

# The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

**November 2010**

Volume 40, Issue 9

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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

## **Veterans Day 2010**



## **Veterans Day Memorial Service**

On Veterans Day, Thursday November 11, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. a brief service honoring our veterans will be held at the Veterans Memorial across from the MARC train Station in the Town Center. There will be a reception afterwards at the Town Hall with light refreshments. Please join us to honor all of Riverdale Park's veterans past and present.

## *Holiday Closings*

The Town Hall Office and the Public Works Department will be closed on November 11<sup>th</sup> for Veterans Day and November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday

# Council Actions

October 4, 2010  
Regular Legislative Meeting

By Waverly Pollitt

1. **Approved** - Minutes for September 7, 2010 for the Regular Legislative meeting.
2. **Approved**- Minutes for September 21, 2010 for the Special Legislative meeting.
3. **Approved**- Resolution 2010-R-10 requesting Governor and General Assembly to reinstate municipal governments full funding for highway user revenues and state aid for police protection.

# Administration Report

By Sara Imhulse

Riverdale Park Day was a huge success! We held the event this year at Riverside Neighborhood Park due to a large geothermal heating project at the Riversdale House Museum, which made the property unsafe for such a large crowd. I've heard from several residents that the new location worked out well. What do you think? Did you like the event and the location? Do you have suggestions for improvements? Send me an email and the Recreation Board will consider the feedback when preparing for the event next year.

I would like to thank the members of the Recreation Board for their dedication and hard work. These are local residents who have volunteered their time to plan and participate in Riverdale Park Day. The success of the event is completely due to their collective efforts!

As we have reported, the Town of Riverdale Park recently hosted six teachers as part of a teacher exchange with our sister city of Ipala, Guatemala. I personally feel very thankful for the opportunity to join in the cultural exchange and fellowship with these exuberant and caring teachers. I learned a great deal about what life is like in Guatemala and in the classrooms of Ipala from the many one-on-one conversations during the exchange. As Mark Twain said, "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness." I have certainly found that to be true. I hope you all have safe travels this holiday season.

Happy  
Thanksgiving



## Town of Riverdale Park

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

### Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road  
Riverdale Park, MD 20737

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

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

### Council Members

#### Ward 1—Alice C. Ewen,

Chair, Econ Development, 301-379-5303  
[aewen@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:aewen@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 - Keelah Allen-Smith

Chair, Legislative Committee, 240-751-6688  
[kallensmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:kallensmith@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

**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

**Teresa Chambers Chief of Police**  
[tchambers@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:tchambers@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

Fire Department - Emergency 911

Information - 301-927-0356

**Charles Ryan, Chief** *info@riverdaleparkmd.gov*, [www.riverdaleparkmd.gov](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.gov)  
*om or, Riverdalefire-chief7@gmail.com*

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

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

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

The Town Crier is also available at the Town's Website: [www.riverdaleparkmd.info](http://www.riverdaleparkmd.info)

**Submission deadline: 15th of each month.**

Submit all copies to

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

# Mayor's Report

By Vernon Archer

## Riverdale Park as Steward of Our Community Space

No issue concerns me more as mayor than the state of the community spaces in Riverdale Park. That is true whether we are considering roads, sidewalks, buildings, storage lots, parks or parking lots.

In keeping with this during the budget cycle of 2007 I asked for and received funding to expand and improve Town Hall's office space and \$200,000 as seed money to improve and expand the indoor community space available to residents. The first priority was getting the office space completed and that was finished in the summer of 2009.

Now I and the Council are seeking to make headway toward the second goal of expanding and improving the space available to residents for community activities.

What the exact actions are and should be remain fairly open questions. At this point the resources we have available to us are \$200,000 seed money and town properties that include the municipal properties on Queensbury and the old Boys and Girls Club building on 51<sup>st</sup> Street next to Riverdale Community Park.

As we consider how best to move forward we also must examine the community's needs. The following list is not exhaustive, but our community space needs to include: 1) classroom and meeting space; 2) space for arts and crafts; 3) performance space; 4) room for indoor games; 5) information sharing and gathering space; and 6) locating it where it provides maximum access to children and seniors.

