

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 67

March 2020

No. 3

Calendar

Sat. Feb 29	Farmers Market, 10 am – 1pm, Penn Place <i>Get to Know Your Town Archives</i> , 10 am – 12 pm, Town Hall	Sat. Mar 14	Farmers Market, 9am – 1pm, Penn Place
Sun, Mar 1	Parking Citations begin in Garrett Park	Fri, Mar 20	Film Society presents: <i>The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert</i> , Dinner at 7 pm, Film at 8 pm, Town Hall
Thurs., Mar 5	Neighbors Helping Neighbors Committee Meeting, 10 am, Town Office	Sat, Mar 21	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place
Sat. Mar 7	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place GIVES Collection, 9 am – 12 pm, PO Lobby	Sun, Mar 22	Art at Penn Place, 8 th Annual Garrett Park Invitational Show, Reception 3 – 5pm, Penn Place Gallery
Mon, Mar 9	Town Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, Town Hall	Wed. Mar 25	2020 Election Candidates Nomination Meeting, 7:30, Town Hall
Tues, Mar 10	Lunch Bunch, 12:30 pm, Town Hall	Sat, Mar 28	Farmers Market, 9 am – 1 pm, Penn Place Garrett Park 5 th Annual Easter Egg Hunt, 11:30 am, Penn Place

Town Council Meeting Notes

It was a dark and stormy night. . . Oh, wait! This is not a novel; this is a serious account of the February town council meeting. Let's try again. The town council met on a dreary, not-very-cold, drizzly night to deal with a rather lengthy agenda. The mayor began the meeting by mentioning the team of 5th graders at Garrett Park Elementary School with the contest entry consisting of proposals for the dog park on Cambria Ave. Since the mayor has sent an e-mail on the listserv about this project, I am foregoing the details here.

In residents' presentations, Bill Rivers brought up the noisy train whistle issue. Well, technically "horn," not whistle. Steam engines had whistles; diesel-electric engines have horns. As you probably know, the increased loudness and amount of the blasts has gotten a lot of discussion on the residents' listserv. Council Member Phil Schulp is the liaison person on the council for this issue, so if you have comments or want to be involved in the effort to moderate this noise contact Phil.

This month there were two action items for the council. The first was a routine decision to appoint a

temporary election judge to replace Ben Smith, who will be away at the time of the May election. The council appointed John Tschirky. The other item was far more substantial—the 2020 budget mid-year adjustment that had been introduced in January. This one took a bit of time because Council Member Hans Wegner expressed a desire for further discussion on the principles guiding the allocation of the money. You will recall that this adjustment concerns allocating positive carryover revenues that were much higher than anticipated with the budget had been approved last spring. He noted that the increase of \$263,302 was very sizable—amounting to 19 percent of total town revenues in the budget. However, the proposed changes had gotten extensive discussion at the January meeting (at least the details, if not the guiding principles or concepts behind the amounts), so in the end the proposed changes passed unanimously. But the issue is an important one—how does the mayor, town manager, and town council feel about what is the best kind of allocation of funds among the many things that the town does or can do. There appeared to be consensus that this issue should get some discussion at the upcoming work session to consider the budget for fiscal year 2021 (a year that begins on July 1).

Continued next page

Under new business, Town Archivist Claire McDonald gave a brief explanation of what the town archives are required to do. Many readers may think that the archives are simply a repository of pictures, artifacts, and other interesting artifacts related to the town's history. However, the archives also has a legal responsibility for storing town documents (such as town council minutes), some of which remain in Garrett Park for 50 years and are then to be stored with the Maryland State Archives. Some of you may also have attended her "Archives 101" sessions for residents in late February. Discussion after her presentation focused on fire protection. It turns out that there is no fireproof storage facility, although Penn Place does have sprinklers and fire/smoke detectors. Backup computer files are, however, stored at the archivist's home.

The other bit of new business concerned composting. That is, would the town be interested in establishing town-wide collection of compostable kitchen waste? Some residents are hooked up with a commercial composting service, and the issue was brought up during residents' presentations in January. Council Member Gerilee Bennett reported on her recent research on this issue. She suggested that perhaps a survey of town residents would be a good idea to get a better idea of how many would be interested in having this service. The big question is whether such a service should be a private operation (with town moral support) in which those residents interested join up with a service (there are several companies in the area providing such services) or whether, like trash and recycling pickup, it should be a blanket town activity paid for with our taxes. Stay tuned for further discussion of this in the future.

