



The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

May 2010

Volume 40, Issue 4

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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

RIVERDALE PARK ANNUAL ARTS FEST

RPAC'S ARTS FESTIVAL IS HERE!!!!

**SUNDAY, MAY 2, AT TOWN CENTER BY THE TRAIN STATION
11 AM TILL 6 PM WE HAVE A GREAT SHOW PLANNED FOR YOU.**

LIVE MUSIC

***RICK FRANKLIN & MIKE BAYTOP, ACCOUSTICAL BLUES**

***JAIME PAJARO BAND, AUTHENTIC COLOMBIAN VALLENATO**

***RUTHIE & GREG, MULTIPLE WAMA AWARDS, COUNTRY/ROCKABILLY**

***CAPITOL NOIR, JAZZ / SWING**

***JANINE WILSON, MULTIPLE WAMA AWARDS, ROCK VOCALIST**

***MOTU 5 FEATURING MARIANNA PREVITI, MULTIPLE WAMA AWARDS,
JAZZ VOCALISTS**

***SOUND BY JAMIE PLATT (RENOUNED WASHINGTON SOUND TECH)**

PERFORMANCES

***ACTIVE CULTURES PRESENTS SPORTACULTURE THEATER GROUP**

***COLOURS DANCE GROUP**

***BLUE SKY PUPPET THEATER IN BARKERS OF SEVILLE (AGES BIRTH
TO 100)**

ART & CRAFT VENDORS/DEMONSTRATORS

**RPAC ELEPHANT ART GALLERY & GIFT SHOP (PAINTINGS FOR SALE)
WITH PORTION OF PROCEEDS GOING TO RPAC COMMUNITY PROGRAMS
& TO THE
ELEPHANT CAUSES**

**RIVERDALE HOUSE MUSEUM'S CHILDREN'S ART TABLES
RPAC CHILDREN'S ART TABLES**

GOOD FOOD & DRINK

**WINE BAR CATERED BY S & J WITH PORTION OF PROCEEDS GOING TO
RPAC'S YOUTH & CULTURAL PROGRAMS IN OUR COMMUNITY**

FREE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY/GRATIS PARA TODA LA FAMILIA

COME ON OUT & HAVE A FUN DAY

Council Actions

By Waverly Politt

Regular Legislative Meeting April 5, 2010

1. **Approved** - Minutes for the regular legislative meeting held on March 1, 2010.
2. **Approved**- Minutes for the special legislative meeting held on February 22, 2010.
3. **Approved**- A permit for Taylor & Sons Inc. to hold a fundraiser carnival from April 8, 2010- April 18, 2010 at 5550 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale Park, MD.
4. **Introduced** - Ordinance 2010-OR-03 concerning changes to chapter 68 weeds.
5. **Introduced**- Ordinance 2010-OR-04 concerning changes to chapter 25 Dance Hall.
6. **Approved** - Ordinance 2010-OR-02 Speed Zone Monitoring System.
7. **Discussion** - On banners in Town Center.
8. **Motion to approve**- expenditure for a building improvement from 06/07 fund. Up to \$8,000.

Special Legislative Meeting March 29, 2010

1. **Introduction**- Ordinance Resolution 2010-OR-02, an ordinance concerning Speed Zone Monitoring System.

Fire Department Fundraising with Verizon

Riverdale Fire Department will receive a donation when you order a new qualifying residential Verizon product! Just call 1-888-695-5299 and provide code # 13672. Donations are paid on the following qualified new product orders:

Residential Product	Donation
Verizon FIOS or High Speed Internet	\$25.00
Verizon FIOS TV or DirectTV	\$20.00
Verizon Freedom Calling, Verizon Long Distance, or Additional Line	\$10.00

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
or, [Riverdalefire-
chief7@gmail.com](mailto: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

MOTHERS' DAY TOURS

Rosalie Stier Calvert bore nine children during her life here at Riversdale. Five of these children lived to adulthood, including Charles Benedict Calvert, founder of the University of Maryland. Celebrate the special mothers, mothers-in-law, grandmothers, and other ladies in your life with a free guided tour of the historic house! This offer is limited to one free tour per paid admission. Admission is \$3 adults/\$2 seniors/ \$1 students/ FREE children 4 & under.

SEASONAL SELECTIONS—FROM THE STILL ROOM AND THE DAIRY!

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. Come take a peek as the Riversdale Kitchen Guild churns butter, distills herbal infusions, and more! This demonstration takes place on Sunday, April 18, 2010 from noon to 3:30 pm. Admission to the dependency is FREE and regular fees apply for house tours. \$3 adults, \$2 seniors, \$1 students 5-18, FREE children 4 and under.

QUARTERLY LECTURE AT RIVERSDALE

Riversdale is trying something new this year and offering our scholarly lectures once every quarter. The year's spring lecture will be held Tuesday, May 23, 2010 at 7:30 pm. Donald Shomette, underwater archaeologist, historian, and author, will present his talk, "New Perspectives on the Battle of Bladensburg." Shomette has recently published his book, *Flotilla: The Patuxent Naval Campaign in the War of 1812*, and will provide insight into his research during the lecture. Lectures are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for students with a valid ID. This is a walk-in program and reservations are not required. 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. This facility is owned and operated by The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Parks and Recreation, Prince George's County. Call 301-864-0420 or email riversdale@pgparcs.com for more information. Sign up for classes and activities online at www.pgparcs.com <<http://www.pgparcs.com/>> or by touch-tone phone at 301-583-BOOK.



Mayor's Report

By Vernon Archer

This report is dedicated to the somewhat dry but very important business of producing the next fiscal year's town budget. By the time you read this, I will have presented to the members of the council my proposal for the town's financial year that begins on July 1. The council will then have a series of hearings during May and June to either accept the proposal as is, or modify it as the council sees fit.

The hearing dates are not yet set, but you will be able to get a copy of the proposed budget at the Legislative Meeting on Monday May 3. At that time the subsequent hearing dates will be set and you will be able to find out the schedule through our Town Announce email system, checking our website, or just calling town hall.

It probably will not surprise anyone that this year was a particularly difficult one to put together a budget. The economic downturn that has hit most of us personally and affected almost all businesses and government certainly did not bypass Riverdale Park. The ripples of the housing and stock market collapse from 2008 have truly rocked our financial boat this year and will continue to for at least another year.

The two largest problems we face are: 1) major reductions in state funding to municipalities and 2) reduced property assessments. Last summer we were given the news that our two main sources of state funding—aid for police and the highway users fund—were being cut in total by 78%! This reduction has been made permanent in the legislative session that just finished so we are left trying to find the means of replacing what amounts to about 4% our total budget.

The other major issue is the reduction in our property assessments. We saw a 5% overall reduction in the value of the town's property and this means it is all the more difficult to maintain the service levels we have experienced in recent years. There is some good news for many persons who moved to town between 2005 and 2007 in that some will see some reduction in their tax bills. However, overall this reduction along with state cuts makes it much more difficult to continue services at the current level.

As I worked with the senior members of our town staff to come up with a budget proposal for the council I tried to keep several principles in mind as guides. In particular I don't want to allow cuts to severely damage the government's ability to advance our agenda of a safe, clean and beautiful town for years to come in order to deal with a relatively short term revenue shortfall. Also, I tried to minimize the amount of shortfall from the state that is shifted onto our backs as the residents and tax payers of Riverdale Park. I believe the proposal I gave the council met these ambitions to the greatest extent possible.

Unfortunately, the proposal does contain some pain for all concerned: residents, tax payers, employees and business owners. At the same time the budget does not ask anyone to endure a lot of suffering. All employees will have their wages frozen. This means no cost of living adjustments, no promotions, and no increase of any kind for any employee. In return we will not have any reduction-in-force or furloughs. This ensures all employees of their jobs and also insures residents that we will have no major reductions in service. We have worked long and hard over the last years to develop and keep a highly effective workforce and I am determined to do everything possible to keep the men and women who are in fact our town government.

Property tax payers as a whole are asked to pay a small amount more in order to help make up for lost state aid. A tax rate of \$.6767 per \$100 of assessed value would give the town the exact same amount of revenue as last year and I am proposing that we instead pay \$.6967. This rate does not entirely replace lost state funding, but it replaces most and will allow us to maintain our current level of service to the town. As a tax payer myself I looked long and hard for ways to avoid this, but the government operates very lean already. The only additions to the New Year's budget are either compensated by cuts elsewhere, or are funded by grants or dedicated public safety funds.

Kids' Town Hall Meeting

Last month Councilman Rivas published in his report a number of questions that kids in his ward have for me and for town government in general. As it would take up more than my whole report to respond, I have decided to hold a Kids' Town Hall Meeting. On Saturday June 5 at 10 AM Town Hall all kids under 18 are invited to bring their questions and thoughts. After the meeting we will then tour our public works and police facilities. Parents are of course welcome too!

Ward and Committee Report

Ward Two Report

By Council Member Alan Thompson
akthompson@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Finance Committee Report

The finance committee took a break from meetings during March and April in anticipation of budget season, which starts May 3rd. That is the day where Mayor Archer will present his draft budget and taxation rate to the council. There will be at least three committee meetings during May and early June, so stay tuned for the schedule of meetings and feel free to join us as we figure out the budget for the next fiscal year.

This year's budget continues to look good. Costs are being contained, and some revenue sources are turning out better than expected, so we may add more to the reserve fund than I thought a few months ago.

Ward 2

Progress on the M-Square development project seems to have slowed, so a vote on the agreement between the Town and the University may not happen in May, as I had thought last month. If you are interested in being at the meeting where the agreement is signed, contact me and I'll be sure to give you advance notice of when that will happen.

Spring is the season when many people's minds turn to fixing things up. This is great, but some projects do require permits from the town and county. If you have any questions about whether a project you're planning requires a permit, please call our Code Enforcement department at 240-898-2500 or contact them by e-mail at

code@riverdaleparkmd.gov before you get started. They are extremely knowledgeable and will help you or the contractor you hire stay in compliance with the law.

I'll close this report by thanking my fellow council representative and chair of the Recreation Board Raymond Rivas, along with all other members of the Recreation Board, for organizing an exciting Easter egg hunt in March. The Recreation Board plans events for the community throughout the year, with the next event being Riverdale Park

day in October. If you would like to help the Recreation Board to prepare for this celebration of our town, please contact Mr. Rivas or me.

Ward Three Report

By Council Member David Lingua
djlingua@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Public Works Committee Report

With spring's arrival, Ward Three looks forward to another busy season in Riverside Neighborhood Park. Sundays bring family, friends, local soccer league play, and, more recently, vendors. Chapter 5, Section 12 of the MNCPPC regulation book prohibits commercial vending on park property. Despite repeated calls to Park Police and their reactive presence, the number of vendors setting up on any given Sunday indicates MNCPPC has a considerable task before it. This issue has been brought to the attention of town staff that is in turn working with MNCPPC to address this issue.

A longer ongoing issue has been the open consumption of alcohol in Riverside Neighborhood Park despite the clear posting upon entrance of its prohibition. Chapter 5, Section 3 of the aforementioned rulebook states as such. In earlier reports it has been noted the renaissance of young families and children in the area near the park. It is imperative to minimize the risk of an accident that could prove more than just devastating but fatal. This issue has been brought to the attention of MNCPPC Park Police as well. In order to help the Park Police curtail this activity, you are encouraged to call them at 301-459-9088, with a description of what you are witnessing and where. Calls are confidential. Likewise, you may call Riverdale Park Police, 301-927-4343.

The Steering Committee for Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization is moving forward in its effort to incorporate and form a board. The committee's goal is to realize incorporation and have a standing board by this summer. Again I would encourage anyone interested and able to become involved with improving the Central Kenilworth Avenue corridor to become involved. The Steering Committee's next meeting is May 5 at the East Pines Civic Association, 5189 Eastpine Drive, starting at 7 PM.

Eastpine Drive is located along the 6400 block of Riverdale Road (MD 410), just before the Baltimore Washington Parkway on the right side, eastbound.

Ward Five Report

By Council Member Raymond Rivas
rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov

Community Affairs Report

Hello to the Community of Riverdale Park. I must say it was a pleasure to see everyone get together and participating in the Earth Day River Clean up and celebration. Marking the 40th Anniversary of this event, it was hosted by the Anacostia Watershed Society. It was gratifying to be involved in such a worthwhile cause. I must add that the exercise was not as excruciating as I would have thought but it certainly was needed. Thank you all for making this a fun event and I look forward to seeing everyone next year.

Well, it is not too early to get prepared for the Riverdale Park Day at the Mansion in October 2010. Your Recreational Chair person is looking for volunteers to fill some of the committee seats that are currently open. Last year's event was simply fabulous and fun. We are currently looking for food vendors, singers, bands, and event planners.

Once again, I just wanted to remind everyone that the Riverdale Park Arts Committee has scheduled their annual Arts Festival on May, 2, 2010 from 11:00am to 6:00pm at the Town Center. Please come and celebrate this momentous occasion with your neighbors and friends.

If anyone would like to volunteer in this event please feel free to contact me @ my above e-mail address. We are accepting donations in any form for this event.

The Riverdale Park Boys & Girls Club has some great things happening. The location for registration is 6351 51 St. Avenue, Riverdale MD 20737 & phone # 301-277-5437. 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), 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 welcome!!!

Upcoming events in the area by Department of Parks and Recreation, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission On July 10th – from 10-12 noon there will be a bike rodeo at the Riverdale Town Building.

There will be representatives from the Park Rangers and Park Police that will do a Bike Rodeo with the kids. This entails a video on bike safety and an obstacle course. There will be a ride to Lake Artemisia. For those that do not have bikes the Park Police have a bike trailer with bikes that could be used for the ride. The kids can participate in the Rodeo but the rides are open to all family members.

On July 24th – from 10-12 noon there will be the same program at the Edmonston Recreation Building. (Bobby, could you reserve that for me). At the conclusion of that Rodeo there will be a scheduled ride to the Bladensburg Marina for a Pontoon Boat ride. The boat ride is about 1 hour.

On July 23rd, there will be a combined community movie at Riversdale Park off of Taylor Road. This will be an evening event where there will be some games or family events that could be played while waiting for the sun to set. Otherwise, the movie would begin about 9pm and last until 10:30pm.

Youth Group Talk

The youth group kids are very active in their art projects. The kids enjoyed being part of the Earth Day River Clean up. Now they know how it feels to be giving.

They are looking forward to the bike rodeo and the cinema day at River Park. The youth group is trying to keep the kids busy this summer and is welcoming any new ideas that you may have for their activities.

At last the kids are anxious about having a pow-wow sit down with the Mayor to discuss various issues. If any young teens are interested in participating in the youth group program, please feel free to contact me via the above listed e-mail.

Public Works Report

By Leonard Addison

Memorial Day - Trash will NOT be collected on Monday, May 31, 2010. Trash collection will resume on the next regular pick up scheduled day, Thursday, June 3, 2010.

Banners for Town Center – the DPW are purchasing colorful banners to be installed on the Town's street light poles to enhance the appearance of our Town Center. Residents are asked to share their opinions by contacting the department by phone on 301-864-1803.

Rain Gardens – the Center for Watershed Protection (CWP) has received a grant to design rain gardens in Maryland. Riverdale has been selected as a site. We are pleased that the Neighborhood Design Center will partner with the CWP to include our community in this initiative.

Spring Beautification Plan - The Department of Public Works is continuing its spring beautification plans around town that will include planting flowers in our park areas and Town Hall, painting/touching-up sign posts as well as re-painting street markings, in an effort to continue our annual beautification plans for the upcoming spring/summer seasons!

As part of our plans, we are purchasing new large flower pots for Town Center to add to the Town's current collection, into which residents can participate by planting flowers to add to the beauty

of the Town. Residents are asked to adopt a flower pot to decorate. Individuals or groups wishing to volunteer for this project should call DPW at 301-864-1803. The best decorated pot will be featured in the Town Crier.

Earth Day and Spring Cleaning – Earth Day and spring cleaning took place on Saturday, April 17, 2010. The department wishes to thank our residents for caring about our environment enough to clean up a section of the Anacostia River as part of the Earth Day Celebration. The community clean up was also a success. Thanks to the DPW staff for making sure that the yard waste and bulk trash items left out by our residents, during our community's spring clean up, were promptly picked up and delivered to the county landfill.

Riverdale Park Welcome Signs – The department is in the process of replacing damaged "Welcome to Riverdale Park" signs that invite visitors to spend some time in our friendly community, with the intention of replacement taking place during the month of May.

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 75 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.

Seniors Circle – As part of the Dew's continuing efforts to serve the needs of our community, we are establishing a monthly "Senior's Circle" section, through the end of the year that will provide important resources and services for our seniors to improve or enhance their quality of life by increasing their independence. Listed below are a few important resources, provided by Prince George's County Department of Family Services Administration on Aging, that may be of use to some of you. A different list will be provided monthly. If you are

in need of any of these services, or have questions, please contact Prince George's County's Administration on Aging at 301-265-2450.

➤ **ADMINISTRATION ON AGING** at 301-265-2450 – *The following programs are sponsored by the Administration on Aging.*

~**TELEPHONE REASSURANCE PROGRAM** - Recruits volunteers from the community, senior centers and other volunteer programs to place daily reassuring telephone calls to senior citizens within Prince George's County. The goal of the program is to eliminate some of the concerns facing senior citizens who live alone; thereby, assisting in remaining independent. The program provides the opportunity for senior citizens to connect by telephone with a friendly voice. This allows individuals to stay in contact with their community and to help decrease the feelings of loneliness and isolation.

~**MULTI-SERVICE SENIORS CENTERS** – Provide five day a week senior centers offering a wide range of services, information referral and assistance, education, health and special programs/services available through various agencies a hot nutritious meal is served daily and transportation is provided. Each center has individually scheduled programs and activities.

~**SENIOR TRANSPORTATION SERVICES** – For older adults are provided by the Department of Public Works and Transportation.

TOP BANANA GROCERIES – 301-372-3663 - Award-winning nonprofit delivery service of groceries to your home. The delivery charge is \$5 - \$15, based on affordability. They accept major credit cards, gift cards, food stamps.

Boy Scouts Troop 252

By Bob Killen

The weekend of April 16-18 Troop 252 is setting up our tipi at Mattaponi for the Protestant-Catholic Religious Retreat, and, since most of the Scouts have failed to update their Health & Safety forms, (Sandy Tolson, MHB and I are current) it looks like we (adults) will be staffing only. If you have the time, please come down and visit. If that doesn't bring rain or snow, nothing will... I hope it's too late to snow.

We're also setting up the tipi for a "Healing Horse Powwow" in Mt. Airy May 14-16, and for the Goshen Camporee 28-30 May. The tipi keeps us popular in Scouting and Native American circles.

We have three Scouts almost ready to become Eagle. Yorman Amador has done his project, and now only needs to write it up, Joel Sandoval has written up his project draft, waiting for Council approval, and Ismael Villalta says that he will have his draft written up this weekend. The old adage is still true. "If it weren't for the last minute, absolutely nothing would get done."

Samir Selih and Michael Delaney are getting much better and faster doing their lashings, (diagonal, square and Philippine), and soon will be able to fashion a bamboo ladder to climb up to the roof of the Scout Hut and to get them up into trees whose branches start too high for them to reach from the ground (we'll be standing by to catch them if their lashings fail - the acid test of good lashing).

This summer will be interesting. The older Scouts choose to wait until the last possible second to plan an event, and after they plan it, something else invariably seems to come up for the older Scouts to do, leaving us with younger leaders (who are REALLY learning how to plan) and a bad taste in our mouths when the event doesn't go as well as it could have. Of course, we don't have to load up the cars so much. We have planned to go Mountain bicycling (Annapolis to BWI and back), tubing + (BIG tubes) on the Potomac or Shenandoah River (when the water warms up), boating at Jug Bay (we still have four lightweight aluminum boats), and hiking, not to mention camping - at least once to feed the horseflies at Assateague. AND swimming in the Atlantic Ocean in Ocean City. MD You need

us, and we need you. Please join in the fun! Contact Bob Killen (rfkille@yahoo.com) or call Eneida Martinez-Brown (MHB) 301-864-0059.

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tact Bob Killen (rfkille@yahoo.com) or call Eneida Martinez-Brown (MHB) 301-864-0059.

Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department

By Nova Johns

Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department

The Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department would like to welcome Probationary Members **Sarah Dice, Vincent Farally, Sarah Gignac, and Mike Napes**. Again, welcome to the family!

Congratulations to Firefighter **Mike McClary** and Firefighter **Kevin Cole** for completing Firefighter I Course (108 instructional hours) and graduating from Probationary Membership to Regular Membership. Firefighter **Vincent Farally** has completed all requirements to obtain EMT in the State of Maryland, well done!

Firefighter/EMT **Steven "Flounder" Davis** has received Life Membership Status within the Department. Life membership is only gained by members who have rendered 10 years of active service to this department. Thank you very much Mr. Davis for your commitment to Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department and the Town of Riverdale Park.

SAFETY FIRST

It only takes seconds for a lifetime of memories to go up in flames. Unfortunately, as we grow

older, our risk of dying in a home fire goes up dramatically. If you are age 50 or older, please pay

special attention to fire safety. For your well-being and others you love.

- Don't smoke when you're
- Develop and practice a fire

sleepy—and really put that escape plan.

cigarette out.

- Never wear loose clothing • Test your smoke alarms

when you're cooking. monthly; change the batteries twice a year.

- Keep heaters at least • If at all possible, install three feet from your bed, home fire sprinklers. curtains, or other flammable materials.

If you have any questions or need assistance please call 301-927-0356 (Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department)

To find out more about lowering your risk of fire death and injury, visit www.usfa.fema.gov/50Plus.

LA SEGURIDAD ANTE TODO

Toda una vida de recuerdos puede hacerse cenizas en cuestión de segundos. Lamentablemente, a medida que envejecemos el riesgo de morir en un incendio hogareño aumenta en forma drástica. Si usted tiene 50 años o más, preste atención en particular a la seguridad contra incendios. Por su bien y el de sus seres queridos.

- No fume cuando tenga sueño • Si existe la posibilidad, instale

y asegúrese de apagar bien el rociadores hogareños contra

cigarrillo. incendio.

- Mantenga los calefactores • Desarrolle y practique un plan

por lo menos a un metro de de escape en caso de incendio.

la cama, las cortinas y otros

materiales inflamables.

Administration Report

By Sara Imhulse
Town Administrator

I am excited to report that the Town of Riverdale Park has recently been awarded a grant in the amount of \$37,000 from the Maryland Energy Administration! The EmPOWER Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EmPOWER EECBG) Clean Energy Communities Program grant will allow the Town to make some needed improvements to the heating and cooling system in the Police Department. The current system is extremely old, and these scheduled improvements will increase our energy efficiency and save money on energy-related costs.

Grant funding for the EmPOWER EECBG program was provided to the Maryland Energy Administration through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The EmPOWER EECBG program enables the Maryland Energy Administration to provide sub-grants to the one-hundred and sixty (160) local governments in Maryland that are not receiving direct funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. I am excited for the opportunity to partner with the Maryland Energy Administration to increase our energy efficiency and reduce our energy costs.

Census 2010 Update

The last day for residents to return their census form to be counted in the mail participation rate was Monday April 19.

The next step that the Census 2010 will take to get people counted is called Phase Three of the Telephone Questionnaire Assistance Program, and it will continue from April 22nd until July 30th. During this phase, questionnaires will no longer be mailed out to residents who report a missing form or non-delivery of a form. Instead,



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United States®
**Census
2010**

the Telephone Questionnaire Assistance Program will conduct an interview with the caller in one of six supported languages with or without a Census ID found on the geo-coded questionnaire delivered to their home, in the event they still have it.

If you have not submitted the Census form or if you never received a form, please call one of the following numbers in order to be counted!

English: 1-866-872-6868

Chinese: 1-866-935-2010

Korean: 1-866-955-2010

Community Circles

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!

Russian: 1-866-965-2010

Spanish: 1-866-928-2010

Vietnamese: 1-866-945-2010

TDD (Telephone Display Device for the hearing impaired): 1-866-783-2010

Town 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.

Civic Committees

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.