

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 66

July 2019

No. 7

Calendar

Sat, June 29	Large Item Pickup; Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place	Thurs Aug 15	GPJams, Town Hall, 8 pm
Sun Jun 30	Art at Penn Place, Glen Kessler, Meet the Artist Reception, 3 – 5 pm	Sat Aug 17	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place GIVES Collection, 9 am-12 pm
Thurs July 4	4 th of July festivities; Town Office Closed	Mon Aug 19	Art at Penn Place featuring Vicky Surles, display until Sep 14
Sat Jul 6	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1pm, Penn Place	Sat Aug 24	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place
Mon Jul 8	Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm	Thurs Aug 29	GPJams, Town Hall, 8 pm
Thurs Jul 11	NHN Committee Meeting, Town Office, 10 am	Sat Aug 31	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place
Sat Jul 13	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place; GIVES Collection, 9 am – 12 pm, PO Lobby	Mon Sep 2	Labor Day Holiday, Town Office Closed
Thurs Jul 18	GPJams, Town Hall, 8 pm	Wed Sep 4	Historic Preservation Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Sat Jul 20	Farmers Market & GIVES Collection 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place	Thurs Sep 5	NHN Committee Meeting, Town Office, 10 am
Mon Jul 22	Art at Penn Place, Featuring Ann Gordon, display until Aug 17	Sat Sep 7	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place; GIVES Collection, PO Lobby 9 am – 12 pm
Sat Jul 27	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1pm, Penn Place	Mon Sep 9	Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Sun Jul 28	Art at Penn Place, Ann Gordon, Meet the Artist Reception, 3-5 pm	Tues Sep 10	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm
Sat Aug 3	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1pm, Penn Place; GIVES Collection, PO Lobby 9 am-12 pm	Sat Sep 14	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1pm, Penn Place
Sat Aug 10	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1pm, Penn Place	Thurs Sep 19	GPJams, Town Hall, 8 pm
Mon Aug 12	NO Town Council Meeting	Fri Sep 20	Film Society: Nostalgia for the Light, Town Hall, Dinner at 7 pm, Film at 8

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Sat Sep 21	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place; GIVES Collection – tentative at the Attic in the Street Sale	Mon Oct 7	Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Sat Sep 28	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place	Tues Oct 8	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm
Sat Oct 5	Large Item Pickup; Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place		

Town Council Meeting Notes

Your correspondent begins this month by noting that he returned from an extended trip to Europe on the Saturday night prior to the Monday council meeting. Jet lag resulted in waking up around 4 a.m. and falling asleep by 9 p.m. So, if this month’s report seems a bit vague, it is because he was struggling to to keep his brain functioning. The fact that the meeting was a rather quiet one with no major issues to debate or vote on did not help.

The mayor began with her opening remarks, noting that the spring street repaving was almost finished and that the town office was nearing the end of its transition to a new computer server and new software. As a result of the new equipment, the town manager added that important information (such as town council meeting documents such as agendas, minutes, manager’s reports, proposed budgets, etc.) is now uploaded to the new system. My quick check of the website shows that, indeed, all documents related to town council meetings are now posted for 2016 through May 2019. Other routine opening business—approval of the agenda and the minutes of the May meeting went quickly with a couple minor changes.

Presentations by residents brought George Martin (the older one) to the microphone. The town owns the nursery school property. Holy Cross is currently involved with an extensive stormwater drainage project (which I am sure you have noticed alongside Strathmore Avenue), a project in which George is involved. Some water flows onto the Holy Cross property from the paved area in front of the nursery school. George said the town would soon get a letter from the engineering firm doing the work at Holy Cross suggesting some drainage improvements (at town expense) at the nursery school. I confess to being clueless as to exactly what drainage changes are involved, and to wondering why the town should pay for improvements that would seem to mainly involve water running downhill the contiguous driveway/parking lot of the elementary school. And, of course, if the work entails significant expense, it would be subject to a regular bidding process, not just awarded automatically to the firm doing the work at Holy Cross. So, the upshot is that the town is waiting for the letter, and the issue will no doubt come up at a future council meeting.

The only action items for the evening were appointments to town committees. Charlie Andrews was unanimously approved to serve on the arboretum committee. Charlie Snyder was approved for the archives committee (by a vote of three in favor, one abstention, and one town council member absent).

For new business, the only item was a discussion led by Councilmember Dan Simons about how to approach creation of an approval process for organizations/individuals seeking town funds for civic activities. You will recall that he was put in charge of drafting such a policy at the May meeting. The discussion meandered across a variety of issues that were no doubt worth considering, but on which my jet-lagged brain had difficulty concentrating. But not to worry; this topic will be discussed again at future meetings as Dan proceeds.

Of the monthly updates on ongoing issues, only a couple need comment here. On the Safe Routes to School project, a winning bidder has now been selected. Hooray!! But don’t get your hopes up quite yet. Having picked a winner, the town must provide the State Highway Authority (SHA) with a document justifying the decision. Once SHA approves the choice, work can begin.

