

# e-Bugle

## Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 66

June 2019

No. 6

### Calendar

Sat, May 25	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place	Mon, Jun 10	Town Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, Town Hall
Mon, May 27	Memorial Day Holiday, Town Office CLOSED	Tues, Jun 11	Lunch Bunch, 12:30 pm, Town Hall
Thurs, May 30	GPJAMS, 8 - 10:30 pm, Town Hall	Fri, Jun 14	Film Society presents: <i>The Eagle Huntress</i>
Sat, Jun 1	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place GIVES Collection 9-12 pm, P.O. Lobby	Sat, Jun 15	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place GIVES Collection, 9 – 12 pm at the market
Sun, Jun 2	Art at Penn Place, Meet the Artist Reception, Robert LeMar, 3 - 5 pm	Thurs, Jun 20	GPJAMS, 8 -10:30 pm, Town Hall
Wed, Jun 5	HPC Committee Meeting, 7 pm, Town Hall	Sat, Jun 22	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place
Thurs, Jun 6	NHN Committee Meeting, 10 am, Town Office	Sun, Jun 23	Musicale, 4 pm, Town Hall
Sat, Jun 8	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place	Sat, Jun 29	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place LARGE ITEM PICKUP

### Town Council Meeting Notes

Your correspondent begins this month with three small corrections to the April report. The first was particularly embarrassing. I always like to clarify the beginning and end dates for a fiscal year that deviates from the calendar year. My field is the Japanese economy, and their fiscal year begins in April (and is named by the calendar year in which the fiscal year starts—which many people get wrong). Garrett Park has a fiscal year that begins in July and is named by the calendar year in which it ends. So, then I foolishly wrote that the draft fiscal 2020 budget would cover July 2020-June 2021. Of course, I know better. Grrrr. In addition, there were two other small mistakes. The property tax is expressed as cents per 100 dollars of assessed property value, not one thousand dollars. And on the original grant for the sidewalk project, I wrote \$588,000 rather than \$558,000, doubling up the 8 rather than the 5. Slip of the pen. Oh well.

The evening began with a bit of pomp and circumstance: the swearing in of the three councilmembers elected a week earlier. They were already on the Town Council, but have to be sworn in anyway. Then a surprise! Jeff Waldstreicher (our Maryland state senator), plus Emily Shetty and Jared Solomon (two of our state Delegates) presented certificates to the three councilmembers, recognizing their civic participation. The state delegates then left, and that was the end of any excitement for the evening.

In her opening remarks, Mayor Kacky praised the smoothness of the election process, and noted that there was a relatively high voter turnout of 55 percent. She also praised the well-run Richter house tour on May fourth.

The routine business of approving the agenda and the previous month's minutes occurred with only minor changes. However, the consideration of the minutes led to a somewhat tangential discussion of the line in the proposed budget that had funds (\$4,000) for financing non-governmental civic

*Continued next page*

activities in town. Council member Wegner, who had been unable to attend the April meeting, noticed this in the minutes and had questions about how such funds would be granted. At the end of the meeting, resident Jean Horan raised similar questions (she was out of the room when councilmember Wegner had raised the issue earlier). The reason for the concern was sparked in part by a town event earlier this year organized by a resident who the mayor had asked to serve as the town’s representative to a Montgomery County advisory committee on diversity issues. This individual then organized a meeting in town about diversity (without town government funds, but possibly with such funds if there are future meetings), which led to some concern about the organizer’s conflation of civic contribution and business interests. (Not having attended that meeting, your correspondent is not in a position to provide more detail). Jean Horan suggested that prior to seeking funds from the town government, anyone wishing to have an event should first go to other civic organizations (e.g., the Women’s Club or the Citizens Association), since they have procedures for considering the appropriateness of such requests. The upshot of this discussion was that councilmember Simon volunteered to write a draft policy to guide the town government in considering requests for funding. Stay tuned for further developments on this front.

The meeting then dove into approval of the fiscal year 2020 budget, covering July 2019-June 2020 (See!! I got it right). Having been considered at a work session and then introduced at the April meeting, the budget received little further discussion. The only semi-substantive change was in the language at the beginning of the budget ordinance defining the mayor’s ability to shift funds between sub-categories in the budget with notification to the councilmembers (providing a needed flexibility in spending in unexpected circumstances). With the tweaking of that language and a couple other very minor changes, the budget passed unanimously. The town expects to receive just under \$1.5 million in revenues, with just under \$1.3 million in operating expenses and the rest transferred to the capital budget.