As stewards of our resources town government must also consider how this need for community space impacts and can work in tandem with other town priorities. The space needs to be easily accessible to kids. It needs to be in a location where the town can readily oversee it with existing staff. It needs to have minimal negative impact on existing neighborhoods, green space, regional stakeholders, and other town priorities. It needs to be configured in a way that we can partner with institutions ranging from our own local organizations like the Arts Council, and the Boys and Girls Club to more regional organizations like MNCPPC and the Library System. Also, we need to consider if there is existing space that is un-utilized or under-utilized that fits in the above criteria.

After several years of now looking at the options, meeting and talking with stakeholders, discussing the needs and options with county and state officials, an outline of at least part of the path forward seems to be taking shape. The following points seem pretty clear:

First, the old "Boys' and Girls' Club" on 51<sup>st</sup> Street does not fit the town's needs and cannot reasonably do so in the future. The current building is much too small to meet the town's needs; parking is inadequate; and expansion of the building and creating a parking lot would cause substantial disruption to the neighborhood and Riverdale Community Park. The location makes it almost impossible for the town to genuinely oversee an active community building with existing staff. Most importantly, the site is not readily accessible to the majority of kids who live in our town.

This being said, a hearing is being held on October 25 to consider the option of selling this location to MNCPPC and taking the proceeds from the sale to use with our seed money to find a better location. Should the council decide to move forward with a sale, we will deposit the proceeds in a special fund that can only be utilized for investment in building a new community space for our residents. As of my writing the meeting has not yet been held, and it is entirely possible that the outcome of the meeting will be that we need to reconsider. Certainly we are not committed as of the point of my writing to any specific course of action.

If we sell the 51<sup>st</sup> Street club house, I believe that the council will stipulate in the contract that MNCPPC must use this space only for park purposes—there can be not any expansion of paving, building, etc on this property or in its immediate vicinity. There will be at least one more public hearing held in the coming months prior to any sale of the property as a condition of any purchase by MNCPPC.

At this point some may be asking: you tell us where not to put our community space, but where then should we locate it? I don't have a definite answer for that, but I can say that one place we should seriously consider is in or around our existing municipal buildings. This location has the advantage of being near our school at a location that provides maximum pedestrian access to kids living in a majority of our town. At that location it would be much easier for existing staff to manage the facility, clean and maintain it, and police to insure the safety of users.

Regardless of the outcome, this issue of community space needs to be addressed and our town needs to move forward steadily towards a positive conclusion. I invite all residents and stakeholders to join with me and the council in deciding the best course of action and then making it become a reality.

# Riversdale Events

## SEASONAL SELECTIONS—A CORNUCOPIA OF COOKING

With November comes Thanksgiving and all the trimmings! Join the Riversdale Kitchen Guild as they celebrate the foods of the season on Sunday, November 7 with a Harvest Feast demonstration. A few weeks later, on Sunday, November 21, see as members Prepare for Winter 19th-century style. This includes sausage making and vegetable pickling.

The Seasonal Selections program, instituted in the fall of 2009, will continue to offer special monthly cooking events with a different topic each month. Holidays, the schedule of seasonal fresh produce, and/or the traditional cycles of an early 19th century farm will inspire each month's Seasonal Selection.

These foodways programs are sponsored in part by Giant Food. Viewing the demonstration is FREE! You are also invited to tour Riversdale House Museum. Admission is \$3 adults/\$2 seniors/\$1 students and FREE children 4 & under.

## QUARTERLY LECTURE AT RIVERSDALE

Riversdale is trying something new this year and offering our scholarly lectures once every quarter. This year's fall lecture will be held Tuesday, November 16, 2010 at 7:30 pm. Dr. Aneta Georgievska-Shine, art historian and University of Maryland professor, will present her talk, Rubens and the Archeology of Myth. Copies of her book will be available for sale and signing. Lectures

are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for students with a valid ID. Proceeds for this lecture benefit the Riversdale Historical Society. This is a walk-in program and reservations are not required.

