



# The Riverdale Park *Town Crier*

**July – August  
2007**

Volume 36, Issue 6

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## **National Night Out—August 7<sup>th</sup>**

**National Night Out**<sup>1</sup> is a community-police partnership held the first Tuesday of every August since 1984 sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch with aims of increasing awareness about police programs in communities. Initially communities held lights-on vigils. Now, many communities hold block parties, festivals, and other events to help bring neighbors together. See page two for information on Riverdale Park's celebration of National Night Out.

<sup>1</sup>Taken from Wikipeda.com

## **2007-2009 Town of Riverdale Park Mayor and Council Members**



On June 4, 2007, the Riverdale Park Mayor and Council were sworn in by the Prince George's County Clerk of Circuit Court, Peggy Magee (far right facing the Council and Mayor). Pictured above (from left to right) are: Mayor Vernon Archer; Ward 3 Council Member David Lingua; Ward 6 Council Member Keelah Allen-Smith; Ward 4 Council Member Christopher Henry; Ward 2 Council Member Kate Sharpe; and Ward 1 Council Member Alice Ewen-Walker. All but the Ward 5 Council Member seat have been filled. Ward 5's seat will be filled by a special election.

## **FY 08 Budget Adopted —Residents Voices Heard—No New Taxes!**

Town residents got a chance to see how Town officials put together the Town's budget and express their concerns that taxes not be raised during recent meetings on the FY 08 Town budget. Town officials began meeting in late May and over four meetings that were open to the public, crafted a budget to operate the Town of Riverdale Park in the next fiscal year—July 1, 2007—June 30, 2008.

Several Riverdale Park residents sat in on the budget hearings where the Mayor, newly elected Council members, and outgoing Council Members painstakingly worked over every line item on the proposed budget. Residents got a chance to ask questions and express their strong feelings that no new taxes should be adopted. And, they were successful. The FY 08 budget contains no tax increase. For a summary of Riverdale Park's FY 08 budget, [see page](#) . Congratulations for work well done!

# Council Actions

By Waverly Pollitt

## Legislative Meeting June 4, 2007

1. Committee Assignments – **Approved**
2. Nomination of Vice Chairman of Town Council- **Approved**
3. Declare a vacancy in Ward 5 and set a special election date – **Approved.**
4. Request to Construct a home at 5004 Ingraham Street for Patricia Moore – **Tabled**
5. Discussion on Appeal # V-63-07 Jose Sosa validate existing conditions and construct, replace the roof and supports of the attached carport and covered side porch, and extend the existing carport on the premises Known as lot 19, Block 24, Riverdale Park subdivision, being 6310 51<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Riverdale Park, Ward 2- **Letter of support Approved**
6. Carnival to be held on Vivian Shih's Property At 5508 Kenilworth Ave. from June 12 until June 24, 2007- **Approved**
7. Block Party to be held on Nicholson Street, Saturday July 14, 2007 from 5p.m. until 11:00p.m. – **Approved**
8. Work Session to be changed to June 18, 2007 Due to MML Convention - **Approved**

## National Night Out

By Captain Patrick Timmons

The members of the Riverdale Park Police Department invite everyone to join us for a National Night Out open house, to be held on August 7, 2007, from 6:00 pm-8:30 pm at the Riverdale Park Police Department. The evening will include tours of the police facility, different types of displays, and refreshments.

This is the perfect opportunity for all residents to meet and interact with members of the Riverdale Park Police Department.

*Editor's note: National night out is celebrated nationally throughout many large and small communities. Many folks will sit out on their porches, front lawns, or even sidewalks to show support for our Police Departments and officers, and the stability they bring to our communities. Show your support—leave your outside light on Tuesday, August 7, 2007 and visit our Police Department.*

### Riverdale Park Historic Home and Garden Tour Planning Meeting: September 13, 2007

Interested in having your house on the tour? Want to help with the event? Have other ideas to promote Riverdale Park's historic attributes? Please join us the 2nd Thursday of every month at the home of Lori Lynch, 4707 Oliver Street. These are kid-friendly meetings. Questions? **Contact:** Danielle at [dmglaros@gmail.com](mailto:dmglaros@gmail.com) or Lori at [llynch@arec.umd.edu](mailto:llynch@arec.umd.edu)

## Town of Riverdale Park

[www.ci.riverdale-park.md.us](http://www.ci.riverdale-park.md.us)

