

# e-Bugle

## Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 67

October 2020

No. 8

### Calendar

Sat Oct 3	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place GIVES Collection – outside the PO <b>LARGE ITEM PICKUP</b>	Sat Oct 31	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place Halloween Parade, 11:30 am, Kenilworth Ave to Penn Place <b>Halloween -Watch for children</b>
Wed Oct 7	Penn Place Disinfection, PO Lobby closed 7 am – 8 am	Wed Nov 4	Penn Place Disinfection, PO Lobby closed 7 am – 8 am
Sat Oct 10	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place	Sat Nov 7	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place
Mon Oct 12	Town Council Meeting, 7:30 pm	Mon Nov 9	Town Council Meeting, 7:30
Wed Oct 14	Penn Place Disinfection, PO Lobby closed 7 am – 8 am	Wed Nov 11	Penn Place Disinfection, PO Lobby closed 7 am – 8 am Veterans Day, Town Office closed
Sat Oct 17	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place GIVES Collection, Farmers Market	Sat Nov 14	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1pm, Penn Place
Wed Oct 21	Penn Place Disinfection, PO Lobby closed 7 am – 8 am Arboretum Advisory Committee Meeting, 7 pm	Wed Nov 18	Penn Place Disinfection, PO Lobby closed 7 am – 8 am Arboretum Advisory Committee Meeting, 7 pm
Sat Oct 24	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1pm, Penn Place	Sat Nov 21	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1pm, Penn Place
Wed Oct 28	Penn Place Disinfection, PO Lobby closed 7am – 8 am	Wed Nov 25	Penn Place Disinfection, PO Lobby closed 7 am – 8 am
Thurs Oct 29	COVID FUN-demic Halloween 5-9 pm	Thurs Nov 26	Thanksgiving, Town Office Closed
		Fri Nov 27	Town Office Closed
		Sat Nov 28	NO FARMERS MARKET

### Town Council Meeting Notes

Indulge me while I begin this month's report with a bit of political science. Democracy often involves a conflict between the executive and the legislative. Indeed, the development of modern democracy grew out of this conflict, dating back to English King John (who needed money from his barons and was forced to sign the Magna Carta) and other kings, including Charles I (who lost his head in his struggle with Parliament). The executive naturally wants to be a leader, and to be recognized as such by

the people (recall George W. Bush and his famous statement, "I am the decider"). The legislature, though, represents the interests of those same people (who pay the taxes), and in representing them often desires to bend the executive to its point of view, if and when they disagree. To be sure, skillful politicians (be they executive or legislative) informally consult, compromise, cajole, and persuade to attain their goals without excessive antagonism. Nonetheless, this struggle over the boundary between executive prerogative and legislative control has been a major part of American national politics for 200+

*Continued next page*

years. But the delineation of the power boundary is just as relevant at the local level, including Garrett Park and its sidewalk project.

OK, enough naïve political science for the moment (I was not a poli sci major). Just keep it in mind for the rest of this report. There was no *Bugle* in July, so this report covers both the July and September Town Council meetings (though most of what came up in July was simply superseded by the September meeting. So, instead of marching through the meeting in chronological fashion, let's just look at the major issues.

Obviously, the big item for both meetings was the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) sidewalk project. This discussion involved two issues: (1) the slow pace of completion and (2) changes to the sidewalk design as construction proceeded.

Mayor Kacky has expressed frustration at the slow pace of work (and numerous small mistakes) by the contractor (Patriot) ever since construction began in March. Prior to the July meeting, she had gotten Patriot to promise completion by August 31. She had also been given permission by the Town Council to hire a part-time project manager to help with the daily oversight of the construction work, in hopes of ensuring compliance with the plan and speeding completion. Obviously, the August 31 deadline was not met. As a consequence, the mayor and town lawyer were in the process of drawing up papers to charge Patriot \$250 for each calendar day the project remained unfinished after that date.