The third new business item was also presented by Council Member Bennett: the new Montgomery County Pesticide Law. Since June 2019, the county has a new law that restricts the use of most synthetic pesticides (such as commonly used "weed and feed" products). Basically, only organic pesticides, such as those approved by the Organic Materials Review Institute, are permitted. However, the reason that this issue is new business for the council is that the new county regulations do not apply to Garrett Park (or other incorporated towns in Montgomery County) unless the Council votes to opt-in to the rules. Having introduced this issue, the Council will need to discuss and vote on this in the future. So, once again, stay tuned.

Next on the agenda was the usual set of monthly updates on various town issues by the mayor and councilmembers. Mayor Kacky began with an update on the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) sidewalk project. At last!!! It is underway!!! Herewith, a bit of history for newcomers. In October of 2012, one of the town's state delegates informed the town government that grants were being accepted for SRTS projects (a federal program administered by the states). Then-Mayor Peter Benjamin notified all the councilmembers, and after consulting with the Garrett Park Elementary School PTA, the Council voted unanimously to apply for funds. The initial grant application was sent to the state in January 2013. What followed was seven difficult years with March 2020

contentious Council meetings that many residents attended to vociferously state their views for or against the project. Insults and angry words by opponents directed at Mayor Benjamin and councilmembers abounded (to which the mayor and councilmembers replied with decorum and dignity). Opponents also intervened with the state and federal government to make known their objections. But clearly a majority of the town was in favor of the project, with the mayor and council members in favor of it reelected as the debate continued. Eventually both the state and federal government determined that the town government had adequately responded to the objections, clearing the way for the project to proceed. Bureaucratic delays then postponed the start over the past year, but now—at long last—we are underway. Hoorah!

Other updates were brief. Councilmember Schulp noted that with parking enforcement scheduled to begin March 1st, the town still needs to decide on a contractor to travel around town streets checking for illegally parked cars. Councilmember Bennett explained that the Arboretum Committee is now in the process of implementing the master plan that was put together last year and noted that there is some information about each tree on the town website (go to the committee's page and then click on "Outline Map of the Arboretum"; clicking on the circles for particular trees brings up information about that tree).

Ending the meeting, as usual, was the town manager's report. And, as usual, expenditures and revenues are tracking normally. Manager Andrea Fox also noted that the dilapidated, empty house at 11122 Kenilworth has now been sold. But the town has not yet received any permit request, so what the new owner intends to do with the house is still unknown. On that note, your reporter trudged back out into the drizzle outside.

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

Important Dates

- Sunday, March 1 – The Town begins issuing citations for parking violations
- Monday, March 9, 7:30 PM – Town Council Meeting at Town Hall

- Friday, April 3 – Place items curbside by Friday, April 3 for the Large Item Pickup taking place Saturday, April 4. No paints, tires, pesticides, or toxic materials.

Town Elections 2020 – The terms of office for Mayor and two Councilmembers are up this year. The mayor and councilmembers shall be citizens of the United States, shall have resided in the town for at least one year prior to their election, and shall be qualified voters of the town. Below are important election dates:

- Thursday, March 5 – Registered residents may begin requesting absentee ballots
- Wednesday, March 25, 7:30 pm – Candidate nomination meeting at Town Hall hosted by the Citizens Association
- Monday, April 13 – Financial disclosure forms are due for all candidates. Write-in petitions are due for candidates participating in this method of nomination.
- Wednesday, April 22, 7:30 pm – Candidates’ Forum at Town Hall hosted by the Citizens Association
- Monday, May 4, 7:00 am - 7:30 pm – Election Day, vote at Penn Place in the Post Office lobby

2020 Census – By April 1, 2020, you should receive an invitation by mail with detailed information about how to participate in the Census. If you would like assistance replying online, the Town Office is here to help. During the month of April, please drop by the Town Office on Thursdays from 1:00 - 4:30 pm for assistance. No appointment is needed.

State tax form – Whether you fill out your own state income tax forms, or have someone prepare them for you, please be sure that “Garrett Park” is written in the box labeled “City, Town or Taxing Area.” This ensures that our community receives its fair share of the income tax revenues distributed by the state.

Town budget – The FY20 midyear adjustment was adopted at the February Town Council meeting. A work session for the FY21 budget was held February 24, 2020. The FY21 budget will be introduced at the April Town Council Meeting and considered for adoption at the May Town Council Meeting.