### Town Hall

5008 Queensbury Road  
Riverdale Park, MD 20737  
301-927-6381, Hablamos Espanol  
[RiverdaleParkMD@comcast.net](mailto:RiverdaleParkMD@comcast.net)

Mayor Vernon Archer  
240-832-2257  
[varcher@gmail.com](mailto:varcher@gmail.com)

### Council Members

Ward 1—Alice Ewen-Walker 301-379-5303  
[Alice.ewen.walker@gmail.com](mailto:Alice.ewen.walker@gmail.com)  
Ward 2 – Kate Sharpe 301-779-2169  
[katherinesharpe@yahoo.com](mailto:katherinesharpe@yahoo.com)  
Ward 3 - David Lingua 301-779-3849  
[djlingua@gmail.com](mailto:djlingua@gmail.com)  
Ward 4 - Christopher Henry 301-910-9855  
[chenry3240@comcast.net](mailto:chenry3240@comcast.net)  
Ward 5 **VACANT**  
Ward 6 Keelah Allen-Smith 270-271-6428  
[Keelahd@yahoo.com](mailto:Keelahd@yahoo.com).

Patrick J. Prangle, Town Administrator  
[riverdaleparkmd@comcast.net](mailto:riverdaleparkmd@comcast.net)

Public Works 301-864-1803  
L. Ron Goff, Public Works Director  
Code Enforcement 301-209-1505  
[CodeRiverdalePk@comcast.net](mailto:CodeRiverdalePk@comcast.net)  
Colleen M. Ferguson

Police Department 301-927-4343  
[RivPD@comcast.net](mailto:RivPD@comcast.net)

Chief of Police **Vacant**  
Acting Chief Captain Pat Timmons

Fire Department Emergency 911  
Information 301-927-0356  
[info@riverdalevfd.com](mailto:info@riverdalevfd.com),  
[www.riverdalevfd.com](http://www.riverdalevfd.com)  
Vincent Harrison, Chief

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.

**Submission deadline: 15th of each month.**  
*Please submit all copy to editor*  
[rptowncrier@comcast.net](mailto:rptowncrier@comcast.net)



# Riverdale Park Police Department

## May 2007

### Crime Report

Crime	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Stolen Vehicle
Ward 1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Ward 2	0	0	0	0	3	1
Ward 3	0	0	0	0	5	1
Ward 4	0	0	5	5	4	2
Ward 5	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ward 6	0	0	0	2	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5**</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14*</b>	<b>7</b>

\*\* 4 citizen, 1 commercial, \*3 commercial, 11 residential

### Officer Activity

Activity	Total
Calls For Service	953
Routine Patrols	321
Traffic Stops	297*
Reported Traffic Accidents	62**
Parking Citations	63
Subjects Arrested	27

\* 306 Traffic Citations, \*\* 24 Written Accidents

## Public Works Report

By Debbie Murphy

### Holiday Schedule

Public Works is closed for Independence Day on Wednesday, July 4, 2007. Trash collection schedule for the week of July 2<sup>nd</sup>, will not change.

### Free Mulch

There is free untreated mulch available to residents of Riverdale Park. The mulch pile is located at the end of Queensbury Rd next to Public Works. Help yourself to as much as you can use.

### Spring Clean-Up was a Great Success.

On Spring Clean-up Day Public Works removed 14 truck loads of trash totaling 42.39 tons for a savings to the Town of \$2,337.93.

### Keep our Town Beautiful

Please sweep or remove grass clippings and weeds from the sidewalk and curb/gutter when mowing lawns or trimming weeds near the sidewalk or streets. It is against the Town Code to cause any material of any kind to be scattered, dropped, etc. upon any street, alley, sidewalk, gutter, roadway or public place within the town. This allows easy flow of water along the gutters and keeps our Town beautiful.

### We're open Saturdays!

Public Works is open on Saturdays. Residents may bring their trash, metals, yard waste, and mixed paper for recycling. The same restrictions/rules apply on Saturdays that are in place on the week days. The **recycled paper** consists of card board (such as cereal boxes, shoe boxes, and boxes), junk mail, magazines, books, telephone books, etc. The Town receives revenue from recycling these items and it helps to lower the landfill costs.