The other action for the evening was adopting the Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan (200+ pages long). This engendered some discussion with criticism of the plan as being vague and limited despite its length (not, for example, including the hazard of chemical spills from a CSX train accident). In the end, the council agreed that even though the plan is somewhat inadequate, if the town needs hazard mitigation funds from the county, we need to be able to say that we have the county’s plan in place. The resolution passed unanimously.

On new business, readers should be aware that the town’s civil engineering firm has just provided a report about stormwater management in the vicinity of Claremont/Montrose and Kenilworth/Rokeby. Councilmember Wegner and the stormwater task force will now review the report. Other new business consisted of agreeing to not hold a council meeting in August, and to have a council retreat (in town, NOT at a seaside resort) in June or July.

Next came the regular reports from council members about various areas of responsibility. The Safe Routes to School sidewalk project came up first. The contract award has not yet been made, as the mayor, town manager, and council members ask questions of the firms that are potential awardees. The size of the contract is very large, so, as council member McClintock noted, due diligence in reviewing and clarifying the bids is important for the town government. But the award decision is getting closer.

The other reports—arboretum, communications, Town Hall renovation, archives, traffic and parking, and warning light for the Strathmore/Keswick—all indicated that they remain in progress. The only issue of immediate concern is the attempt to get the state/county to agree on a warning light at the Strathmore/Keswick intersection. Councilmember Wegner was concerned about the lack of a sense of urgency by either the state or county as our summer swimming season is upon us (when pedestrian crossings at that intersection explode). He is thinking of engaging Jeff Waldstreicher on this issue to prod the state highway authority.

Ending the meeting was the town manager’s report, in which revenues and expenditures continue to run within expectations. She reported that other town business is moving along—a new storage shed behind Penn Place, the planting of 14 new trees on town property, and a surprising 50 applicants for the paid part-time position of town archivist.

Ed Lincoln

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](mailto: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?** Several improvements will take place in May and June. A new shed was installed behind Penn Place, and gutters were added to the new roof on the shop building behind Penn Place. Town maintenance staff are planting 14 trees in the Town rights-of-way. Work will soon begin to repave sections of Kenilworth, Clermont, and Rokeby, and install full depth patches in multiple locations. When the paving work is complete, street sweeping will take place. The Town Council adopted the FY20 Capital and Operating budgets during the May 13 Town Council meeting; FY20 begins July 1.

**Important Dates.** The Town Office will be closed

Monday, May 27 for Memorial Day. Large item collection will take place Saturday, June 29. Please place your items curbside no later than Friday evening.

**Archives.** The recruitment for a new (contract) Archivist continues. Interviews will be held in the coming weeks. If you are interested in volunteering on the Archives Committee, please reach out to me or Mayor Kacky to express your interest.

**Town Elections.** Ballots were cast by 55% of eligible Garrett Park residents in the Town Election held Monday, May 6. Many thanks to the Chief Election Judge Louise Stomierowski, Judges Jenny Krivanek and Ben Smith; Poll Workers Cathy Allin, Jean Campbell, Courtenay Culp, Sangeeta Kaul, and John King; and to Town Assistant Elizabeth Henley, who organized and managed the election. Councilmembers Stephen Paczkowski, Phil Schulp, and Dan Simons were reelected for a two-year term.

**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 <https://www.garrettparkmd.gov/government/operations/permits>.

As always, please reach out to the Town office with any questions or concerns, 301-933-7488 or [managerandrea@garrettparkmd.gov](mailto:managerandrea@garrettparkmd.gov).  
Andrea Fox, Town Manager

## Citizens Association Notes

It's never too early to start planning your 4th of July parade design! This year's theme will be an homage to our town as an arboretum. More details about the festivities will roll out closer to the date.

## From the Historic Preservation Committee

The Richterville House Tour on May 4th had a great turnout, upwards of 200 people, with hours of lively discussions and fun socializing -- just the latest example of how the generosity of volunteers makes Garrett Park a special place to live. Thanks to your contributions, we raised a substantial amount of money for the Archives. We hope people came away with a deeper understanding of how Al Richter designed and created a community that he was brave enough to live in. It's gratifying to realize how much the intrinsic character of these homes has been respected and maintained by successive owners over the decades.