## GIRL SCOUT DAY: OUR PATRIOTIC PAST

Enjoy a trip back in time this fall! Scout will learn about our country's history as they learn the proper way to fold the American flag, take an interactive tour of the house, make a craft, participate in an activity in the interpretive garden, and more!

This Scout Day, scheduled for Saturday, November 6 at 10am, is specially designed for Girl Scouts, though all children are welcome. Participating Brownies will earn the Wave the Flag Try-It, Juniors will earn the Local Lore Badge, and Cadettes/Seniors will complete the American Patriotism Interest Project. Riversdale custom patches will be available for purchase.

The fee is \$10 for children and \$2 for accompanying adults. Advanced registration and payment are required by Friday, October 29. Registration may be completed individually or by troop.

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](http://www.pgparcs.com) or email [Riversdale@pgparcs.com](mailto: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.

# Ward & Committee Reports

## Ward Two Report

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

**Finance Committee Report** I thought that Riverdale Park Day was fabulous, and would like to extend my appreciation to all of the volunteers who organized it. The weather was perfect, and I really enjoyed the food, music and dance, activities, and most of all the opportunity to visit with people.

The Finance Committee met in late September and started work on several items, including the possibility of creating a tax credit as a way to encourage commercial property to keep their retail store fronts and office space filled with businesses (we will be consulting with the Town Attorney about whether we can do it). The budget is in good shape, with expenditures near (or less than) budget, and revenues near (or above) budgeted amounts.

My family hosted one of the visiting teachers from our sister city Ipala, Guatemala. We enjoyed learning about life in Ipala, and brushing up our Spanish. I highly recommend the experience, and suggest that everyone consider hosting a guest during future exchanges.

Finally, by the time you read this we will have had a public hearing (which I discussed last month) about how the Town should respond to an offer from the Maryland National Capital Parks & Planning Commission (MNCPPC) to buy Town-owned property on 51st Avenue. We have discussed selling this property as part of long-range plans to build a community center, and the offer from MNCPPC, while bringing in less money than a commercial sale, would leave the property as green space. If you have an opinion on this possible sale, please contact me soon, as the Council is likely to take action on it in early December.

# Ward Five Report

By Council Member Raymond Rivas  
[rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov](mailto:rrivas@riverdaleparkmd.gov)

## Community Affairs Committee Report

I want to give a big shout out to those that helped in making Riverdale Park a success. They include Nova Johns, Falvia Brown, Elizabeth Green, Emily Fanning, Dal Fanning, Melissa Avery, Don Lynch, Marita Novicky, Leonard Addison, Janice Euell, Cheryl Moran, Chris Mayor Vernon Archer, Sara Imhulse and Town staff. For anyone that I may have missed, oops the Volunteer Event staff you were greatly appreciated. It was a fun and and inviting event. The harmony of all the wards coming together in sheer unity was wonderful. The smile on everyone's faces was priceless. Once again I say, "**JOB WELL DONE**".

Well sometimes it seems that time is running out on those that miss a golden opportunity when presented in a course of a day. I see this everyday with our youth of Riverdale Park. This is why we need the parents of our community to sit down with their child and help explain some of these opportunities. Reality is that during the course of trying to figure out the maze of life there are decisions that have to be made for your child. Sure the child may not sometimes like what you have decided but then you are the adult. These decisions may help make a difference in building character, integrity, loyalty and responsibility in a child's life. Actually, I do not see this happening in my Ward 5 residents. Most of the youth that I have been involved with have low self esteem.

These children are used to doing nothing not asked to do anything so they have nothing and expect to not be anything in life. Sure you have some dreamers but they are not actually doing anything to obtain the knowledge to prepare them for the next level. I need the parents to step up and fight for your child and help make a difference in their lives. This is 2010 and the economy is not getting any better for the youth. These bewildered youngsters cannot decide what is best for them because they just do not know. We have to help map out their future so they can see further down the road and take the paths of self enrichment.

We have programs that the University of Maryland is offering to help our youths. It is called the 4H Club. It helps with the developing of a child through intervention with mentors and volunteers in various programs. There are many programs to pick from such as: communication, leadership, robotics, entrepreneurship, work readiness and photography. We are trying to coordinate everything so that the children can sign up for the programs. We want to establish Town Hall as our pro-

gram site. These are programs that will build character. Please contact me at 301-625-9435 get more information and forms for these programs.