Throughout this project, Patriot has, according to the mayor, been plagued by subcontractors who either delayed their work on the project or stopped working for Patriot entirely. That said, the project was almost finished by the time of the September meeting, and the orange fencing around sidewalk sections will all be down by the time you read this. A new subcontractor was also expected shortly to finish the drainage work by Clermont at the entrance to Porcupine Woods. Mayor Kacky noted, however, that even with all the sidewalk work done, a review process must take place, and that there are some individual spots where adjustments may be necessary due to construction errors by Patriot.

The other SRTS issue at the September meeting was the continuing question of design changes being made to the sidewalk as construction has proceeded. The one occupying the September meeting was the mayor's decision to end the Kenilworth sidewalk short of its planned terminus. As most readers know, this decision generated a blizzard of emails (pro and con) on the neighborhood listservs. And it was this discussion that prompted my opening paragraph--this has been a classic case of executive-legislative conflict. Throughout the construction phase of the SRTS project, the mayor has been rather aggressive in pushing executive prerogative, and the periodic heated discussions at various council meetings indicate an absence of informal consultation and persuasion. The project involved roughly six years of careful planning, negotiations, and compromises among the then-mayor (Peter Benjamin), the Town Council, various advisory committees (Arboretum and Historic Preservation), and affected residents

about the precise location of the sidewalk. But some of those design outcomes were changed or undone as the actual construction work proceeded.

The mayor has argued that the changes were sufficiently minor that she could make them within her authority as mayor. Some councilmembers and residents have disagreed, arguing that some changes (and especially the shortening of the Kenilworth sidewalk) required consultation with the Council, or an open meeting involving the Council and the public. Several residents spoke up during the residents' presentations section of the September meeting about the need for an open meeting on that design change. Mayor Kacky, in her later update on the SRTS project explained her consultation with the town engineer and gave her reasons for the change (e.g., that the new location gave the best sight lines for pedestrians as they exit the sidewalk to walk on the street, or the problem of undue encroachment into the width of Kenilworth to go around a large tree). She also said that she had informed the council in her email on August 11 (apparently the email to the GP Town Forum listserv) about the change and three councilmembers consented to it. By September, the discussion at the meeting was largely moot, since the sidewalk with its shortened terminus had been completed.

Faced with this *fait accompli*, councilmember Bennett requested a council work session to discuss better communication protocols on future projects of this sort to lessen the conflict between the mayor and the council. Recall, again, my opening paragraph; this is all about defining or redefining the boundary between the executive and the legislative. A work session requires three supporters among the councilmembers to move forward and there was no decision on the proposal at the September meeting.

Had enough sidewalk coverage? Rolling your eyes at my pop political science? Want something upbeat? Ta-da! Town Manager Andrea Fox announced at the July meeting that she is pregnant and will be out on maternity leave from some time in early October through the end of the year. Congratulations Andrea!! With the town offices closed since mid-March and all council meetings happening online, none of us noticed. Andrea's leave means that the town needs someone to fill the town manager's job during her absence. At the September meeting, Andrea introduced Debie Sandlin, an experienced town manager who will fill the position. Welcome Debie!

The rest of the time at both the July and September meetings was taken up with various updates. The survey on resident's support for town-sponsored composting was inconclusive, so councilmember Bennett will do further research on the topic. Councilmember Schulp noted that implementation of the plan voted on last year to issue parking tickets in town remains in abeyance due to Covid-19, which has essentially eliminated the problem of cars parked illegally in the area near Penn Place. Councilmember Bennett noted that Montgomery County legislation on 5-G cellphone infrastructure remains in limbo at the County Council (and for more information, see the small-cell 5-G

page on the town website). She also noted that the Arboretum Committee will plant several trees in honor of just-retired long-time town tree removal contractor David Gregg. Councilmembers Simons and Schulp continue to work on the issue of loud train whistles, and indicated that an expert on train regulations will be consulted. The task force on stormwater problems headed by councilmember Grande is working with the town engineer and affected residents on solutions at several locations (end of Rokeby next to the Estates, end of Montrose next to Parkside, and on Clermont). John O’Sick whose family lives at the low spot on Clermont across from Porcupine Woods, put in a plea for action following severe flooding on his property in the big rainstorms of early September.