*Tom Richter, Al Richter's eldest son, sent in this comment:*

"I can't thank you all enough for such a special day. The Richterville house tour and subsequent reception was so much more than I was ready for. I learned more in that one day about Dad's work on his June 2019

Garrett Park houses than I did living as they were being built. And that is true even though he took me through each of them AS they were being built. What he could NOT explain is the unusual degree of comraderie he was trying, successfully, to build in to the Richterville micro-community of Garrett Park. (A parent explaining that to a teenager is perhaps a 'mission impossible?') It is amazing; sixty years post-construction that neighborly sense of community was easy for me, and my family, to grasp during the tour and at the reception."

Nancy Walz

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## Dog Around the Block

### Do We Really Need Leashes in GP?

Do we really need to walk our dogs on leashes? After all, Garrett Park is a small town without much traffic and most of us are neighbors. Nothing is more fun for us dog lovers than to watch our faithful companions romp and run free at their own pace. And many of our dogs are friendly to people and other dogs, too.

Yet since we are part of a caring community, let's take a look at the end of the leash of another type of dog—one scared, stressed and/or under-socialized. Whether from a breeder or a rescue, many dogs experiencing these emotions live among us. And, many owners seek help for these behaviors from professionals. You may see neighbors crossing the street or walking up driveways with their dogs to avoid other people and dogs. These dog parents and handlers are looking out for their best friends. Stressed dogs will often bark and lunge. Others tremble in fear or pull away from encounters. Even the best on-leash canine citizens may become threatened and react in the presence of unleashed dogs.



The advantages of using a leash far outweigh not using one. Potential consequences of off-leash meetings can be devastating. Whether we like it or not, by Montgomery County law our dogs are considered “at large” when off our property and not leashed (except for off-leash areas designated by Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission.) If you need any more reasons, consider this—the first offense is \$100, followed by a \$500 fine for subsequent violations.

Leash use keeps everyone safe, and is the considerate, responsible thing to do. Not all our neighbors want to be approached by dogs, either. Being aware, compassionate and kind to dogs and people should be a goal of all dog owners.

Questions about this article or any other dog behavior questions will be addressed in this column. Please email questions to [garrettbugle@gmail.com](mailto:garrettbugle@gmail.com).

Beth Mullen  
Karen Pryor Certified Training Partner  
Certified Professional Dog Trainer  
Certified Behavior Consultant, Canine

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## Art at Penn Place

### Robert LeMar

Our May 20th through June 15th artist is Robert LeMar, a Garrett Park Artist. The title of his show is “Working the Line.” He likes to experiment with line in various ways to make realistic paintings using abstract elements. His work has been shown at local galleries, including Whitehall Gallery in Annapolis, Sheryl Leonard Gallery in Potomac, Waverly Street Gallery in Bethesda. He is also featured in various online galleries, including Zatista. Please stop by the Penn Place exhibit to see LeMar’s work and join us for wine, cheese and goodies on June 2nd (Sunday) from 3 to 5 p.m.

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## Town Musicale

### A Call to Musicians!

Our 23rd Annual Garrett Park Musicale for the Ilah Gieser Memorial Music Scholarship will take place on June 23, Sunday 4 p.m. at Garrett Park Town Hall. Proceeds from this ticketed event fund music lessons for a rising 5th grader at GPES for a year. Ilah Gieser (1910–1999), a long-time Garrett Park resident and music lover, set up the fund in 1996 motivated by her own experience of longing for the music lessons her family could not afford.

Musicians of all ages welcome! Any form or type of music welcome! Dust off your instruments. Exercise your vocal cords. Join the chorus.

Questions? Contact Sue Petito ([s.petito@yahoo.com](mailto:s.petito@yahoo.com) (240) 731-0985), Barbara Collier, Kristin Altar, or Meme Lincoln

## Town Resident Contributions



Photo Credit: Kate Koren

### Garret Park Parents Beer and Stroller Crawl, 5/29/19

The Garrett Park Parents (GPP) held its first GPP Beer and Stroller Crawl on Sunday, May 19th. Over 100 adults and children from Garrett Park and Garrett Park Estates participated in this fun, casual event. Each family was assigned to one of four “host” houses and contributed a food item and alcohol. Hosts were Jose and Ruth Vargas (the “British Pub”), Seth and Carrie Seidman (the “Maryland Pub”), Darren and Joanna Welch (the “Farmers Market”) and Pat and Lesley Maloney (the “Ice Cream Sundae Bar”). Families traveled between the four houses, which were located within close walking distance, sampling the different beers and foods.