# Ward and Committee Reports

## Ward One

By Council Member Alice Walker  
*Alice.ewen.walker@gmail.com*

### A New Council

I am thrilled to be a member of this new council, among friends both old and new. Anyone who meets this new group will be excited to think what the future will bring for Riverdale Park. Of course, it is difficult to accept the departures of longtime council members Gerard Kiernan and Mary Donaldson, who between them gave a combined 30 years of service to our town. I applaud their service.

### Economic Development Committee

I will convene a meeting of the Economic Development (ED) Committee on July 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30pm in Town Hall. I plan to revive Mayor Archer's proposal of '05 to harness community expertise by adding two *ex officio* citizen members to the ED committee. If you have experience in planning, urban revitalization, architecture — or other talents you may wish to offer — please contact me.

### Wachovia Bank

There have been major developments in the proposal to build a Wachovia Bank at East-West Highway and Route 1. The Town Council passed my resolution allowing the Wachovia development to go forward, but only if the developer adheres to a very strict set of conditions proposed by county technical staff. A few days later, the Prince George's County Planning Board made the same decision.

Last year, the Mixed-Use Town Center (M-UTC) design review committee, of which I was chair, voted to reject the Wachovia project. As a new councilmember, I voted to allow it, albeit under strict conditions. I was willing to make this compromise in part because the project has changed for the better over the last year.

I have consistently held that a drive-through bank is not the best use for this location. However, if we must accept a bank, you should know that the M-UTC standards helped make it the best bank we could get — from façade improvements, to a second story, to a reduction in the number of drive-through lanes.

There is no certainty that this project will go forward immediately, as the developer must satisfy a contract with the church currently operating on the property. If the current project falls through, I would expect on a much greater degree of compliance with our zoning in any new development.

### County and Inter-town Relations

My number one campaign promise was to improve our relations with other governments: primarily with the county, but also with the state and with other towns. During the last few weeks, I have met with our county

Council Member, Eric Olson, as well as with the office of the County Executive, Jack Johnson.

Riverdale Park's new developments (M-Square and Cafritz) will have regional impact. Decisions made at the Town level can affect the region, just as decisions made at the county level can affect our Town. To reap the positives of economic development while minimizing negatives, cooperation and coordination with our neighbors is key.

The county also has resources we can draw on. I have already discovered some microgrants which could be used to create new recreational events. I will keep everyone posted if this works out.

### Traffic Calming

Traffic calming was authorized for the eastern section of Oliver Street at the last legislative meeting. Thanks go to Lori Lynch, the block organizer. Two other streets in the ward are currently working on traffic calming petitions. The old-style speed bumps on Rittenhouse, which were both damaging and ineffective, were replaced with modern, county-standard speed humps during resurfacing.

The Council included funds for a Town-wide traffic study in the new budget. My hope is that this will provide a plan for dealing with cut-through traffic in the areas of Ward 1 near Hyattsville.

### Quiet Zone at Rail Crossing

The four-way gate at the rail crossing will not have an immediate effect on train whistles. Based on the safety improvement, we may now apply for a Quiet Zone designation. It could be a year or two before the Quiet Zone would be granted — it is difficult to tell at this stage. I will follow through on this issue, with the active support of Ward 2 and 3 representatives Kate Sharpe and David Lingua.

### Tree Maintenance

As many of you know, promoting trees is my profession. I will take an active interest in our Town's "urban forest" during my tenure on the council. I was pleased to discover at my first meeting with new Public Works Director Ron Goff that his department is ahead of me on this: there is already a plan in place to trim and replace street trees this summer/fall, and Mr. Goff has already applied for and regained Tree City USA status for Riverdale Park.

I alerted Mr. Goff to three dead trees on 46<sup>th</sup> and Oliver streets. Public Works was already aware of these trees, and they are part of the maintenance plan. I will follow up on this next month.

### Contact Me

Email me at [alice@ewenwalker.com](mailto:alice@ewenwalker.com) or call (301)379-5303 to share your comments and concerns.

# Ward Two Report

By Council Member Kate Sharpe  
*katherinesharpe@yahoo.com*

As I sit down to write, I can hear the beeping of construction vehicles outside my window. It feels as though most of Ward Two is “under construction” these days, but our new sidewalks and road surfaces are looking great.

The channelized stream that runs through our ward is also starting to show signs of improvement, at long last. Thanks to the efforts of our Public Works Director Ron Goff and concerned citizens, the County Department of Public Works took action in June and began removing accumulated debris from the channel. The County plans to conduct preventative maintenance in the future to keep the channel from becoming a safety hazard in the event of a flood.