Concerning the Stormwater Task Force, a meeting, including public participation, will be scheduled soon. There was some discussion concerning financing such projects. Resident Chuck Berry suggested that since most stormwater management in the county is done by the county government and paid for with county tax revenue, the county should reimburse the town for the town’s expenditures (since we town residents have paid our taxes to the county). Hmmm. Councilmember Wegner noted that the county has been totally resistant to such pressure from incorporated towns in the county.

The archives committee has completed the process of finding a new part-time paid archivist, who has now started work. She is Claire McDonald.

The parking committee is ready to put new signs in the vicinity of Wells Park, mainly about the need for caution because of children at play. On the issue of signs on Strathmore near the Keswick intersection, Councilmember Wegner noted that he now has State Senator Jeff Waldstreicher involved. The issue at the moment is getting a survey of pedestrian crossings in the summer when pool traffic peaks during the summer, creating the of most danger to children and adults crossing Strathmore on their way to and from the pool.

The town manager’s report was uneventful; revenues and expenditures are at expected levels. In addition to the road repaving which was almost finished, she noted that the town is currently removing diseased/dead town trees. On that note, the meeting came to an end, and I was released to stumble home to bed. Yawn.

Ed Lincoln, *Bugle* Reporter

The **Garrett Bugle** is a newsletter publication by the Citizens Association of Garrett Park and published 10 times a year. Publication is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$25 per family or \$15 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896. Articles, ads and other content for the *Garrett Bugle* can be emailed to garrettbugle@gmail.com*

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*Editor and staff reserve the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned Letters to the Editor will not be printed.

Town Manager’s Notes

What’s New? There will not be a Town Council meeting this August, consistent with the Town Charter, which allows for a one-month meeting hiatus each calendar year. Mayor Kacky, Council, and the Town Office continue to work together to keep the Safe Routes to School sidewalk project moving forward. To see the latest updates, visit the Town website, www.garrettparkmd.gov.

Important Dates. Thursday, July 4 – The Town Office will be closed for Independence Day.

Archives. Please welcome the Town's new (contract) Archivist, Claire McDonald. Stop by the archives on any Wednesday or Thursday to meet Claire. She also plans to work some Saturdays.

Communication. In recent weeks, the Town Office notified residents about upcoming tree plantings, tree removals, and road repaving work. For future notifications, we will continue to inform all residents with website postings, and impacted residents with hard copy notices (PO box letters, notices posted on trees, etc.). If you are not yet signed up for the resident’s portal, please also take this step, as it provides the Town Office with one more way to reach you. Register at www.garrettparkmd.gov/residents-portal.

Permits. A Garrett Park building permit is required when a new structure is to be built including houses, additions, sheds, garages, decks, porches, and driveways. This is in addition to the required Montgomery County permit. To save time, complete your Garrett Park permit and submission of plats and drawings before requesting a County permit. Permit applications and payment can be completed online at www.garrettparkmd.gov/government/operations/permits.

Roads. The FY 2019 road repaving project began in early June. Several locations were patched and the following locations milled and repaved: Kenilworth from Rokeby to Clyde, Kenilworth from Strathmore to Oxford, Clermont from Oxford to the south dead-end, and Rokeby from Kenilworth to the dead-end at

the Garrett Park Estates boundary. Town streets were swept on June 25th.

Trees. The removal of diseased or dead Town trees began in early June and will continue as part of the Town’s ongoing maintenance of the Arboretum.

As always, please reach out to the Town Office with any questions or concerns, 301-933-7488 or managerandrea@garrettparkmd.gov.

Andrea Fox, Town Manager

Citizens Association Notes

We’re looking forward to our annual 4th of July festivities. As a reminder, this year's them "Garrett Park, an Arboretum." This day full of fun and community is one of the many reasons Garrett Park is so special, and it's our wonderful citizens who make it happen! If you haven't already, please consider signing up for the various volunteer opportunities or pre-registering for the parade at the following links.

Parade pre-registration (open until 5pm on July 2nd): <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NLGWBS9>

Volunteer Sign-up:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050E44A4AB2AA6FB6-garrett>

The schedule of events is as follows:
7:30 am: Fun Run registration – All ages at Penn Place Parking Lot
8:00 am: 2 mile fun run/walk – Penn Place
9:30 am: Onsite registration/Parade forms – Garrett Park Elementary school parking lot
10:30 Parade begins at Garrett Park Elementary School (see next page for route)

Music and BBQ will begin at Penn Place right after the parade. Music by Garrett Park’s own – Border State!

1:00 pm: Pool Events
3:00 pm: 19th Annual Softball Game – Garrett Park Elementary School

If the forecast calls for rain, the music and BBQ events will be at the Town Hall. We will make a call by 6pm on July 2 and send the information via the Town email listserv and flier in the post-office.

**Call Todd today,
your local neighborhood realtor!**



cell: 301-455-5440
office: 202-364-5200
ToddHarrisHomes.com

~ Garrett Park resident ~



Todd Harris
Immersed in the Details



From Alicia Horton, executive director of Thrive:
"Because of kindness and generosity like yours we are able to make a lasting difference in our clients' lives. . . . Last year, we served over 140,000 meals, gave more than 100,000 emergency supplies, and provided important programming to over 2,000 clients."