My warnings for the past couple months have not been heeded. As a result there have been some more robberies and assaults in Ward 5. Please if you want to consume alcohol beverages please do it in the confines of your home. The parking lot of Ward 5 is not an ideal place to party and get intoxicated. Predators are watching your every move and when you come out stumbling thru the parking lot they will pounce on you as if you are the weakest in the pack. This is no joke and please understand when you are impaired by alcohol your reaction time will be hindered and then you are a victim. Please help yourself by staying indoors and do not venture out when intoxicated in the late evenings. Once again if you see any suspicious character lurking in the surroundings of your ward please call the police 301-927-6381 or 911. Please do not call your councilman first because it can delay the process of apprehending the suspects.

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Quiero dar un saludo muy grande a los que ayudaron al éxito del día de Riverdale Park el pasado 2 de Octubre del 2010. Ellos son los siguientes: Nova Jones, Falvian Brown, Elizabeth reen, Emily Fanning, Dal Fanning, Melissa Avery, Don Lynch, Marita Novicky, Leonard Addison, janice Euell, Cheryl Moran, Chris, Mayor Archer, Sara Imhulse y el personal de Riverdale Park.

Por cualquier que se me olvido, oops los voluntarios del evento ustedes fueron verdaderamente apreciados. Fue un evento muy divertido, la armonía de juntar a los diferentes sectores y estar en armonía fue maravillosa. Las sonrisas en las caras de todos no tenia precio. Una vez más les digo, "**BUEN TRABAJO**".

Bueno algunas veces se ve que el tiempo se nos acaba y los que se perdieron esta oportunidad de oro cuando fue presentada en el curso de un día. Esto lo veo todos los días con los jóvenes de Riverdale Park. Por esta razón necesitamos que los padres de nuestra comunidad se sienten con sus hijos y que les ayuden y expliquen algunas de estas oportunidades. La realidad es que durante el curso de tratar de entender el laberinto de la vida hay decisiones que sus hijos tendrán que hacer en su propia cuenta.

Seguramente el niño no le gustara lo que usted como adulto ha decidido. Estas decisiones le ayudaran hacer una diferencia en construir el carácter, integridad, lealtad y responsabilidad en la vida del niño. En realidad no veo que eso este pasando con los residentes del sector 5. La mayoría de los jovencitos han estado envueltos con una baja estima.

Esto jovencitos están acostumbrados a no hacer nada por lo tanto no tienen nada y no serán nadie en el futuro de sus vidas. Por sus puestos que tienen sueños pero no están haciendo nada para obtener conocimiento y prepararse para el siguiente nivel. En la necesidad los padres deben involucrarse y pelear por sus hijos para que ayuden a hacer una diferencia en sus vidas. Este es el 2010 y la economía no se está mejorando para los jóvenes. Estos jóvenes están desconcertados y no saben decidir qué es lo mejor para ellos porque simplemente no lo saben. Tenemos que ayudarles a planificar su futuro para que puedan ver más abajo de la carretera y escojan el camino del enriquecimiento.

Tenemos programas que la Universidad de Maryland está ofreciendo para ayudar a nuestros jóvenes. Se llama el Club del 4H. Ayuda a desarrollar a los niños en la intervención con mentores y voluntarios en varios programas. Hay una variedad de programas para escoger como: comunicaciones, liderazgo, robóticos, espíritu de empresarios, fotografía y preparación para el trabajo. Estamos tratando de coordinar todo para que los jóvenes puedan inscribirse para el programa. Queremos establecer la alcaldía como nuestro sitio de programa. Estos son programas que construirán caracteres en nuestros jóvenes. Por favor contácteme al 301-625-9435 para más información y para obtener las formas de estos programas.

Mis advertencias de los últimos meses no se han tomado en cuenta. Y como resultado hemos tenido más robos y asaltos en el sector 5. Por favor si quieren consumir bebidas alcohólicas háganlo en los confines de sus casas. El parqueo del sector 5 no es el lugar ideal para hacer fiesta e intoxicarse. Los depredadores están acechando viendo todos sus movimientos y cuando usted viene tropezándose por el estacionamiento y se abalanzan sobre usted como si fuera el más débil en el paquete.