In other Ward Two news, the County Parks and Recreation Department has proposed to construct an artificial turf field at the Riverdale Community Park. The new field would replace a worn out football/soccer field that is consistently in poor condition. The county has also budgeted to add lighting, move the basketball court, create a new tree buffer between the field and the neighborhood, and add 23 additional parking spaces.

The proposed turf field would have a life span of approximately 15 years. Similar fields are in use in Montgomery and Fairfax Counties, and at Georgetown University. If the county constructs the field, they would fence it, and require a permit for use. Lighting would allow greater use of the field, especially in the fall. The county would utilize newer light control technology that increases useable light on the playing surface while decreasing spillover light and glare. The lights would be turned on when the field was actually in use, and would be turned off by 10 p.m. The Town Council plans to discuss the County’s proposal at our July Legislative session.

See you all at our wonderful Farmer’s Market this summer!

## Finance Committee Report

On June 7<sup>th</sup>, the Town Council voted unanimously to set the tax rate for fiscal year 2007-08 at 64.1 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. **This means the tax rate will remain the same as last year.**

The Town faced a challenging revenue situation this year. The sale of Riggs Bank to PNC meant a loss of \$75,000 in revenue. While revenue from property assessments has increased, costs for worker’s compensation premiums, gasoline, and utilities have also increased. The major road infrastructure project that we have undertaken will benefit our town for years, but is

also an added expense. Finally, we needed to honor the established pay scale instituted by the Mayor and previous Council that regulates staff salary increases, and keeps Riverdale Park salaries competitive with surrounding areas.

The Mayor, Council and staff worked hard to keep the tax rate constant, while maintaining sufficient funding for the quality services expected by residents. Small reductions were made in many areas of the budget. Detailed spreadsheets can be viewed on the town website: <http://ci.riverdale-park.md.us/>. The Council also decided to use approximately 11% of our cash reserves to make up some revenue shortfall. We felt comfortable that the remaining cash reserves are more than sufficient to meet town needs.

Highlights from this year’s budget include:

- Laptop computers for police vehicles (which will free up dispatchers to respond more promptly to citizen calls)
- Four new police cruisers to replace outdated vehicles
- Website upgrade (to better present/promote our Town)
- Funding for traffic study
- Funding for economic development assistance
- Fuel management system for police/public works vehicles to replace dysfunctional system and reduce fuel costs

### MNCPPC Park Police

There have been recent reports of loud music and other nuisance issues at the Riverdale Community Park. MNCPPC Park Police would like to remind Riverdale Park that citizens can call the Park Police (301-459-9088) at any time to report problems. While Riverdale Park has an excellent police force of our own, the MNCPPC Park Police are an additional resource to help enforce park regulations. As always, if there is an emergency, please dial 911.

# Ward 3 Report

By Council Member David Lingua  
*djlingua@gmail.com*

It seems every time I sit down and begin my ward report the Maine-coon makes his presence known. We compromise on the lap.

First of all a hearty congratulations and warm welcome to incoming Council Members Walker, Sharpe, Henry, and Allen-Smith. Along with the pleasure to serve, one can look forward to the next two years with this group.

From the “if you build it they will come” department, we have two projects on the horizon. The first is a multimillion-dollar project on Lafayette Place. Hoping to rise out of the ashes of a house burned down years back are eight town-homes; each with a potential \$500,000 asking price. Of concern to myself as well as others is the structural integrity of the property itself. Years back, construction site dump trucks would bring, at the owner’s request, their debris to provide infill so as to increase the build-able square footage. Upon learning of this, the Town put a stop to it. Today, the north edge of the property is slipping downwards and towards the backyards of our neighbors on Longfellow. I have discussed this property with Town Administrator Prangley, who is well aware of its history. It would be hard to allow even as much as a new dog house to be built on this property without determining if the property can actually support the envisioned grandeur and its required new infrastructure.

The second is the proposed house on 5004 Ingham Street, adjacent to the storm-water runoff improvement project. A paper street and address, running east just off the 5400 block of Taylor Road, the developer intends to build a home for the 21<sup>st</sup> century to LEEDS standards; incorporating the latest designs in energy efficiency. Unfortunately they are requesting an allowance to provide what amounts to 19<sup>th</sup> Century infrastructure. Our Town is in the process of upgrading all our streets to meet standards set by Prince Georges County as to surfacing, curb, gutter, and storm drain. As with the proposed new development on Lafayette Place, there are standards our Town expects the developer to meet.

