



# NEWSLETTER

Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Community Development Corporation  
6801 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 203, Riverdale Park, MD 20737

September 2020

Jeanette Mitchell - Design & Editing

## COOLING NEIGHBORHOODS WITH CKAR'S FREE GROW GREEN TREES



Does your neighborhood resemble this?

OR



Does your neighborhood resemble this?

An article in the New York Times newspaper dated August 24, 2020, by authors Brad Plumer and Nadja Popovich, states that black neighborhoods in more than 100 cities are as much as 12 degrees hotter than their counterpart white neighborhoods.

This problem is primarily due to decades of racial

housing policy that left neighborhoods with the lack of sufficient trees that are instrumental in helping to cool paved areas and provide shade from the sun's sweltering heat. It is factual that white non-redlined neighborhoods have lower temperatures. This pattern repeats itself nationwide, specifically in Baltimore, Dallas, Denver, Miami, Portland, and New York.

Their article features contrasting neighborhoods pictured above and the two play areas pictured below, one in a black redlined

neighborhood and the other in a white neighborhood. The tree-lined play area is cooler due to the abundance of trees.

CKAR's mission includes improving the environment of our communities. The Grow Green Tree program is one that will help us to achieve this goal.

Trees are very beneficial to our environment as they help to clean the air of pollution and cool pavements resulting in lower temperatures during the warmer months.

### GET YOUR TREES—FREE!

Download our Tree Request Form and submit it to our office in one of the three ways listed in the blue box below:

[ckarcdc.org/community-resources/](http://ckarcdc.org/community-resources/)

There is a limit on the varieties offered, and they will be distributed on a first-come-first-served basis.

Fax: (240) 770-4938

email: [dipadilla@ckarcdc.org](mailto:dipadilla@ckarcdc.org) or [aprabu@ckarcdc.org](mailto:aprabu@ckarcdc.org) or [dkholland@ckarcdc.org](mailto:dkholland@ckarcdc.org)

Mail: CKAR CDC/Grow Green Trees  
6801 Kenilworth Avenue  
Suite 203  
Riverdale Park, MD 20737

More information can be found in their article on the New York Times website: "[How Decades of Racist Housing Policy Left Neighborhoods Sweltering](#)"



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### GRC/ROCC UPDATE

We have increased our Goal and are currently at:

**\$53,974 out of \$100,000 as of 9/29/2020**

There are three ways to give:

#### 1) GoFundME:

[www.gofundme.com/f/gofundme-comgreater-riverdale-cares](http://www.gofundme.com/f/gofundme-comgreater-riverdale-cares)

#### 2) Our office:

CKAR CDC  
6801 Kenilworth Avenue  
Suite 203  
Riverdale Park, MD 20737  
[Note GRC or ROCC]

#### 3) Our website:

[www.ckarcdc.org](http://www.ckarcdc.org)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



# CKAR AND OUR COMMUNITY'S RECENT ACTIVITIES

## GRC/ROCC Healthy Restaurant Meal Distributions



*Parkview Gardens Apartments*

Families at the Parkview Gardens Apartments were very happy and appreciative to receive healthy meals on September 4th that were prepared by restaurants participating in the GRC/ROCC GoFundME initiative.

We were at St. Jerome's Catholic Church on September 10th. One Hundred and twenty-five meals were distributed in the Beacon Heights community on the 17th and the remaining meals distributed at the United Methodist Church.



The week of September 21st, we delivered 515 restaurant meals to West Lanham Hills, Woodridge Elementary, Templeton Knolls, and Riverdale Heights (120 for seniors or those unable to walk to distribution locations). Participating restaurants were Riviera Tapas, Dumms 2 Fifty Barbeque, Banana Blossom Bistro, Krazi Kabob and Denizens.

This initiative is helping to keep our local restaurants open and feeding families that are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. We are now supporting 10 restaurants providing over 7,000 healthy meals to families through this initiative with the help of our major partners, Dannielle Glaros, Kaiser Permanente, GoFundMe donors, and other supporters.