At both the July and September meetings, the Town Manager’s Report indicated revenues and expenditures were at expected levels. See her report for the usual building permit approvals. She leaves the town in good financial shape as she prepares for her temporary maternity absence. And I conclude this month’s report by extending condolences to councilmember Stephen Paczkowski who was absent from the September meeting because his father passed away.

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](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.

### How can residents keep informed about Town news and events?

The best way to know about Town services, government, committees and meetings is to sign up for e- notifications from [www.garrettparkmd.gov](http://www.garrettparkmd.gov) To do so, register for a website user account at: <https://www.garrettparkmd.gov/Sys/sso/Register>, and please provide your street address.

After your account is active, and you are signed in, go to: <https://www.garrettparkmd.gov/residents-portal/sign-up-for-email-notifications>. Select which News/Announcements, and Calendar notifications to receive by clicking on the desired items, then scroll down to click “Submit”.

For more informal town resident discussions, register for the Garrett Park Town Forum, by emailing: [adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov](mailto:adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov). Provide your street address and request to be added to the Forum. The Forum is a Google Group, and you can adjust your settings to determine how you want the email managed.

## Town Manager’s Notes

As Lauren DeStefano said, “Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale.” I agree, fall truly is a beautiful time of year, the leaves are beginning to change from green to a deep crimson and before we know it, we will be surrounded by a kaleidoscope of colors; and Garrett Park is the perfect place to enjoy the brilliant hues of yellow, orange and red as you take a walk on a crisp cool autumn day.

As your Interim Town Manager, let me take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Debi Sandlin and I will be serving as your Interim Town Manger while Andrea is out on maternity leave. I have served in various capacities during my 20 years in municipal government, including as a Town Administrator and City Manager. I recently retired as the Town Administrator for the Town of Bladensburg, MD and am very pleased to have the opportunity to serve as your Interim Town Manager. As a lifelong public servant, I will be committed to upholding the highest standards of excellence for the community of Garrett Park and carrying out the vision of the Mayor and Town Council. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at [managerdebi@garrettparkmd.gov](mailto:managerdebi@garrettparkmd.gov).

**Leaf Collection Services:** Beginning October 15th through December 15th – Leaves will be collected once per week as early in the week as possible. Place leaves in rows alongside the curb, and remove sticks, rocks, trash, and other debris that can damage the machinery. Shredded leaves or grass clippings should be bagged and put out for the regular yard waste collection on Mondays. Rain or inclement weather will delay leaf collection. Parents, please discourage your children from playing in leaves along the curb.

**Town Highlights:** Over the summer the Town made Improvements to the streetlights located along Strathmore/Knowles; additionally, pole outages were repaired, new vinyl numbers were installed on 10 poles, and six poles between Weymouth and the top of the Knowles hill were retrofitted with LED lights. The Town fall tree removal/pruning program will occur in the coming weeks; trees posing safety risks are the highest priority.

**Town Council Meeting Notification:** In observance of Columbus/Indigenous Peoples Day, the regularly scheduled October 12<sup>th</sup> Town Council meeting has been rescheduled for **Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**.

**New Deadline on 2020 Census** Will Have Self-Response and Field Operations Closing on Monday, Oct. 5. The U.S. Census Bureau has announced a new deadline in which it will be closing self-response and field operations for the 2020 Census on Monday, Oct. 5. All households who have not yet responded are urged to do so online immediately at [my2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov) or via phone at 844-330-2020. There are multiple language options available online and via phone.

A full and accurate count of everyone who lives in Montgomery County is critical to ensure all



communities secure their fair share of Federal and State funding for education, health care, housing, job training, infrastructure and more.

Montgomery County will continue Census outreach efforts until the last day of the deadline. For information on the County’s Census outreach efforts, email [2020census@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:2020census@montgomerycountymd.gov).

Media contact: Diane Vu,  
[Diane.Vu@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:Diane.Vu@montgomerycountymd.gov)

**Town Communications:** Communication. If you haven’t already, please sign up for the resident’s portal, as it provides the Town Office with one more way to reach you. Register at [www.garrettparkmd.gov/residents-portal](http://www.garrettparkmd.gov/residents-portal).