Water, water everywhere, v. 2.2. I’m sure you read Council Member Sharpe’s report. I would like to recognize the efforts of our neighbor and long time resident Albert Dumbrowski in helping call attention to the condition of the culvert. His persistence and determination to see rectified a condition so as to avoid calamity and disaster would have made Teddy Roosevelt proud.

Speaking of reports, if you have not already done so, please take the time for Council Member Henry’s report. It is important that we all do what we can to help ourselves, as well as each other, when it comes to public safety.

And speaking of water, as in what’s in it, we have more new additions just about to make their grand entrance to the world in our ward. I’ll have this, all the new neighbors and what happened over the summer in the next report. Have a great summer. See you in September.

# Ward 4 Report

By Council Member Christopher Henry  
*chenry3240@comcast.net*



**Christopher M. Henry, Sr.**

Thank you, to all the residents of Ward 4 who came out and voted on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Whether you are elected or appointed into a position, it’s a high regard and I take my position seriously and am proud to serve you all.

Mayor Vernon Archer has appointed me as the Chair of the Public Safety Commission to serve the Town of Riverdale. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Over the past two years, I have taken a hard look at our communities and the areas to improve on, what strikes me as a concern is the lack of participation. We must become more engaged in the process that concerns all of us. I will make it my duty to reach out to all, in an effort to change this climate and ask that you come out to the monthly Town meetings, held the first Monday of the month at 5008 Queensbury Road at 8:00 pm.

The criminal activity in our Ward continues to escalate; most recently, the manager at the CVS store was held at gunpoint and doused with gasoline. Other robberies occurred on Riverdale Road, Kenilworth Avenue, St. Bernard’s Drive and a break/entering on Silk Tree Dr. In an effort to curb this activity, I will be working with the Chief of Police and his staff and will continue to keep you updated on the progress.

I would advise all the citizens of our Town of Riverdale to practice, be mindful and to look out for the following:

- Strange or unknown vehicles
- Strangers walking in threes, in this manner, two heading in your direction while the other one is across the street
- Being distracted by a friendly face

- Joggers that you don't always see
- Dark areas
- Please Close your garage doors while watering the plants
- Change your routine, leave and return at different times
- When in doubt call the Police
- Use caution
- Drive around your neighborhood before directly going home
- Install motion sensor lights
- Program the local police number in your cell phone
- Have keys in your hand before entering your home
- Look out for one another

My Final advice, practice good habits until they become second nature ...

## Ward 6 Report

By Council Member Keelah Allen-Smith  
*Keelahd@yahoo.com.*

To all Ward 6 residents: Thanks to your votes, I was officially sworn in as Ward 6 Representative on June 4<sup>th</sup>. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the residents who voted and assisted me during my campaign. Ward 6 received a total of twenty-eight (28) votes, which is a significant increase over the seventeen (17) votes received in the 2005 election. Let us continue to take an active interest in our town politics and happenings by attending the Town Council meetings and events, logging on to Town Talk , <http://riverdale-park.org/mailman/listinfo/towntalk> , and staying abreast of our local news by reading the Town Crier.

At the June 7 Finance Meeting, the newly appointed Council unanimously voted to keep the tax rate the same as last year, 64.1 cents per \$100 assessed valuation. Thank you to all the residents who attended the budget meetings and voiced their opinion regarding the proposal to increase the tax rate.

During the past few weeks, there have been several reports of vandalism to property, robbery and break-ins. Please be aware of your surroundings at all times. Lock your vehicles and keep any attractions (phones, CDs etc) out of sight. Whether you are going to the store or simply standing outside, it is imperative that you lock your doors and windows. Report any suspicious activities or persons to the police. Do not worry about "bothering" them or that your suspicions may be unfounded. By calling to report these suspicious activities you make your community a safer place to live.

On a lighter note, the council has approved the Riverdale Park Volunteer Fire Department's request to host a carnival in the parking lot of the Alamo from June 12-24. The hours of the carnival were also extended. On weekdays the carnival will close at 11 pm and 12 a.m. on the weekends. Proceeds will go toward the work of our local fire department, so please come out and show your support.