Esto no es una broma cuando está impedido por motivos del alcohol su tiempo para reaccionar tarda y es cuando se convierte en la víctima. Por favor ayúdese a usted mismo al quedarse dentro de su casa y no salga a aventurar cuando está intoxicado por el alcohol en las noches. Una vez más si ven algo sospechoso a los alrededores de tu sector llama a la policía al 301-927-4343 o al 911. Por favor no llame a su concejal porque eso atraería el proceso de atrapar al sospechoso.

## Public Works Report

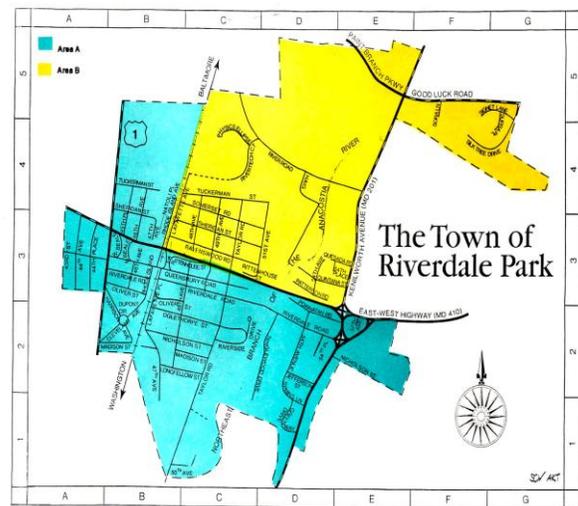
By Leonard Addison

**Leaf Collection** - As part of our fall leaf collection services, leaves will be collected from November 15<sup>th</sup> through January 15<sup>th</sup>. DPW will vacuum leaves from

Town streets following our previous trash collection schedule. Please see map below.

In order to make this process work as efficiently as possible, residents are encouraged to:

- Rake leaves to the curb. Pile leaves away from cars and storm drains. The leaf vacuum cannot reach around cars.
- Remove tree limbs, rocks and other debris from leaves to be collected. They can damage the equipment and cause delays.
- Please put bagged leaves out on Wednesdays with the yard waste. **Do not put them out with regular trash.**



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

**Monday** – AREA A residents – leaf vacuum service

**Tuesday** - AREA B residents – leaf vacuum service

**Wednesday** (yard collection day) – Bates Trucking Company will collect **BAGGED LEAVES**. Please do not include tree branches, wood or other debris in the bags.

**Thursday** – AREA A residents – leaf vacuum service

**Friday** – AREA B residents – leaf vacuum

**Holiday Closings** – The Department of Public Works will be closed on Veteran’s Day, Thursday, November 11, 2010, however, regular trash will be collected. Our office will also be closed on Thursday, November 25<sup>th</sup> in observance of Thanksgiving. Regular trash will NOT be collected on Thanksgiving. The next regular trash collection day will be Monday, November 29, 2010.

**Saturday Drop Off** – The next scheduled day for drop off of bulk trash will be on Saturday, November 20, 2010, from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

**Fall Planting** – Flowers planted during the summer in pots and flower beds are being removed and being replaced by fall plantings.

**Trees** – New trees are being planted this fall to replace those that have been removed. Residents are asked to water the new trees planted in front of their resident, at least twice a week. Residents will receive a notice if we intend to plant a tree in front of your residence. If you prefer not to have a tree there, you will be asked to notify the Department of Public Works.

**Queensbury Road Railroad Road** - repairs on the railroad tracks have been completed.

**Riverdale Day** – It was another well-orchestrated community event thanks to Councilman Raymond Rivas (Ward 5) and the planning committee for the event. Congratulations! The Department of Public Works distributed more than 65 brochures to residents to assist them as they search for services to meet their everyday needs. Hundreds of prizes and gift bags were awarded to children and families as they stopped at the Public Works table. Many thanks to our Public Works staff that included Ms. Janice Euell, Mr. James Davis, Mr. Samuel Sabas, Mr. Gabriel Cresido, Mr. Daryle Cunningham, Mr. Rainero Rediang, Mr. Emilio Gutierrez and Mr. Frederick Quander for all of their assistance in getting all of the materials and supplies ready for the event. Great job, everyone.