**Reviews:**  
*It's a wonderful gift to any of us who lived in the Park. Reading the accounts of others brought back so many other memories that I had forgotten about that truly warmed my heart. – Tom Pinkson*

*I enjoyed the "voice" that Lee preserved for each of the contributors ... We were all so fortunate to grow up in such a special place. – Felicity Callahan*

Available for purchase at:  
Kensington Row Bookshop  
[Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

## Citizens Association Notes

We have decided to cancel Spooky Woods this year due to logistical and safety concerns related to COVID-19. Despite being an outdoor event, the specific nature of Spooky Woods with its lines, groups, and scare stations is enough to convince us that hosting this event would pose an unnecessary risk to attendees and volunteers alike. We will regret not seeing Meme and Ed's Mummy Kitchen or Pat Maloney's chainsaw this year, but we hope 2021 will see their triumphant return.

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## From the Archives

To quote the Steve Miller Band: “time keeps on slippin’ slippin’ slippin’ into the future” in the Town Archives. Much to do and much to share. Here are some highlights:

- We continue to update our [website](#), adding new content and information. In June, we added Women’s Club minutes from 1926 through 1952 and, more recently, Garrett Park Elementary

School (GPES) Mother’s Club minutes from the 1940s. Both resources offer insights into the contributions of Garrett Park women the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- Over the summer, we received three donations, including papers, photographs, and memorabilia from a former town resident; correspondence, documents, and photographs from the family of former GPES teacher Sally Korobkin; and additional materials related to Waverly-Schuykill Park. We are also still accepting donations related to experiences, perspectives, and creative expressions in response to the pandemic.
- The archives room, located in Penn Place, is now equipped with a ductless split system to help better control temperature and humidity, critical factors in preserving historic documents and materials. A big “thank you” to George Miller and the Town Office for making this happen. Bring a sweater next time you visit!
- We are still limiting access to the archives room. However, we are taking research requests via email, and in many cases, we are able to provide scanned documents or images. The Archivist also available by appointment.

Finally, be sure to check out our new exhibit in the display case in the post office lobby. The exhibit is about Charles Momsen, who grew up in Garrett Park in the early 1900s, and the rescue of the *U.S.S. Squalus* (a submarine) in 1939. The idea for the exhibit, as well as the incredible model of the *Squalus*, came from town resident Dave Almy. Thank you, Dave!

Claire McDonald, Town Archivist

### Services for Seniors

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bathing</li><li>• Dressing</li><li>• Lifting</li><li>• Transferring</li><li>• Personal Care &amp; Hygiene</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 hour minimum for services – most companies require 4 hours as a minimum</li><li>• All caregivers are professionally trained nursing assistants</li><li>• The owner of ElderCaring personally meets with you to discuss your needs</li><li>• All caregivers are fluent in English</li><li>• Personal choice in selection of every caregiver</li><li>• Licensed, Bonded, Insured</li><li>• 24 Hours Service – 7 Days a Week</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Companionship</li><li>• Meal Preparation</li><li>• Medication Reminder</li><li>• Physical Therapy</li><li>• Light Housekeeping</li><li>• Transportation to Appointments</li></ul>	

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**David Altar**  
**301-602-2713**  
**[David.altar1@gmail.com](mailto:David.altar1@gmail.com)**

## Arboretum Committee Notes

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As the temperatures have cooled, the trees on the Town streets are changing colors as a harbinger of winter providing a delightful backdrop for evening strolls in this time of reduced car traffic. The Town is fortunate to have so many beautiful and stately trees, with a tree coverage of 83 percent, which is remarkable in our urban environment. In total there are over 1,500 trees on Town right-of-way, which can be easily viewed on an interactive map accessed via the arboretum section of the Town [website](#). The two most common species, comprising 13 percent of Town trees, are flowering dogwoods and sugar maples, both of which have glorious fall colors.