Regular Reminders:

Communication – 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 New to town? Contact the Town Office at 301-933-7488 or stop by the 3rd floor at Penn Place. We’ll get you acquainted with what you need to know about living in Garrett Park.

Permits – A Garrett Park building permit is required when you want to build a new structure including houses, additions, sheds, garages, decks, porches, and driveways. This is *in addition to* the required Montgomery County permit. Complete your Garrett

Park permit application and submit along with your plat and drawings to the Town Office *before* requesting a County permit. Permit applications and payment can be completed online at 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.

Andrea Fox, Town Manager

Citizens Association Notes

CA Dues

The annual CA fees for 2020 are past due! The fee is \$15 for individuals and \$25 per family. These dues go towards paying for the Bugle printing, and the annual CA events such as the July 4th cookout, Wine Tasting, and Spooky Woods. You can mail your check to the GPCA at PO BOX 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

Arboretum Committee

The Arboretum Committee is pleased to announce its updated Committee page on the Town’s [website](#). The page has been refreshed and new information added. Did you know that you can find information about individual trees on the interactive map of the Garrett Park Tree Inventory? Go [here](#), scroll in to the location that interests you (adjacent to your home, in the Memorial Grove, or elsewhere in town) and click on the tree number to find its name. Also new to the Arboretum page is an Information for Homeowners [page](#) with FAQs and other background material on trees in Garrett Park. Do you have questions not answered on the site? Let us know; the page can be dynamic, reflecting the interests of residents.

Keep an eye out in next month’s *Bugle* for information about the annual Spring Tree Walk and other Arboretum news.

From the Archives



(Palemon Howard Dorsett House, ca. 1891, located on what is now 10922 Montrose Avenue. The house burned down in 1903. This is the only known image of it. Garrett Park Town Archives, Galloway Collection.)

Garrett Park has some of the coolest houses in Montgomery County. I’m sure this is not news to most of you! What may be of news, though, is the

fact that the Town Archives is a great resource for learning more about your house.

Recently, archives volunteer and town resident, Charlie Snyder, created a comprehensive research guide entitled, "How To Learn More About Your House," which describes all the different resources we have in the archives about houses. The guide also includes resources available from other organizations.

Whether you're interested in the architectural history of your house or just curious about who lived there before, it's likely we can help. The archives is home to at least 11 collections containing documents, photographs, and drawings about Garrett Park houses. Here's a sampling of some of these collections:

- **House Files** - This collection features information folders on every house in town. The materials, which were largely compiled by Nancy Schwartz, in each folder varies, depending on the age and history of a house, renovations, and other factors. At a minimum, most folders include a list of prior owners dating back to original construction and/or purchase of the property.
- **House and Garden Tours Collection** – This collection comprises 14 folders pertaining to organized house tours dating back to about 1973. Tours have featured various styles, including Victorians, Chevy Houses, Mid-Century Modern (Richterville), and others.
- **Galloway Collection** – This digital photograph collection contains the earliest photographs of Garrett Park from the 1890s. The photographs show the home and family of Beverly Galloway (10925 Kenilworth), who was a U.S. Department of Agriculture scientist, as well as other houses and town scenes.

Want to learn more? Stop by the Town Archives to read the research guide, and peruse your house file while you're here!

Garrett Park Massage

Dennis Collins, L.M.T.

Certified since 1989

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301-946-7318

11400 Rokeby Avenue, Garrett Park, MD

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

About Neighbors Helping Neighbors

NHN provides information and assistance for a variety of services to residents of our community. These include a list of volunteer drivers to appointments, for grocery shopping, prescription pickups, exercise opportunities and a list of resident recommendations for home repairs available from the Town office. Check the Post Office for other helpful handouts. Also, the Town website www.garrettpark-md.gov for more information. NHN also provides

general information on available free County resources for those planning to Age in Place. The Committee welcomes questions and concerns, and invites you to our monthly meetings in the Town office usually on the first Thursday of every month at 10:00 a.m. We welcome new ideas and would especially like to encourage some "younger" people to participate. NHN plans to hold a Coffee on Saturday, April 18, 2020 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. outside Penn Place weather permitting. Watch for further information.