*Beacon Heights Community*

Shortcake Bakery, Krazi Kebob, and Emeritas Bar and Restaurant are three GRC/ROCC restaurants added recently. They prepare healthy meals for families in the Greater Riverdale, Route One, Hyattsville, and College Park communities.



*Shortcake Bakery*



*Krazi Kebob*



*Emerita's Bar and Restaurant*

### UPCOMING DISTRIBUTIONS

- Oct 1 -- Beacon Heights, 10 am
- Oct 2 -- Woodridge Elementary, 11:30 am
- Oct 8 -- St. Jerome's, 10 am
- Oct 10 -- Way of the Missionary Ministries, 10 am
- Oct 15 -- United Methodist Church, 10 am

Your continued support is appreciated and tremendously needed. A special thanks to our donors on the GoFundMe platform for helping us to exceed our \$50,000 goal. We have increased our goal to \$100,000. Hopefully, we can continue through this pandemic and beyond.

[www.gofundme.com/greater-riverdale-cares/](http://www.gofundme.com/greater-riverdale-cares/)

*Celebrating Our*  
**COMMUNITY LEADERS**



Lisa Robinson Walters says that she is a proud staff member and Jaguar of the high-minded William Wirt Middle School in Riverdale, Maryland.



**WILLIAM WIRT MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
Home of the Mighty Jaguars

She is doing great things for families in that community. Lisa coordinates the distribution of our GRC/ROCC healthy meals to about 50 families. She lives by this quote daily, "When you serve have a heart of compassion, passion, and love to inspire another heartbeat" (Generation). Lisa is certainly living up to her motto daily as she thrives to do so much for her community. An enormous task in light of the events of today. We extend our warmest well wishes and thanks to Lisa for her community service.

## Flooding Hits Our Homes

Many families in the Greater Riverdale area were hit by the recent flooding causing as much as six to eight feet of water in homes. A tragic situation to these families because insurance companies are denying claims if their homeowner's policy does not include flood insurance.

Anyone affected by these floods should submit a damage report on the new OEM Assessment Tool:

[bit.ly/PGCFloodDamage](http://bit.ly/PGCFloodDamage)

Damage assessments are being performed by OEM and the Department of Permitting Inspections and Enforcement with eligibility for assistance being determined through FEMA and the Small Business Association (SBA). A minimum threshold of damage is required, so it is imperative that you submit this tool.

Please share this link with anyone you know that suffered loss from flooding.

## OTHER CKAR HAPPENINGS



If you are available during the day to help out with any of our programs and services, please sign up using our volunteer form on our website. Some volunteer positions will receive a stipend. You will be contacted by a program manager once your information is received.

<https://ckarcdc.org/volunteer/>

## Sarvis Café & Empowerment Center

*Coming Soon!*



### DONATE NOW!

CKAR CDC is a non-profit organization; therefore, your donations are fully tax-deductible under current tax laws. Your donations go towards the cafe's renovation completion and are indeed needed. Make your donation now by clicking this link:

<https://app.etapestry.com/onlineforms/CentralKenilworthAvenueRevita/embeddonate.html>

nextdoor

**YOUR NEIGHBOR, CKAR CDC, IS ON NEXTDOOR PROVIDING DAILY UPDATES ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES!**



**Rendering of the Future Edmonston Road Rain Garden, Located at 5200 Edmonston Road. Estimated Completion Fall 2020**

## CKAR CDC'S MISSION

Promoting social, environmental, and economic development of Greater Riverdale Maryland.