A Sunday walk with the Town arborist in the fall to learn about the many interesting trees along the streets has been a long tradition, but unfortunately this will not occur this year. Rather, take the time to stroll the streets and admire the diverse variety of trees in Town. If in doubt about the kind of tree, each street tree has a round metal tag at about breast height with an ID number. This ID number is keyed to in the interactive web map which provides information on the species and tree dimensions. An interesting challenge is to see how many trees one can correctly identify.

As you can imagine, sustainably managing over 1,500 trees is a big job. The Town arborist and Town manager take care of day to day activities with from the support of the Town staff. The Arboretum Committee provides oversight. In a typical year more than a dozen trees need to be removed due to mortality or safety concerns (three large trees on Knowles hill have just been removed) and trimming and cleaning up after storms is a never-ending activity. For years, David Gregg has done much of the major work, but he recently retired. He and his crew will be missed as they were like an extension of the Town staff, and an inspiration for all to be active until your late 80's. New firms have been retained.

New trees are typically planted in the spring and fall to replace those that have been removed and to fill in open spots along the streets. Approximately thirteen new trees are planned for this fall to be planted on Weymouth, Clermont, Raleigh, Montrose, and Waverly and will include a diverse variety of species. In addition, planning is ongoing for restoring the area disturbed in Porcupine Woods at the drainage outlet along Clermont with native plantings.

Just outside of Town, at the bottom of Knowles behind the Ken-Gar Center, the County has just finished restoring a 4-acre wetland that had been taken over by invasive species as a mitigation offset for the Purple Line. A wide variety of native plants were planted, and this promises to be a very interesting bird watching and wildlife viewing area.

## G.I.V.E.S.

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Happy Fall from G.I.V.E.S.!

You probably know by now that G.I.V.E.S. is an acronym which officially stands for *Garrett Park Inter-community Voluntary Experiment*

*in Sharing*. However, G.I.V.E.S. also unofficially stands for some other words related to our mission:

**Generosity:** We appreciate all donations of any amount – no contribution is ever too small – but we want to recognize some who have recently made especially large donations to G.I.V.E.S., including Pat Aufderheide, Karen Anderson and the Quigley-Andrews family. Thank you very much for your [generosity](#).

**In-person:** Due to the pandemic, many activities have gone virtual, but for the past few months, following COVID guidelines, we have been holding outdoor [in-person](#) collections and will continue to do so as long as the weather cooperates. Come visit us on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Garrett Park Post Office and October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Farmer's Market from 9 am - 12 noon and enjoy the beautiful fall air. If you miss our in-person collections, please consider using the G.I.V.E.S. can on the table in the post office when you stop by to pick up your mail. You can also send donations to G.I.V.E.S. at P.O. Box 331, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

**Volunteers:** If you are looking for a way to become involved in your local community, help others less fortunate, and can spare JUST 2 HOURS PER YEAR, then G.I.V.E.S. would like to hear from you. We are always looking for more [volunteers](#) to host Saturday morning collections at the Post Office and Farmer's Market. And it's fun to sit at the G.I.V.E.S. table catching up with people you may not see very often. This year, we are also in search of a new Treasurer, as Jenny will soon be stepping down. The position requires very basic financial experience and organizational skills and a commitment of only 1-2 hours per month. Please reach out to us by phone, in-person around Town or via email at [garrettparkgives@gmail.com](mailto:garrettparkgives@gmail.com) to let us know you are interested or if you have any questions.

**Extra:** This year, G.I.V.E.S. will unfortunately not be hosting our largest fundraising event – the Soup Supper, so we are asking for any [extra](#) donations you can spare so we can finish strong through the end of the year. Are you saving money working from home vs. commuting? Or making coffee vs. buying a cup from Starbuck's each morning? Have you been eating lunch at home vs. buying a sandwich every day? Or cooking more vs. going out to dinner? Consider donating that money you may have saved to G.I.V.E.S. The organizations we support need our help now more than ever.

**Support:** All money collected by G.I.V.E.S. goes directly to the 2 organizations we [support](#): [Stepping Stones Shelter](#), which temporarily houses homeless families with children and helps them find employment and more permanent housing, and [Thrive DC](#), which helps people experiencing homelessness, unemployment, housing instability, and food insecurity. We are proud to report that, as of this month, we have collected enough to send each organization a check for \$2,000.

Stay safe and healthy everyone!

With gratitude,

Molly Shuck and Natalie Grande (Co-Presidents) and Jenny Krivanek (Treasurer)



# Town Resident Contributions

## Mural Covers Graffiti

In the latter weeks of August amid the 2020 pandemic, a recent WJ graduate, Atticus Goodenow, received final approval from the Garrett Park Town Council to create a mural to cover the hate graffiti in the parking lot nearest Black Market Bistro and the post office.

Earlier in the late spring/early summer, Atticus learned of some horrific hate graffiti that was spray painted in a couple of areas in the parking lot. It was quite visible and had been seen by many town residents.

Atticus has neighbors who he considers family. Coming from a diverse household, learning of the upset and pain this graffiti caused, Atticus was first upset, then angered, which moved him to want to do something about it.

Atticus put together a request for the town council petitioning them to cover the graffiti with a mural supporting all forms of diversity and inclusion, specifically noting BLM, immigrants, women, LGBTQ+ and all religions -- those who have been singled out and excluded systematically for hundreds of years. Being a trans-male in a home with two Moms and a cisgender brother, Atticus has experienced many forms of exclusion, bullying and outright aggression in the past several years. Atticus has also experienced an immense amount of love, understanding and ardent support as he has been transitioning.

After a couple of months of discussions and consulting, the council approved the design, giving Atticus the green light to proceed in mid-August. Moving quickly, and with the aid of one of his best friends (also a town resident), his family and a talented neighbor, Atticus was able to execute the artwork and complete the base mural(s) in just 2 days. During and after this time, people were invited to place their hand prints directly on the mural to show support of Garrett Park residents who believed in the message of this important artwork.



## Graduation Announcement

Lan Nguyen  
Hooton, Walter  
Johnson High  
School, APEX  
Scholar Magnet  
Program, National  
Honors Scholar,  
AP Scholar with  
Distinction,  
President of  
multiple clubs.  
Recipient of the  
Silver and Bronze  
U.S. Presidential  
Service Volunteer  
Awards, Maryland Governor's Citation, U.S.  
Senatorial Citation, U.S. Senatorial Certificate of  
Merit, and U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Services Recognition of Achievement, and Girl Scout  
Gold Award.



Born and raised in Garrett Park, Lan is an alumnus of Garrett Park Nursery and Elementary Schools. Over the years, Lan enjoyed being a Garrett Park Girl Scout, Ladybug, Desk Guard, and Lifeguard; participating in Garrett Park traditions, like the Plant Swap, Youth Art Exhibit, 4th of July Parade and pool events, Attic-in-the-Street, Spooky Woods and Pumpkin Carving, and Carolfest; and representing Garrett Park/winning ribbons at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair. A caring and thoughtful neighbor, pet-sitter, babysitter, and friend, Lan is currently a Neuroscience Major at American University.  
We warmly wish Lan and her fellow graduates all the best!!!

## Shred It Event - October 17

Todd Harris Homes will be hosting a free shred it event Saturday, October 17 from 2:00pm - 5:00pm at Penn Place. Please no businesses. Limit five copier size boxes of paper per vehicle. All documents shredded on site in mobile shredding truck. Send any questions to [ToddHarrisHomes@gmail.com](mailto:ToddHarrisHomes@gmail.com) or call 301-455-5440.

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~ Garrett Park resident ~

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## Mulching Gaia

Mulching is for me a religious act  
 A pious offering, a giving back  
 A ritual begun with a shovel  
 A solemn disposal of kitchen rubble  
 Stalks, skins, seeds and pits, peelings, pulp and rind  
 Apple cores, egg shells, tea bags, coffee grinds  
 Kept under the sink in a covered jar  
 to be later buried in the back yard  
 Bulkied up with dead leaves, grass clippings and straw  
 Spiked with what probably passed through a cow  
 Turned over and watered (if rain is slack)  
 Transformed by worms into scat – rich, black  
 Excrement that, when eventually spread  
 On the garden or the strawberry bed  
 Nurtures the body from which I take eat  
 Thus rendering the ritual complete.

Poem submitted by Ken Ingham

## Glen E. Roberts, July 13, 1947 – August 20, 2020

Glenn Roberts passed away on August 20, 2020 after a long struggle with Parkinson's disease. He died peacefully at home with his family.

A devoted husband and father, Mr. Roberts had brilliant careers as a reporter, Congressional aide, lobbyist, business owner, and painter. Roberts never let his illness define him. His courage and commitment to living his life to the fullest is an inspiration to all who knew him.

A native of Bayonne, New Jersey Mr. Roberts graduated from Oberlin College. From there he spent several years in North Carolina as a reporter and columnist for the Raleigh Times. His next stop was San Francisco, where he ran a Congressional campaign. After that Roberts began painting, a long held desire. He would later delight his daughters with stories of living in the Haight-Ashbury, painting by day and driving a taxi by night.

Mr. Roberts was persuaded to re-enter the world of politics representing the Micronesian islands of Palau in negotiations for sovereignty with the US State Department. He was part of a team that included John Kenneth Galbraith. Roberts then became legislative director to U.S. Rep. Norman Y. Mineta of California and later to Sen. Barbara Mikulski of Maryland.

When Roberts began his five-year tenure as Norm Mineta's legislative director, he was asked by Mineta to draft the bill that ultimately became H.R.

October 2020

442 offering historic redress to 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry interned by the US government during WWII. Mineta himself was interned with his family as a 10 year-old child.

Mr. Roberts' strategy in drafting the bill was one of the key factors of its successful passage. He also crafted the name of the bill, "The Civil Liberties Act of 1988," to highlight the fact that the cause was about the Constitutional rights of Japanese Americans being infringed. "It made for a much stronger bill because Japanese Americans had lost their full rights under the Constitution," Roberts said. "If they could lose their constitutional rights in 1942, the Congress [could] restore them in 1988." Glenn remained grateful to Secretary Mineta and others in the Japanese American community for the opportunity to work on the landmark bill, which he called a "once-in-a-lifetime experience." The Japanese American Citizens League recognized Glenn's "Courageous Leadership in Promoting Civil and Human Rights" by awarding him its highest honor in 2013.

Glenn married his beloved wife, Katharine Ferguson Roberts, in 1983 in the Bethesda garden of his brother and sister-in-law, where they met. Glenn and Kitty's marriage was "arranged" by Glenn's sister-in-law Cokie Roberts, Kitty's friend and colleague at NPR. In 1989, Kitty gave birth to twin daughters, prompting Glenn to leave Capitol Hill to work in government relations.

Mr. Roberts began working as a lobbyist for a law firm managing trade associations. After working for the firm for ten years, he bought it and renamed it the Roberts Group. He spearheaded many successes for the flavor and fragrance industries, but his colleagues remember him most for his personal manner, integrity, and the value he placed in mutual trust. He once remarked that the work he and his colleagues did at The Roberts Group was important, but not as important as the people we worked with. Despite his eclectic and successful career, nothing was more important to Mr. Roberts than his family. He is remembered as a funny, devoted, and loving father and a wonderful husband. He shared his love of reading, history, gardening, and opera with his children along with pithy, practical, and often very funny guidance on life.

After his retirement in 2010, Roberts returned to painting. He went on to show his work in local galleries. His art was an invaluable form of self-expression as his Parkinson's disease progressed. In his own words: "As I struggle to communicate, my colors are getting brighter, and my figures are getting bolder."

Mr. Roberts is survived by his wife, Kitty Roberts, his daughters Abby Roberts and Maggie Knight, his granddaughter Marie Knight, as well as his brother Steven V. Roberts of Bethesda and sister Laura Roberts of Cambridge, Mass.

Roberts' life will be celebrated when we can once again gather together.

Donations in his memory can be made to the Heart Mountain Foundation headquartered in Powell, Wyoming.