For information, call (301) 583-8857 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) 586-5973.

**Riverdale Boys & Girls Club:** E-mail [riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com](mailto: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 Samuel Williams via e-mail: [scribenoir@gmail.com](mailto:scribenoir@gmail.com)

**The Historical Association of Riverdale Park (HARP):**

Website: [www.riverdaleparkhistory.org](http://www.riverdaleparkhistory.org)

E-mail: [harp@riverdaleparkhistory.org](mailto:harp@riverdaleparkhistory.org)

**Riverdale Park  
Easter Egg Hunt**

**Saturday, March 28, 2015  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Riverside Neighborhood Park  
5801 Riverside Drive, Riverdale Park, MD 20737**

**The Easter Bunny will hop by from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. for pictures. Be sure to bring your cameras!**



**Búsqueda de huevos de Pascua  
sábado, 28 de marzo del 2015  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Riverside Neighborhood Park  
5801 Riverside Drive, Riverdale Park, MD 20737**

**El Conejito de Pascua saltará a las 1:30 p.m. hasta 2:30 p.m. para tomar fotos. Asegúrense de llevar sus cámaras!**