Transforming our communities:

**Better Lives**



**Better Communities**



**Better Businesses**

**Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization Community Development Corporation**

6801 Kenilworth Avenue, Suite 203

Riverdale Park, Maryland 20737

(240) 608-2527

[info@ckarcdc.org](mailto:info@ckarcdc.org)

[ckarcdc.org](http://ckarcdc.org)



# NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

## ARE YOU A TENANT HAVING DIFFICULTY PAYING YOUR RENT DUE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

*If you sign the CDC declaration and give it to your landlord, you cannot be evicted due to unpaid rent until December 31, 2020. The purpose of the order is to prevent the spread of the virus. All adults on your lease should fill out the declaration. You are still required to continue trying to pay rent and should continue following the rules of your lease.*

### ELIGIBILITY FOR SIGNING

- Be trying to obtain government assistance for rent. You can apply for help from the Prince George's COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program
- Be making annually less than \$99,000 for an unmarried person (or \$198,000 for a couple) or not be required to report any income to the IRS in 2019 or have received a stimulus check during the pandemic
- Be unable to pay full rent due to loss of income or high medical expenses from the COVID-19 pandemic
- Be trying to pay your full rent to the best of your ability
- If evicted would have to move into a homeless shelter or other place with crowded living conditions

**If you need help determining whether you meet the CDC's criteria or if you are not a citizen or resident, please call Housing Initiative Partnership at 301-699-3835.** This declaration is sworn testimony, so you should only sign it if you are sure you meet the requirements. By signing, you should also understand that you will need to pay the rent you owe eventually, and your landlord may still charge late fees, interest, or other penalties. If you are not able to pay, you may be evicted after December 31, 2020.



### ACCESS THE DECLARATION HERE:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/declaration-form.pdf>

Note: This flyer is intended for general information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. If you need legal advice, please contact the Prince George's County Legal Aid Bureau at 301-560-2101 or 888-215-5316.

Prince George's County  
Forestry Board's

### Walking Tree Tour

Meeting Location: Riversdale  
House Museum, 4811  
Riverdale Road, Riverdale  
Park



Saturday, Oct. 17 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

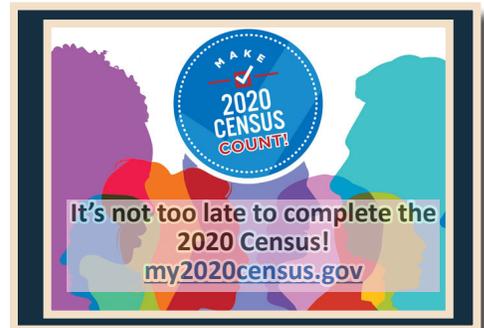
Join us for a walking tour of some of Prince George's County's most beautiful trees. Social distancing will be practiced and masks are required. A presentation on the local history by a well-known expert will be included in the walking tour.



RSVP by Oct. 9 at <https://tinyurl.com/pgchampiontour2020>

RSVP Required. Donation of \$15 or more requested. All proceeds will go towards providing scholarships to Prince George's County students going to Natural Resources Careers Camp. Lunch will be provided.

For more information, call 240-601-2802 or [kimberleyknox@hotmail.com](mailto:kimberleyknox@hotmail.com)



Maryland Public Service Commission prohibits utility service shut-offs through Nov. 15, 2020. Read more about this action by the Public Service Commission, energy assistance programs available, and what steps customers should take NOW to avoid electric, gas and water service disconnects:

<https://www.psc.state.md.us/wp-content/uploads/MD-PSC-Prohibits-Residential-Utility-Terminations-through-11152020.pdf>

### PLEASE VOTE!

Information about registering and receiving ballots by mail can be found here:

<https://www.pgcmis.info/election-information>



## BLACK LIVES MATTER

The Board of Directors of the Central Kenilworth Avenue Revitalization, CDC stands up in solidarity against injustice. We are devastated by the senseless death of Mr. George Floyd, and many other victims of injustice who came before him. We hope the day will come soon when despicable actions like these are a thing of the past, and everyone can live with the weight of injustice lifted off their shoulders. We support the peaceful protests that help to bring change while we condemn violence of any kind.