## Riverdale Park Business Association

By Carol Patsel

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

Election Night will be generously hosted by Crescent Cities Center on Tuesday, November 9 at 5:30 p.m. Once a year, Crescent Cities invites RPBA mem-

bers to join them for dinner as they celebrate their anniversary in Riverdale Park. Business owners and staff of Riverdale Park are welcome to take part in the opportunity to network with their constituents and enjoy a meal prepared by Chef George.

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

## Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department

By Nova Johns

The Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department would like to welcome Honorary Member **Cheryl Ann McClary** to the family!

Rescue Captain **Anthony Blazek**, Tower Lieutenant **Anthony Anastasi**, Firefighter/EMT **William LeHew, Jr.**, Firefighter/EMT **Joel Gagliardi**, and Firefighter **Michael McClary** were sponsored by Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department to attend DC's Firefighters Burn Foundation 2010 Fall Training Weekend that was held October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. This training consisted of 16-hours of hands on training in Engine Company Operations, Truck Company Operations, Rescue Company Operations, as well as Firefighter Survival training.

**Thank you to all who attended Riverdale Park Day 2010.** Riverdale Volunteer Fire Department was able to donate \$500 to the D.C. Firefighters Burn Foundation with proceeds made from the sell of food during Riverdale Park Day 2010. The D.C. Firefighters Burn Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization founded by active and retired Washington, D.C. Firefighters. The Foundation is dedicated to assisting in the recovery and rehabilitation of injured firefighters and burn patients in the D.C. Metropolitan Area.

### SAFETY TIPS: Heating Your Home

Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fires during the months of December, January and February. Two out of three reported home heating fires and associated deaths and injuries involved portable and fixed space heaters and related equipment, such as fireplaces and chimneys. So lets all prepare for the upcoming cold months together!

## Baseboard Heaters

Baseboard heaters are very efficient, but they can be a serious fire hazard if used carelessly. Common sense can prevent a baseboard heater fire. Any time a flammable object comes in contact with a heater, a fire could result.

## Portable Heaters

Portable models heat up rapidly, and like baseboard heaters, they can easily ignite any flammable item left nearby. When shopping for a portable heater, choose a model with 1) temperature control, 2) an automatic shut-off device, and 3) a seal of approval from an independent testing laboratory, indicating that it has met basic safety standards and that it is a heavy-duty cord.

## Fireplaces & Woodstoves

If you use a fireplace to heat your home have your chimney inspected by a professional and if necessary cleaned before each heating season. Creosote can build up along the inside of the chimney and pose a fire hazard.

## Just in Case...

- ◆ If a fire occurs in your home, a working smoke alarm can save your life.
- ◆ Make certain smoke alarms are installed on every level of your home and outside every sleeping area. Test your smoke alarms monthly and change the batteries at least twice a year.
- ◆ Everyone in your home should know what to do in the event of a fire. Plan and practice a home escape plan.
- ◆ Make sure everyone knows at least two ways out of every sleeping area. Decide upon a place outside of the home, where everyone will meet in the event of fire. Make certain everyone understands that once they have left a burning building they should never go back inside. Call 911 from a safe phone.

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

# Boy Scouts Troop 252

By Bob Killen

Troop 252 has been meeting thru the summer, and now we have enough Scouts to go places. We are attending the Merit Badge Day at the Naval Academy the next-to-last weekend of October and the Orienteering competition at Jug Bay the last weekend of October. Our ski weekend is the third weekend in December (please pray for snow) and we will be tubing (on snow) and bicycling (if no snow) in January. Each of these weekends is camping and cooking out, so the Scouts learn how to cook for themselves, have a good experience camping, and learning how to fend for themselves - to Be Prepared

- for anything. We will probably host the Aviation Merit Badge at the College Park Airport in March, and bicycle down the C&O Canal Towpath during Spring Break. If you are interested enough, please put down the Crier and contact MHB (301) 864-0059 or Bob Killen (rfkille@yahoo.com 301-483-8455). We'll be glad you did, and so will you. We need more Boy Scouts and Scouters.