Feedback from this first event was extremely positive, with parents getting to meet new neighbors in a relaxed, family-friendly environment as the children enjoyed racing around the yards, trying out new swing sets and toys at each house. All involved agreed it was a success and look forward to future GPP Crawls.

If you're interested in the Crawl or in joining the Garrett Park Parents list-serv, please email Lesley Maloney at [lesleymaloney@gmail.com](mailto:lesleymaloney@gmail.com).

**Revival Meeting in Garrett Park, 4/27/19 – 6am**

I call it a revival meeting for several reasons. First, many of us had skipped our coffee and needed something to revive us. What better way to wake up than to a dawn chorus of birds in Garrett Park. It helps to have friends in high places. Thanks to David Rubenstein for introducing a dozen wannabe birders to his friend and neighbor, Tony Celis, who has a high degree in ornithology. He moseyed over from Cushing Drive to teach us how to identify a few birds by their songs. David suggested we start at Rokeby Bridge and spend an hour walking to Wells Park and back. Alas, the hour was consumed by the time we reached the Crest of Rokeby. I invited the group into my back yard for a closer listen to the music of a wood thrush. This accomplished pair of flutists returns each spring to breed in the adjacent Yeandle Sanctuary, a small patch of woods protected by the Garrett Park Conservation Trust.

Talk about revivals! That wood thrush seemed to be channeling Gaia herself. I was flooded with positive thoughts about the future of the GPCTrust. What better way to recruit new blood onto the board of governors than to mingle with people who are interested in birds? What better measure of success for such an organization (whose mission includes *preserving and caring for open space*), than the diversity of birds within its domain?

I hope David and Tony will organize another walk before this noisy season ends, and that in future years, members of our community will look forward to an annual (at least) spring event known as Birding by Ear in Greater Garrett Park.

In this era of social media, I'd like to *share* that I've never met a birder I didn't *like*.

Submitted by Ken Ingham, GPCTrust.net

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**What We're Cooking: Feijoada, Brazilian Black Bean Stew**

This is the recipe passed down from my mother, Maria Aparecida Sousa Cruz. She taught me this when I was seventeen, and it's my favorite meal to make when I am missing home in Campina Grande, Brazil.

Ingredients:

- 1 bag of farofa (available at your local Brazilian market!)
- 1 cup of jasmine rice
- 1 pound collard greens, stems discarded, leaves chopped
- 1 pound dry black beans
- 4 Tbsp olive oil
- 1 white onion, diced
- 1 head of garlic, peeled and chopped
- 1 pound carne seca or corned beef, cut into chunks
- 1/2 pound fresh sausages, such as chorizo or Italian sausage
- 1 pound smoked sausage, such as linguica or kielbasa
- 1 smoked ham hock or shank
- 3-4 bay leaves
- Water
- Salt to taste

Directions:

The night before, rinse the black beans to remove any surface dirt. Then soak the beans in water in order to ensure they are nice and soft. Leave them in the water until the next day when you are ready to cook.

When you're ready, cut the sausages into thin slices and brown them in a large pot in olive oil over medium-high heat. When the meat has browned, remove the meat from the pot and set it aside.

Next, brown the onions in the same pot, adding garlic and stirring as necessary to prevent any burning.

Drain the black beans and add them to the stew. Add fresh water to cover the onions and beans. Simmer gently, covered, for one hour and thirty minutes, until the beans are tender.

Now, add back the sausages and add the bay leaves, and cook for an additional thirty minutes.

Serve with the rice, collard greens and farofa as side dishes, but feel free to mix it all together. Bom appetite!

Submitted by Márcia Fernanda Santos de Sousa

**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](mailto:adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov), 301-933-7488) with your name, age, phone number, e-mail address, and jobs you can do (babysitting, yard work, etc).