A special congratulation goes out to Donny, owner of A&S Department and Furniture Store, 5515 Kenilworth Avenue, who recently celebrated the one-year anniversary of his store opening. Donny has been a blessing to our Town never hesitating to donate household items to Ward 6 residents in their time of need. Thanks Donny for bringing your business and community spirit to Riverdale Park. If you haven't been to this store, please stop by and check it out. Support our local businesses!

To my Ward 6 residents, again, thanks for all your support. As I stated during my campaign, my goal is to passionately advocate your concerns and keep you abreast of the actions of our Town Council Representatives. So, please feel free to contact me with your questions, views, and concerns. I can be reached at 240-271-6428 or via email at [keelahd@yahoo.com](mailto:keelahd@yahoo.com). You can also log on to my blog spot at <http://www.allensmithward6.blogspot.com/>.

### Old Town Pet Shop & Outdoor Ponds

#### Fresh & Saltwater Fish

Tanks, Food, Filters, Medicine, Décor, and Water Conditioners



#### Outdoor Pond Supplies

Pumps and Filters, Liners, and Koi and Catfish

#### Birds -- Cages, Toys, and Food



#### Small Mammals

Cages, Toys, Food, and Treats



#### Reptiles & Insects

Tanks, Habitat Décor, and Food: Live & Dried

Come in for your dog and cat supplies too!

**6214 Rhode Island Avenue,  
 Riverdale Park, Maryland  
 In the heart of Old Town  
 301-277- 2914**

A paid Advertisement

# Excitement at Riversdale

In the recent Riversdale Letter, the quarterly newsletter of the Riversdale Historical Society, J. Patrick Gossett (Riversdale's President), reports on many exciting projects at Riversdale this summer. One of the biggest events is the dedication of the Elizabeth Graefe Gossett Garden and the opening of the Riversdale Visitor's Center on June 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Gossett reports that both of these additions will enhance visitor's experience. The Visitors' Center will give the public a timeline of Riversdale's history spanning the French Revolution through the 20th Century restoration of the mansion. Visitors to the Garden are provided with lessons in the agricultural life of Riversdale. Rosalie Stier Calvert—wife of George Calvert and the Mistress of Riversdale—wrote often about the garden in her journal, and Riversdale's agricultural life played an important role in Charles Benedict Calvert's creation of the US Department of Agriculture and the Maryland Agricultural College. These institutions would become the University of Maryland.

Vegetables and herbs grown in Riversdale's garden are used in preparing dishes in demonstrations on Sundays at Riversdale. Several exciting events are scheduled for this summer at Riversdale, including Chaplain Plummer's 163<sup>rd</sup> birthday, and the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Battle of Bladensburg Encampment. See the Community Calendar for details.

## **S & J Restaurant**

Daily Lunch and Dinner Specials, "Eat In/Carry Out, Free Wi-Fi"

**Breakfast Specials** – 7 days a week \$3.95

**Monday-** Tacos, \$1.00 each

**All You Can Eat Soup, Salad & Sandwich**

Monday – Friday, 11:00 am – 2 pm

**Saturday** – All you can Eat Shrimp - \$15.95

4:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Steamed Crabs Now Available**

**Steamed Shrimp Everyday**

Sandwich/Sub of the Month - \$3.95

**Karoke Tuesday & Saturday Nights**

**Corner of Queensbury and Rhode Island**

**Avenue**

**Riverdale Park, MD**

**301-927-3977**

# Promoting History and Walking in Riverdale Park

By Patrick Prangley, Town Administrator

The Town of Riverdale Park was the recipient of a \$100,000.00 federal grant from the U.S. Senate for pedestrian way-finding interpretive signs recently placed throughout the town. The grant was an economic development initiative to promote tourism to our historic sites, Town Center MARC Train Station, and promotion of our hiker-biker trails that parallel the Northeast Branch of the Anacostia River. The signs are in place. Take a tour around Town (see an example in the picture below) that gives directions to historic sites throughout the Town. A walking tour throughout Town (best by foot) will enable you to see the signs. These signs encourage walking throughout Riverdale Park and are a beautiful addition to our Town.

An example of these signs is seen below.



## Local Youth Rides Along



## With Riverdale Police

Robby Pollitt and Officer Prawdzik

Robby Pollitt has always been interested in what our local policemen do. That's why when challenged with developing a project for his 10<sup>th</sup> grade Civics class, he chose to shadow a Riverdale Police Officer. Robby just completed his sophomore year and at the beginning of June 2007, he was excited to spend time with our local officer in a one day ride-along through the beat in Riverdale Park. Robby wore a bullet-proof vest while riding with Officer Prawdzik and he wrote a report about his day with the police officer.

Robby is the son of Donald and Waverly Pollitt. Waverly is employed as an Administrative Assistant for the Town of Riverdale Park and works in the front offices at the City Administration building.

When asked what he thought about his foray with the Riverdale Park Police, Robby said he really enjoyed the day-long shadowing experience, and more than ever he wants to be a policeman when he finishes his education.

# Community Circles

## What to Watch For:

### July

**Monday, July 2, 2007**—Legislative Session, TH, 8 pm

**Tuesday, July 3, 2007**—Traffic Study, TH, 8 pm

**Wednesday, July 4, 2007**—**Fourth of July**; Town Offices Closed.

**Thursday, July 5, 12, 19, and 26, 2007**—Farmer's Market, TC across from MARC Train, 3—7 pm

**Tuesday, July 10, 2006**--Madison Hill Home Owner's Association, TH, 7 pm

**Wednesday, July 25, 2007**—Lion's Club, TH, 7 pm

**Sunday, July 29, 2007**—Chaplain Plummer's 163<sup>rd</sup> Birthday, Riversdale, 12:00 pm

**Monday, July 30, 2007**—Work Session, TH, 8 pm

### August

**Monday, August 6, 2007**—Legislative Session, TH, 8 pm

**Tuesday, August 7, 2007**—Madison Hill Home Owner's Association, TH, 7 pm.

**Thursday, August 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, 2007**—Farmer's Market, TC, 3-7 pm

**Saturday, August 11, 2007**--12th Annual Battle of Bladensburg Encampment, Riversdale, 12:00 pm.

**Wednesday, August 22, 2007**—Lion's Club, TH, 7 pm

**Monday, August 27, 2007**--Work Session, TH, 8 pm

### Upcoming Events

**Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>-- Riverdale Park Day;**  
12-5pm, grounds of Riversdale Mansion

## 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

**Recreation Board** – The Riverdale Park Recreation Board Presents: **Riverdale Park Day, Saturday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**, 12-5pm on the ground of Riversdale Mansion. This event will feature: Live music; open microphone featuring town musicians; food-vendors; games; contests and prizes for all ages; moon bounce; pony rides; and petting zoo. Join your neighbors and Town officials in

celebration of Riverdale Park Day!

**Madison Hill Homeowners Association**--Next meeting, Tuesday, July 10, 2007, 7:00 p.m. For information, call (240) 401-2202 or visit [www.madisonhill.org](http://www.madisonhill.org).

**Riverdale Park Farmer's Market**--Contact Pat Gladdings at (301)927-1362.

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

### Riversdale Events

Chaplain Plummer's 163rd Birthday--July 29, 12:00 p.m. Henry Vinton Plummer, the oldest son of Riversdale's Adam Francis Plummer, was born July 31, 1844. He served his country in the U.S. Navy in the Civil War and as a chaplain with the Buffalo Soldiers. Celebrate his birthday with music, children's activities, and more--Free. 12th Annual Battle of Bladensburg Encampment-- August 11, 12:00 p.m. Join British and American War of 1712 troops as they camp on the lawn to prepare for the battle. See firing demonstrations, tour the campsites, and visit with military and civilian interpreters, including Rosalie Stier Calvert. There will be light refreshments for sale. Free admission to grounds.

## GoatMan Hollow is Looking for Home!

By Jenny Wright

**GoatMan Hollow**, the Washington DC area's premier theatrical dark attraction, is looking for a new location for this year's event in Riverdale Park. Last year's event in the old Credit Union building in Town Center was a great success! As Riverdale Park residents, we'd love to keep the event in our hometown, but as of now we have no place to perform in October. If we cannot find a new location as soon as possible, we will sadly be forced to move the event to another area, as the construction and setup for this highly detailed dark attraction is quite time consuming and requires several months. If anyone has any information or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact us: Jay Wright - *Jay@goatmanhollow.com*, Jenny Wright - *Jenny@goatmanhollow.com*.

If you have information to share with the community, please submit it to the Editor, Town Crier, 5008 Queensbury Road, Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737 **by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month, or email:**  
*RiverdaleParkMD@comcast.net*.