

Volume 69

July 2022

No. 7

Calendar

Fri July 1	Movie Night, Penn Place, 8:40p – <i>Raiders of the Lost Ark</i>	Sat Aug 6	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Sat July 2	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Tues Aug 9	GPJams, Town Hall, 7-9:30p
Mon July 4	Independence Day , Town Office Closed	Sat Aug 13	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Sat July 9	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Sat Aug 20	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Mon July 11	Town Council Meeting, Virtual, 7:30p	Sat Aug 27	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Tues July 12	GPJams, Town Hall, 7-9:30p	Sat Sept 3	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Sat July 16	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Sat Sept 10	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Sat July 23	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Sat Sept 12	Town Council Meeting, Virtual, 7:30p
Sat July 30	Farmers Market, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Sat Sept 13	GPJams, Town Hall, 7-9:30p

Town Council Meeting Notes

June was a very busy month with three meetings prior to the regular town council session. The town council held a closed meeting to discuss with the town lawyer and town engineer issues related to both stormwater abatement and the development of the Yeandle property on Kenilworth that has been gifted to the town. The task force on how to spend the American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds held a public meeting to consider a list of possible projects to recommend to the council. And the town council held a public meeting to receive a report from a consultant hired to explore whether or how to expand the town office space. The regular town council meeting then made some reference to all three of these other meetings. So, here we go.

The first item on the agenda was simply the mayor reading a “statement for the record” concerning the closed council meeting, required by the town charter. The council can meet in private, but it must notify town residents that it has done so. Next were the routine parts of the meeting—approval of the agenda and the minutes from the May meeting—both done quickly with just a couple small changes or additions. Following that came the time for presentations by residents, but there were none. Then the meeting moved on to unfinished business.

- Areas of responsibility. With the town election over, and a new member of the council in place,

there was discussion of the areas of responsibility for each council member. The upshot was: not much change. New member Lisa Max is largely taking over the areas that her predecessor, Mario Grande, had dealt with. The complete list of each member’s responsibilities is posted on the town website.

- Town office space planning. Last year the town hired a consultant to come up with alternatives for configuring the town office space on the third floor of Penn Place. That report has been completed, and was presented to the mayor and the council at the separate meeting at the beginning of June. The consultant provided four scenarios: (1) reconfigure the existing space more efficiently; (2) expand by taking over the smaller of the two rental offices on the third floor (both of which are currently empty); (3) expand by taking over the larger of the two offices; (4) expand by taking over both of the offices. The final option would more or less double the space for the town office. Having received the report and its explanation by the consultant, the regular council meeting discussed the options, considering issues such as how much space does the town really need? No action was taken. Your reporter’s impression is that considerably more time and discussion will occur before a final vote.

Continued next page

New business in the agenda also consisted of two items: possible installation of security cameras, and repair of an asphalt path at Garret Park nursery school.

- Cameras. The installation of security cameras at or near Penn Place is motivated by the recent hate-speech graffiti on the MARC train station. The main intent was to introduce the issue. The mayor noted that the first steps are to figure out what the town’s options are, what MARC might do, and what help/advice the county government can provide.
- Nursery School path. A short stretch of asphalt path between the entrance door of the nursery school and the playground is badly in need of repair. Under the lease agreement between the school and the town, the town is responsible for maintenance of the path and adjacent parking area. Both need repair, so the question is whether to do both at the same time, or do the quick fix of the path first. The mayor will consult with the town engineer.
End of new business, start of monthly updates.
- Arboretum, councilmember Bennett. Oh my! The arboretum committee has been busy with a number of projects, too many to provide all the detail here. One new item was an initiative to remove invasive species on town property.
- Strathmore development, councilmember Bennett. The county is allowing this development project to move to the next stage—preliminary planning. While councilmember Bennet noted that this may disappoint some Garrett Park residents, there will be an opportunity for the town to raise its various concerns and recommendations during this next phase.
- Parks and Open Spaces Committee, councilmember Schulp. Various aspects of the redevelopment of the Yeandle property on Kenilworth Avenue that has been gifted recently to the town are moving forward as planned, including a topographical survey of the property that will be finished soon. Councilmember Schulp also discussed the dog park (the old town tennis court area next to the swimming pool), providing some historical context for why there are issues of ground subsidence (too long a story to include here).
- ARPA task force, councilmember Dobosz. The task force met earlier in June and discussed a list of 10 possible projects suggested by task force members for using the money from the federal government. Councilmember Dobosz explained that the task force recommended that the bulk of the money should go to renovation of the town hall and abatement of storm water problems. Town manager Matthews noted that, administratively, it makes sense to spend the funds on large projects, and also to focus on projects that are already line items in the town budget, and moving the town budgeted funds to other uses.

- Land Use Advisory Committee and Historic Preservation Committee, councilmember Paczkowski. The two committees recently held a joint meeting, since there is considerable overlap in what the two committees do. Councilmember Paczkowski expects that there will be future joint meetings as well.
- White Flint pedestrian path. The footpath from White Flint Park in Garrett Park Estates to the White Flint Plaza on Nicholson Lane, has been sealed off by a chain link fence, installed by the owners of the former White Flint Mall property (Lerner Enterprises). Mayor Welch indicated that the town is working with county and state politicians on this, but Lerner has not budged yet. Councilmember Paczkowski is working on a possible compromise, though getting to the point of meeting with the Lerner management may take a couple months. Karine Jegalian, a Garrett Park resident attending the meeting, pressed vigorously for quicker action.
The town manager’s report rounded out the evening. Acting town manager Matthews mentioned quite a number of things happening. See her written report on the town website for all the details. And, so, the meeting came to an end.

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:

- Monday, July 4, 2022 – Town Office closed for Independence Day holiday
- Monday, July 11, 2022 –Town Council meeting (virtual) – 7:30 pm

August Town Council Meeting – There will be no August Town Council meeting this year. The Town Charter allows the Town Council to omit one meeting per calendar year at its discretion.

Town Office Space Planning and Needs Assessment Study – In September 2021, the Town Council authorized execution of a contract with Lumber & Light to conduct an assessment and develop alternatives for improving the layout and efficiency of the Town Office space. The firm presented its findings to the Mayor and Town Council at a Special Town Council Meeting on June 8, 2022. The Mayor and Town Council held a follow

up discussion at the Town Council meeting on June 14. A decision on how to proceed is pending.

Tree Work – During the month of June, you may have noticed Empire Landscape performing various tasks throughout Town. The Town contracted with Empire to remove trees that were diseased or in decline and to perform deadwood removal, tree elevation, and pruning work. These efforts will continue in the coming months as part of our ongoing efforts to preserve our Arboretum

Work in the Historic District – If you live in the County-designated Historic District, please keep in mind that some exterior projects require a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP). HAWPs are issued by the County, not the Town. Projects requiring a HAWP include, but are not limited to, home additions; demolishing or altering exterior materials; installation of fences, walkways, retaining walls, decks, window/siding/roof replacement; and, tree removal. See the full list of historic Garrett Park properties here.

Regular Reminders:

Communication. Are you new to Town? Contact the Town Office at (301) 933-7488 so we can get you up to speed with what you need to know about living in Garrett Park.

We also encourage all residents to sign up for the resident’s portal, as it provides the Town Office with one more way to reach you. You can 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. A Montgomery County permit is required in addition to the Garrett Park permit. Be sure to complete your Garrett Park permit application and submit along with your plat and drawings to the Town Office before submitting your County permit application. Town permit applications and payment can be completed at:

www.garrettparkmd.gov/government/operations/permits.

As always, please reach out to the Town Office with any questions or concerns. You can reach me at (301) 933-7488 or at

Barbara.Matthews@garrettparkmd.gov.

Barb Matthews, Interim Town Manager



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Meal Train
If you or one of your Garrett Park neighbors would benefit from receiving some meals due to a life change (e.g., giving birth, adopting, illness, surgery, or loss), please contact Nikki Forry (nikki.forry@gmail.com, 202-641-7389). She will be happy to set up a Meal Train and send it out to the neighborhood listservs.

Interested in Babysitting, pet sitting, yard work?
Please call Elizabeth (301-933-7488) in the Town Office or email: adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov. with your age and contact information.

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Get to Know Your Neighbor

The “Get to Know Your Neighbor” feature is a creation of the Bugle’s Audience Engagement Editor, Meg Wendt. All neighbors are worth getting to know, but if you have someone special in mind, let us know! This month’s feature is on Sophie Epshteyn.

Where do you live? We always refer to ourselves as “two houses down from the Harris house” or “Pat and Therese’s next-door neighbors”!

How long have you lived here? My family moved in January of 2020, so almost two and a half years!

Why did your family choose to live in Garrett Park? While attending GPES, I fell in love with the town events here. While sitting on the bus, I would see kids getting to walk to school and after-school events. I always loved attending Spooky Woods, watching the 4th of July parade, and even visiting the pool as a guest. All the long and tiresome packing was definitely worth it to live here!

Tell us about your first job at the pool and why did you decide to take on this role? I love being a Gate Guard at the pool! I enjoy meeting new people, as well as having the responsibility of managing and making it to all my shifts. It feels really special to have a chance to give back to the community as well!

What is your proudest accomplishment and why? One of my proudest accomplishments would definitely be receiving a dance scholarship at the Academy of the Holy Cross, where I’ll be a freshman this fall. I’ve studied dance for over a decade and am a member of the CityDance Conservatory. I dance a variety of styles, but my favorites are Sri Lankan and Jazz.



What do you like most about living/working in Garrett Park? My whole world is within a mile! I can walk to school, dance, my job at the pool, then back home. As much as I enjoy getting to walk, last-minute trips to the post office aren’t as exciting as I thought they’d be!

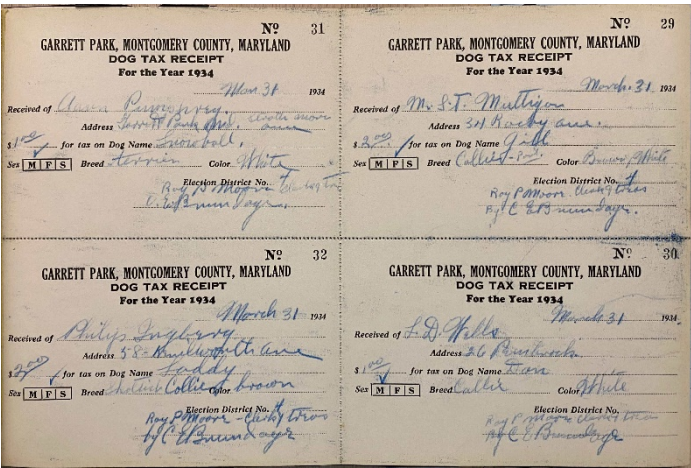
What are your favorite local shops, restaurants or hangouts? Like most teenagers, I often find myself wanting to try the “in” drinks and “trendy” snacks, one of those being matcha lattes from Java Nation! Less trendy and a bit more of a drive is one of my favorite restaurants: China Bistro in Rockville. While you’re there you have to try the Spicy Tasty Tofu and Mama’s Special Dumplings!

If you were to suddenly find yourself with a free afternoon on a beautiful day, where could we most likely find you? As cliché as it must sound, I would have to go with the pool! This is only our third year as members (and we know the 2020 season was anything but normal) so it’s still new and exciting to lounge with my friends poolside enjoying food trucks or ice cream from Ajay.

What is your current recommendation for streaming? It’s definitely a bit of an older show, but I recently binged my way through every season of Gilmore Girls! As I’m answering these questions I feel like Rory Gilmore living out her journalism dream. :)

What else would you like to share about yourself or your family? In addition to my mom and dad, I live with my seven-year-old brother Jack! My family wouldn’t be complete without mentioning our pandemic pet, Lobz the Electric Blue (technically a crayfish) Lobster!

From the Town Archives



With the Dog Days of Summer upon us, it seems fitting to give a shout out to the dogs of Garrett Park. OK, maybe not exactly what the Dog Days are about, but who doesn’t love dogs!? They are a daily, entertaining part of Garrett Park life. I regularly see dogs and their humans out for walks around town. Sometimes, a curious dog or two will even wander back to the Archives to say hello while their humans are in the post office.

The good news is that our furry canine friends are represented in the Town Archives. I recently rediscovered a 1934 Dog Tax Receipt book that gives us a glimpse of the town’s early dogs.

Black and white fox terriers, with names like Snoop, Bobbie, and Sousie, were a popular choice. Setters were also appreciated. Bruce Warring of Monmouth Avenue (now Clermont) had a black and white English setter named Dash, while Rudolph Dieffenbach on Argyle had a red Irish setter named Jerry.

To add variety, there was also Sniff, a sable-colored Pomeranian owned by the Gamble family, and Snowball, Ann Pumphrey’s white terrier. On Clermont, the Johnson family had an Alaskan spitz name Piggy. And, who can resist Judith Heather, a black Scottish terrier that lived on Kenilworth.

Various breeds of police dogs and bird dogs were also common. At the post office, William Penn

had a police dog named Pete. Across the tracks, William Dove had two police dogs—Brownie and Rover.

Looking to escape the heat during the Dog Days of Summer? Come by the nice cool Town Archives some Friday afternoon, or by appointment, to explore our collections, including the 1934 Dog Tax Receipt book.

Claire McDonald
Town Archivist

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

The Neighbors Helping Neighbors Committee is seeking new members. We have not been meeting throughout the Covid pandemic but hope to start up again in September. We meet the first Thursday of each month at 10:00am in the Town office. All ages, men and women, are welcome. Below is information and reminders about our committee.

NHN provides information and assistance for a variety of services to residents of our community. These include a list of resident recommendations for home repairs available from the Town office, a list of volunteer drivers to appointments, for grocery shopping, prescription pickups, etc. NHN also provides general information on available free County resources for those planning to Age in Place. Check the Post Office for other helpful handouts. We have sponsored a fair with vendors and speakers at Town Hall and coffees outside Penn Place on Saturdays. We would like to expand our services but need more volunteers. It is not an all-consuming responsibility to serve on this committee so please consider helping. If interested call: Glenda Ingham, 301-933-5689 (cell: 301-395-7558) or The Town office: 301-933-7488

GP Conservation Action Network (GPCAN)

Tennis Ball Recycling is here!

Did you know that tennis balls take 400 years to decompose? GPCAN has initiated an effort in partnership with the Montgomery County Parks

Department, which owns the tennis parks, to offer tennis ball recycling at the Garrett Park courts. The Parks department has installed a recycling container at our request and now Garrett Park volunteers will collect the balls and send them to Recycleball.org. Please put only tennis balls in the bin. One small green step for our Town!

GPCAN thanks Elizabeth Henley, Town assistant and councilwoman Gerilee Bennett for their help in getting our recycling project started. The Garrett Park Conservation Action Network is a group of residents concerned about environmental issues and committed taking action locally. To get involved and join the GPCAN listserv, contact Joanne Schmader at JSchmader@protonmail.com.



Our Graduates

We are pleased to recognize this year's crop of graduates. Best wishes to all of you! If we missed someone, please let us know before the publication deadline for the next issue of the Bugle, and we will be sure to include them.

Highschool

Marco Albertini graduated from Walter Johnson High School in June. Marco will attend Arizona State University in the fall studying business at the W.P. Carey School of Business. Marco loves sports and, in high school, played lacrosse for WJ for a season and soccer in a recreational league.



Max Jonah Cohen graduated from Walter Johnson High School. Max will be taking a gap year in Israel where he will be studying and participating in internships in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Max is a recipient of meritorious service award for earning over 2500 volunteer hours, including though not limited to feeding the homeless, book fairs, assisting at carnivals, and various leadership roles in the Israeli Scouts.

Max has also worked as a teaching assistant at B'nai Israel Congregation in Rockville and this past year helped teach a class "Hebrew through movement". Max plays violin and cello, composes music, and swims for Tilden Woods.



Cora Elizabeth Christmas Flynn graduated from Walter Johnson High School and was in the top 5% of her class. She will be attending Marist College's School of Communication and the Arts in Poughkeepsie, NY this Fall.

Our son, **Sam Grande**, is a Class of 2022 graduate of Walter Johnson High School. Sam was an APEX scholar, a member of NHS and played baseball all 4 years at WJ (as much as was possible with 2 seasons hampered by Covid.) As a senior, Sam played first base, was selected for Second Team All-Division, led his team in on-base percentage, ranked 2nd in runs scored, and received the Wildcat Award. He helped the varsity baseball team secure the best record in the school's history ending the 2022 season with 18 wins and just 3 losses. Despite the pandemic which affected so much of his high school experience, Sam has fond memories of WJ and growing up in Garrett Park and has made lifelong friendships along the way. Sam is looking forward to attending the University of South Carolina in Columbia as a Capstone scholar and will be majoring in Sports Management. (Maybe he'll play baseball, as well?) We are so proud of all Sam has accomplished so far and the fine young man he has become. Looking forward to seeing him continue to grow and thrive in the future. - Natalie & Mario Grande (soon to be empty nesters)



We are thrilled to announce that our daughter, **Juliana Lange-Asschenfeldt** (left) (4401 Oxford) graduated from Walter Johnson this spring. She will be a freshman at UMD College Park this fall.

Will Shuck (right) graduated from Gonzaga College High School on June 5, 2022. He will be attending The College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA in the fall, where he is planning to major in Economics and play rugby.



Garrett Park resident **Andee Strong** (left) graduated from Walter Johnson High School in June. She was acknowledged as a member of the Music Honors Society and won awards for Excellence in Child Development and Outstanding Choral Dedication and Services. Andee was active in both the school plays and choral productions. She is headed to Clemson in the fall to pursue a degree in education.

Rowan Wright graduated in the top 10% of her class from Walter Johnson. She was an Apex and Aces scholar, President of HOSA, Secretary of the Red Cross club, member of the National Honors Society and rowed three years on the WJ crew team. She won the gold medal for epidemiology in the HOSA international competition. We are most proud of what a tenacious, kind, curious, funny, creative and caring person she is. She will be studying microbiology and immunology at McGill University in Montreal, Canada.



College/Post-Graduate

Charles Lindsay Christmas Flynn graduated from McDaniel College in May with a BA in English and a Latin minor. He is working to elect Al Carr to the Montgomery County Council this summer. He will be serving as an Americorps volunteer with Reading Partners in DC, starting in August.

Joanna K Jackson graduated from the University of Maryland School of Social Work with a Masters in Social Work. Joanna is now working for the State of Maryland Baltimore County Department of Health and Human Services Foster Care Unit.



Courtney Shuck (right) graduated from Elon University on May 20,2022, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Health with a concentration in Biological Aspects. Courtney is planning to attend PA school in the fall of 2023.

Jordan Shuck (below) graduated from Fairfield University Magna Cum Laude on May 22, 2022 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance. She is enjoying a summer at the beach while she looks for a job in the financial field.





We're Going Places (THEME)

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

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

9:30 am Parade forms. Garrett Park Elem

10:30 am Parade begins

1:00 pm - 5 pm Pool EVENTS

3:00 pm 18th Annual Softball Game. G.P. School
MUSIC by Garrett Park's own - Border State

(Penn Place - after the Parade)