June 2019

Garrett Bugle

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# Obituaries

## Obituary & Memorial Service for Ken Jacobson

Kenneth Harris Jacobson, who grew up in Garrett Park and became an actor and Hollywood talent manager, passed away on March 19 at age 60.

He was born outside of Philadelphia on Oct. 31, 1958. Ken's family moved in 1968 from New Jersey to Garrett Park, where his mother Ruth Roth still resides on Cambria Avenue. He attended Garrett Park Elementary School, Kensington Junior High School and graduated from Woodward High School in 1976.

At Woodward, he developed what would become a lifelong passion for acting, playing the role of Peter van Daan in the school production of The Diary of Anne Frank. After school, he was offered an opportunity to act at Arena Stage in Washington. Instead, he opted to move to New York where in 1983 he was cast in the role of David in the Tony award winning show, Torch Song Trilogy.

He later moved to Los Angeles where he helped nurture the careers of numerous actors including James Franco, Jennie Garth, Hillary Swank and Ben Foster. He most recently represented Logan Browning of Netflix’s Dear White People, Summer Bishil of SyFy’s The Magicians, and Efren Ramirez of Napoleon Dynamite.

The Hollywood publication, “Deadline”, referred to Ken as “one of the pioneers of talent management.”

Aside from his mother, Ken is survived by his wife Nicole and two sons, Donnelly, 15, and Sage, 12, of Los Angeles, his father, Richard Jacobson of St. Davids, Pa. and five brothers, Bennett Roth of Washington, D.C., Karl Jacobson of Bucks County, Pa., Jason Roth of Baltimore, Jeremy Roth of Damascus, Md., and Eliot Roth of Rochester, N.Y .

A memorial service will be held for Ken at the Garrett Park town hall at noon on June 30. A light lunch will follow.

Ben Roth

## Obituary for Harry Dubinskis

Harry Dubinskis, born in Latvia, settled in Garrett Park in 1951 with his wife Solveiga. He was active in the Garrett Players as well as the Kensington Players, participating as an actor, director and theatrical lighting expert. After he retired from the Potomac Electric Power Company, he devoted himself to the arts, and displayed his paintings at the Penn Place Gallery. A truly unique and creative personality, he will be sorely missed by his adoring family.

Anda Dubinskis

## Letter from the Mayor

My thanks to all who came out to vote in our Town election earlier this month. Regardless of who you voted for and irrespective of the outcome, the fact that we can and do exercise our civil liberty to cast a ballot is a testament to our values as an involved community and to the democratic process in general. I want to thank Chief Election Judge Louise Stomierowski and Election Judges, Jenny Krivanek and Ben Smith, for ensuring a fair and transparent election process; and to the five poll workers, Courtney Culp, John King, Sangeeta Kaul, Mary Catherine Allin, and Jean Campbell for volunteering their time at the polling table. Last, but not least, my appreciation and thanks to our Town Assistant, Elizabeth Henley, for her tireless efforts to coordinate meetings and shift schedules, develop and distribute election materials, and lead the training sessions for our judges and poll workers. This was a great group effort.

By now, you may have heard that we are completing our review of contractors' bid proposals for the construction of the safe routes to school (SRTS) sidewalk project. Because of the wide variance in bids, our review has been extensive and thorough. With contributions from Council members, Town Manager Andrea Fox and I have shared the bid analysis, company research, and conclusions with both the State Highway Administration (SHA) and the Federal Highway Administration. We will be having a follow-up discussion with them next week to determine the next steps and whether this will also include a preliminary agreement to submit a concurrence in award package.

While we work through the next steps on the SRTS project with SHA, we are also working through three other major acquisitions: a contract award for field inspection services to provide independent oversight to the Town on the SRTS construction; a contract agreement with M.T. Laney, who will start repaving some of our roads in the next two weeks; and selecting a new Town Archivist to replace Ray Maxwell. Members of the Archives Committee, past and present, assisted Town Manager Fox in conducting interviews this week. I do believe we'll have a recommendation next week!

I hope you will take a moment this weekend to reflect on and honor those who died while serving our country. Although a somber holiday, Memorial Day allows us to pay tribute to those who gave their lives so that we may live free. Protecting democracy from tyranny helps ensure our freedom. But it requires constant vigilance and bravery, and often ultimate sacrifice. Let's remember and give thanks.

Mayor Kacky