And from Stacey Erd of Stepping Stones: "It was a really wonderful surprise to receive the \$2000 check! I can't tell you how much we appreciate GIVES support."

Thanks to all our neighbors for their generosity!

Submitted by Jenny Krivanek

Spring/Summer Jobs List

Please see the list in the printed Bugle. It is the Bugle's policy not to include names of minor children, private telephone numbers, or private email addresses in the e-Bugle. If you would like to be included in the Summer Jobs list in the next Bugle, please call or email Elizabeth Henley in the Town Office (adminelizabeth@ garrettparkmd.gov, 301-933-7488) with your name, age, phone number, e-mail address, and jobs you can do (babysitting, yard work, etc).

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Letter from the Mayor

“Together We Can” is the theme for this summer’s conference of the Maryland Municipal League (MML) that Town Manager Andrea Fox, Councilmember Phil Schulp and I are attending. The MML, which comprises more than 150 towns and cities across the State of Maryland, is devoted to promoting effective and efficient town/city administration and strengthening advocacy for and unity of local governments. Dr. Beatrice Berry provided the keynote address this year. In between the seriousness and the humor, she spoke about finding your own purpose and the obligation to align it with your life –whatever stage of life you’re in. And then enable this unique purpose –through skills, talents, experience, etc. to evolve and to share with others (“together we can”) towards changing the world for the better.

Dr. Berry’s keynote address was particularly resonating because it spoke to me not only personally as a mother of two young adults, but also as Mayor of this wonderful Town of Garrett Park and member of our Town Council. For she also spoke about “becoming a higher version of yourself... filtering out the bad stuff—don’t let it stick... and taking compliments—they’ll get you through the rough patches.” Each of us can probably relate to these notions and practice them regularly in life. It must be true as evidenced by how far I think we’ve come as a Town and community.

Notwithstanding the many significant and lasting contributions of past mayors, councils, and volunteer committees and groups who have helped develop our Town as a wonderful place to live, I’ve also witnessed the community becoming a “higher version” of itself. It’s been especially gratifying to see us willingly coming together to take on some important issues. For instance, our Town Council worked well together to complete the bid determination analysis and selection of a contractor for the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) sidewalk construction, which is now in review at the State Highway Administration. Our Neighbors Helping Neighbors have worked with the Women’s Club to have new town benches placed around Town. The Historic Preservation Committee and Archives Committee worked together to produce a phenomenal tour of the Richter-built homes in Town. The Creative Diversity Circle brought art and music to an audience of young parents and children with a focus on bringing greater awareness and appreciation of our shared experiences and commonalities no matter how diverse our cultural backgrounds. The Traffic and Advisory Committee has met with neighbors in different parts of Town to identify, understand and reach consensus on solutions of the various parking issues. Town Manager Fox has placed the order for the signage and will work with Town staff and the Committee to place the signs. The Communications Advisory Committee continues to evaluate our town website and communication methods so that we can stay better informed of what’s going on in Town. And the Stormwater Task Force is meeting next week with our civil engineers and affected residents of the “run-away water” to discuss proposed solutions. This list isn’t complete, however. Without naming them specifically, it’s important to know that many other groups of residents are also working together and contributing their unique purpose and talents to the Town.

I imagine most of us, if not all of us, are striving to be higher versions of ourselves. I implore you to find your life’s purpose, “dare to create” and to share your ideas and gifts with one another and the Town. I believe this type of interaction and connectedness goes a long way towards fostering stronger communities in general. I think this also allows the Town, our Town, to evolve in ways that better prepare us for the future, whatever that may look like. If we as a community stay connected with one another, we can more easily come together to confront challenges, find consensus for workable solutions and, equally important, celebrate our successes. After all, as Dr. Berry would want to remind us, “gratitude completes the circle.”

As we prepare to celebrate the 4th of July next week with Town festivities, it seems only fitting that with this year’s parade theme “Arboretum,” we find ways to recognize, protect and promote the green bounty of our Town. Remember to give thanks to the Arboretum Committee too for their joint efforts with contractor Natural Resources Design Inc. on completing the first Town-wide inventory of all our trees in the Town’s right-of-way. Lastly, I would like to add my grateful thanks to all for your individual and group contributions in making our Town of Garrett Park a wonderful place to live! Take the praise and spread it around!

Mayor Kacky



7:30 am Fun Run registration - All ages
Penn Place Parking lot.

8:00 am 2 mile Fun Run / Walk - Penn Place

9:45 am Parade forms. Garrett Park Elem.

10:30 am Parade begins

1:00 pm Pool Events

3:00 pm 18th Annual Softball Game

G.P. Elementary

Music by Garrett Park's own Border State

Penn Place - after the parade

(IF RAINING - AFTER PARADE EVENTS WILL BE IN TOWN HALL)