

NEWS from the Riverdale Park Business Association

RPBA MEETING: Wednesday, Nov. 13 @ 6 pm

Riverdale Park Business Association's November meeting will be held at **Riverdale Park Town Hall, 5008 Queensbury Rd., Riverdale Park, MD 20737**. Among the topics to be discussed RPBA's participation in Riverdale Park's June 2020 Centennial celebration, county and town regulation enforcement, RPBA's 2020 marketing and communication programs, membership drive, and choose a location for RPBA's holiday gathering.

Annual RPBA elections were conducted in October. Four individuals from the business community were elected to leadership positions and will serve until mid-October 2020.

Former Riverdale Park Mayor **Mike Herman** was elected president of the Riverdale Park Business Association. He moves into the office after association founding member **Pete Spiropoulos** opted to step down. Mike is the principal attorney in the Riverdale Park law firm, Michael D. Herman & Associates which he found in 2010. Mike specializes in business law, litigation, land use/zoning, personal injury, and government relations. His clients range from small to mid-sized businesses, non-profit organizations, as well as individuals. The firm has since expanded to include other attorneys and practice areas.



After graduating from the University of Michigan, he earned a law degree at American University's Washington School of Law. He has been a practicing attorney since 1992. Mike served eight years as an Assistant State's Attorney in Prince George's County before becoming Chief of Staff to the Prince George's County Executive. As a prosecutor, Michael was primarily focused on prosecuting felonies and vehicular homicides. He has tried more than 500 cases and has conducted more than 100 jury trials.

As Chief of Staff, he oversaw several county agencies, and developed an appreciation and keen understanding of legislative processes in the state and county, as well as administrative and regulatory processes, including land use and zoning. He served as supervisor over the County Office of Law, which employed more than 40 attorneys. He also oversaw the entire federal, state, and county government relations and legislative practice. He later acted as Prince George's County's principal lobbyist to the Maryland General Assembly after leaving county government in 2009.

Dalton E. Patterson, Esq., is an associate attorney with Riverdale Park's Meyers, Rodbell, & Rosenbaum, P.A., where he specializes in civil litigation, medical malpractice and personal injury. Prior to working at the firm, Dalton clerked for the Honorable C. Philip Nichols, Jr. in Prince George's County Circuit Court. After taking time to work on two political campaigns, he began practicing as a Plaintiff's attorney for a boutique law firm in Washington, D.C.



Dalton is also a proud graduate of the University of Maryland and Notre Dame Law School. In his free time, he enjoys watching the Terps and the Irish play football and basketball. He is also a proud volunteer with Capital Partners for Education, an organization committed to graduating inner city youths from high school and college.

Lorena Vallejo has been elected treasurer. Lorena has been branch manager for Old Line Bank at Riverdale Park Station since it opened two years ago. She has been in banking since 1992 when she took a part-time teller's position at Maryland National Bank. Lorena, who attended Montgomery College, American University and the University of the District of Columbia, has worked for Wachovia, SunTrust, TD Bank, and for the White House Federal Credit union during the Clinton Administration. She has also worked in several law offices and for the DC Public School System.



Lorena recently worked with former RPBA treasurer and veteran RPBA member **Bruce Wernek** to consolidate RPBA accounts at Old Line Bank and streamline our finances, making it possible for RPBA to now accept credit cards for membership dues and expand our financial activities. In addition to serving as RPBA Treasurer, Lorena is spearheading the business association's reinvigorated outreach to the area's Latin community.

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Jeffrey Yorke was elected secretary of RPBA. He is president of Yorke Partners/Yorke Property Management, a small family-owned property management operation founded in 1982. It owns and manages the Natoli Place Apartments in Riverdale Park, and other properties in Maryland, Virginia and Delaware. The company specializes in providing housing to medical school students and medical professionals inside the Beltway.



Jeffrey was a reporter at *The Washington Post* where he covered a variety of beats including steeplechase racing, entertainment features in *Weekend*, metropolitan news, and for 13 years, he wrote the "On the Dial" column in the *Style* section. He later worked as a writer/editor at the Food & Drug Administration. Jeffrey was also Washington Bureau Chief/Business Editor for the now defunct *Radio & Records*, an industry publication. He is currently editor of RPBA's *The Biz*.

RPBA is looking for energetic participants for its all-important membership committee and advertising, marketing, and communications committee. RPBA is also forming a special RPMD 100 Committee to help organize and coordinate with ATHA a custom car show as part of the Town's centennial celebration in June 2020.

If you operate a business in Riverdale Park or the greater Riverdale area including Brentwood, Hyattsville, College Park, Edmonston, and Mount Rainier, join us and let's ring the cash register together! As a special bonus, join today and enjoy more than 13.5 months of membership for the price of 12 when they complete the application and send \$50 to RPBA.

Riverdale Park Business Association

Representing and Building Businesses in the Greater Riverdale Area

2020 RPBA APPLICATION

Date: _____

NAME OF BUSINESS: _____

Address of Operation: _____

Business Phone: _____ Website: _____

Contact: _____ Title: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Type of Service-Business: _____ Year Begun: _____

Business BIO: _____

Hours of Operation: _____

Would You Serve as an RPBA board member or participate on one the RPBA Committees? (circle one or more)

Membership Committee

Planning Committee

Advertising, Marketing, Communications Committee

Join RPBA Today!

RPBA is accepting new members, rebuilding its committees, and sharpening its focus. If you own and operate a business in Riverdale Park, Greater Riverdale or the surrounding communities, join us and help ignite a thriving business environment in Greater Riverdale. *We meet on the Second Monday of the Month at 6 pm. Usually meetings are held in Riverdale Park Town Hall, 5008 Queensbury Road, RPMD, 20737* but we also do a Road Show that takes our meetings to our members' establishments or a rotating basis. And that's the FUN part!

The business association is currently developing a roadshow series that will conduct meetings in Greater Riverdale Area businesses to showcase those businesses and provide RPBA members with an on-going toolkit to success. Members will also get news and information, and an eye on business development that they won't get anywhere else.

Annual membership fee is \$50. Call **Treasurer Lorena Vallejo** at WesBanco (formerly Old Line Bank), 240-696-4017 or lvallejo@oldlinebank.com, or call/text **Secretary Jeffrey Yorke**, 301-502-1243, or email Jeffrey Yorke, yorkedial@gmail.com, with your credit card information or make checks payable to RPBA.

Mail this completed application with an enclosed check to:

**RPBA c/o Town of RPMD
5008 Queensbury Rd.
Riverdale Park, MD 20737**

Visit us on the web at www.shoplocalriverdalepark.com.