Help Needed:

Snow Removal. Young people in Town who would like to offer their services to help residents with snow removal may contact Elizabeth Henley at the Town Office to add their name to the list (301 933-7488). This is a good opportunity to earn some extra money & at the same time help fellow residents and get some exercise. Please consider signing up - we need YOU!

Services for Seniors

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bathing • Lifting • Personal Care & Hygiene 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dressing • Transferring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 hour minimum for services – most companies require 4 hours as a minimum • All caregivers are professionally trained nursing assistants • The owner of ElderCaring personally meets with you to discuss your needs • All caregivers are fluent in English • Personal choice in selection of every caregiver • Licensed, Bonded, Insured • 24 Hours Service – 7 Days a Week
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Services now available in Northern Virginia
The quality of care you would want for your parents.

MD • Call 301-949-0060 VA • Call 703-956-3564
www.eldercaring2.com www.eldercaringofnova.com
Would you like to receive a brochure in the mail, or set up an appointment?

G.I.V.E.S.



Stepping Stones Shelter

As the new co-presidents of G.I.V.E.S (Garrett Park Inter-community Volunteer Experiment in Sharing), we wanted to gain a better understanding of the organizations your generous donations help to support. So, one morning in mid-February, we visited **Stepping Stones Shelter** in Rockville and were SO impressed! We learned that Stepping Stones...

- was established in 1982 and was the first homeless shelter for families in Montgomery County
- is just 1 of 3 homeless shelters serving families in Montgomery County today
- was formerly known as Rocky Glen/Dawson Farm House, which was built in 1912 and holds a historic designation

- serves 6 families at a time, each with their own room and shared bathrooms
- served 87 families, including 144 children, last year
- receives only about 40% of their funding from the county; the remaining 60% is raised through private sources
- relies heavily on donations and volunteers

Right now, Stepping Stones is in need of:

- teenage boys clothing
- new underwear (any gender/all sizes)
- women's sneaker/casual shoes
- gently used lamps, microwaves, pot and pans, cutlery and knife sets
- new shower curtains and rods, bath mats and laundry baskets
- toilet brushes, twin and full size bedding, Keurig coffee pods

Please visit www.steppingstonesshelter.org for other urgent donation needs and volunteer opportunities.

Next month, we plan to visit Thrive DC and will let you know what we learn.

Town Resident Contributions

Town Wide Yard Sale in May

Mark your calendars for Garrett Park's annual spring yard sale on Saturday, May 16 from 8 am - 1 pm. Participation is free. Send an email to ToddHarrisHomes@gmail.com with your name, location and items being sold. Maps of the participants' locations and types of items being sold at each location will be available outside of 10909 Kenilworth Avenue the day of the yard sale. Directional signs will be provided throughout the neighborhood to help people navigate the yard sale. Get excited and start your spring cleaning now to round up items for the yard sale! Garrett Park Estates and White Flint Park are also having a yard sale the same day.

Shred It Event in April

Todd Harris Homes will be hosting a free shred it event Saturday, April 4 from 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm 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 or call 301-455-5440.

What We're Cooking

Sam's Thai Curry Recipe

- 1 tsp ginger
- 2.5 tsp garlic
- 5 tsp oil
- 1 green bell pepper
- 1 yellow squash
- ½ lb green beans, trimmed
- 1.5 tsp coriander
- 1.5 tsp cumin
- 3 tsp curry powder
- 3 tsp paprika
- ½ tsp cayenne pepper
- 1 Tbs red curry paste
- 1 can light coconut milk
- 6 oz skim milk
- 4/5 roma tomato, pureed (4 Tbsp)
- 1.5 Tbsp brown sugar
- 2 Tbsp soy sauce
- 1 pkg firm tofu

Saute tofu in oil.

In a heavy saucepan saute gingerroot and garlic in oil over moderately high heat, stirring, until golden. Add veggies and saute.

Add coriander, curry powder, curry paste, paprika, and cumin and saute, stirring, 1 minute, or until fragrant.

Whisk in coconut milk, tomato puree, soy sauce, and brown sugar and bring just to a boil.

Remove pan from heat and keep warm.

Submitted by Nikki and Sam Forry

Welcome to Rachel and Bill!

Max Faulkner and Margaret Goldsborough of Keswick Street are over-the-moon delighted that their California family has moved from Los Angeles to Garrett Park for an 18 month work assignment in DC. Rachel Faulkner, her husband Bill Cone, and children Eleanor (age 6) and Jack (age 4) are settling in on Kenilworth Avenue.