# Community Circles

## Riverdale Boys and Girls Club Seeks Help

Riverdale Boys & Girls Club is currently holding open registration, every Wednesday for the months of October & November, for all sports & activities. The next activities are basketball, soccer & dance. We are also in desperate need of volunteer coaches. Please let us know if you can volunteer for a good cause, our youth. Contact [riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com](mailto:riverdaleboysgirlsclub@yahoo.com) or call 301-277-KIDS (5437).

## Riverdale Park Play Group

We will meet Sunday, November 14 (second Sunday) from 4 pm - 5 pm at Riverdale Park Neighborhood Playground located at 46th Avenue between Tuckerman and Sheridan Streets. All Riverdale Park and University Park tots aged birth to 6 years and their parents are welcome! Join us and meet other parents in your neighborhood! Please contact Sylvia Kane at [sylvia@viaskane@yahoo.com](mailto:sylvia@viaskane@yahoo.com) with any questions

## Local Organizations

**Lion's Club Meeting:** EVERY FOURTH WEDNESDAY. Contact President Guy Tiberio at (240) 375-8902.

**Northern County Soccer Alliance:** Contact [NCSA@juno.com](mailto:NCSA@juno.com) or (301) 927-0560. PG Soccer [League@juno.com](mailto:League@juno.com)

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

**Riverdale Park Boys Scouts Troop 252—** Contact: Scoutmaster Bob Killen at (202) 282-8302.

**Madison Hill Homeowners Association--** For information, call (240) 401-2202 or visit [www.madisonhill.org](http://www.madisonhill.org).

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

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

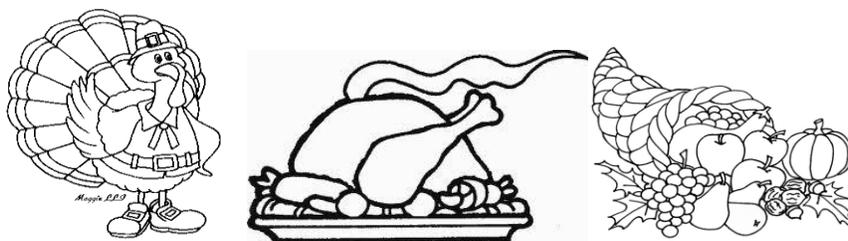
**Riverdale Park Arts Council—**Contact Emily Fanning at [ourdollmom@aol.com](mailto:ourdollmom@aol.com).

**Annual Thanksgiving Dinner**  
**November 25, 2010**  
**12:00 - 3:00PM**

The Alamo restaurant and Christian Life Center will be serving a Thanksgiving. Dinner with all the holiday trimmings. Come join us for a free thanksgiving dinner!

Free coats, hats, and gloves will be given away as part of the "Passion & Compassion Outreach Ministry".

The Alamo Restaurant is located at  
5508 Kenilworth Avenue, Riverdale Park, MD.  
Dinner will be served from 12:00 - 3:00.  
For more information contact Rev. Ben Slye at 301-277-5969  
If you would like to help support our dinner,  
Food & Monetary Donations are welcomed.



**Anual Para El Día De Acción De Gracias**  
**EI 25 de Noviembre de 2010**  
**12:00 - 3:00PM**

El Restaurante Álamo y el Centro Cristiano de la Vida estarán sirviendo una Cena para el Día de Acción de Gracias con todos los adornos. Venga y acompañenos, la cena es GRATIS para todos.

Tendremos abrigos, sombreros y guantes GRATIS como parte de "El Ministerio de Pasión y Compasión".

EI Restaurante Álamo se localiza en  
5508 Avenida Kenilworth, Riverdale, MD.  
La cena se servirá de 12:00 - 3:00pm.  
Para más información llame al  
Pastor Ben Slye al 301-277-5969.  
Si nos quisiera ayudar y apoyar con esta cena,  
Comida o ayuda monetaria son bienvenidas.