Submitted by Margaret Goldsborough

Death Notice

Eugene C. McDowell passed away Wednesday, January 29th, at his home in Gaithersburg Maryland in the presence of his wife, Hendrika (Henny) McDowell. Gene/Mac resided in Garrett Park from 1980 to 2005. He was instrumental in the installation of the Nuclear Free Zone. A memorial service was held in the Town Hall on Saturday, February 15th from 12 to 2 pm. Henny requested that in memory of Gene/Mac's love for chocolate, attendees please bring their favorite chocolate dessert to share.

Letter from the Mayor

I think I can finally say it: “Get ready... Get set... Go!” The SRTS sidewalk along Oxford is now well under way. If you saw my recent GPML town email, you’ll have read that the Oxford sidewalk might be finished by the end of March---weather permitting. It’s taken a lot of time and effort to get to this point.

The Town staff and I have met frequently with Patriot and the construction crews, State Highway Administration (SHA) officials and District 3 engineers, field inspectors—both for the Town and from the County and SHA, the Town’s contracted engineers (Clark/Azar), and residents along Oxford. It hasn’t been all smooth sailing, but I like to think that our frequent meetings and conversations have helped. As have the plentiful notes and details in the design drawings from Clark/Azar. Time and time again, we refer to these, especially when we see something being done unexpectedly and need to bring it to the attention of the construction crews. George Miller (Town maintenance staff) and I are on site daily to observe the work, raise concerns or point to needed corrections, and help resolve problematic issues. Most of the issues have revolved around existing drainage systems coming from homeowners’ properties, hand pruning of tree roots, the accidental cutting (two times!) of buried internet service cables (our apologies to the Bass household), removal or protection of shrubs and trees, access to front sidewalks and driveways, and the control of parking and traffic to help keep residents and drivers safe and construction work on schedule. While George is an expert in all of this, I am not. His willingness to share his experience and insight about the various construction elements and activities involved have been truly appreciated. Every day I learn something new as he patiently explains the details. Thank you, George.

In addition to this considerable undertaking, we’ve been moving forward with other administrative and capital projects. For instance, we finally received delegated authority from the County Executive to issue parking tickets in Town. To resolve disputes about parking violations, I signed a memorandum of agreement with the County Executive to allow for the County to collect and process parking fines on the Town’s behalf. This includes enforcing payment and adjudicating appeals in the District Court as necessary. You may recall the ordinance we passed in the fall of 2018 to allow for this enforcement authority. In preparation, we have recently posted warning notices around Town that we will be enforcing parking. Also, with assistance from our Traffic and Parking Advisory Committee, led by Councilmember Phil Schulp, the Town Manager will be hiring a part-time parking enforcement officer who will write the tickets as well as represent the Town in District Court, if called upon. We hope to have this person on board soon.

-Mayor Kacky

February Pictures of Sidewalk Progress on Oxford St.



Photos taken by Steve Welker on 2/20/20 and 2/26/20.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Committee GP Volunteer Drivers List

Below is an updated list of volunteer drivers who are willing to provide rides for occasional doctor appointments, pharmacy visits, grocery shopping, etc. Please call to give as much notice as possible in order to best be helpful to you:

Courtenay Culp	Montrose	<u>301-933-3617</u>
Glenda or Ken Ingham	Rokeby	<u>301 933-5689</u>
Kathy Chamberlin	Montrose	<u>301 942-3822</u>
Charlie Snyder	Montrose	<u>301 942-2442</u>
Beth Irons	Clermont	<u>240-461-8923</u>
Elin Quigley	Keswick	<u>301 942-4567</u>
Kay Hager	Cambria	<u>301 949-8882</u>
Veronica & Terry Sauvain	Clermont	<u>301 942-5963</u>
Ann Gordon	Cambria	<u>301 933-0598</u>
Barbara Pearlman	Rokeby	<u>301-942-2234</u>
Jane Salomon	Waverly	<u>301-946-7556</u>
Louise Stomierowski	Kenilworth	<u>301 946-2075</u>
Mary Morse	Raleigh	<u>240-418-9243</u>
Stan McLeod	Kenilworth	<u>301-949-3205</u>
Michael Casassa	Kenilworth	<u>301 946-5396*</u>

***Michael can help with routine maintenance repairs**

If you want to add your name to this list or remove your name from it, please contact Elizabeth in the Town Office: 301-933-7488 or adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov