



Calendar

Sat Nov 5	Chicano Sol Farm Stand, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Mon Nov 14	GP Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30p
Sat Nov 5	Inaugural Brew Fest, Town Hall, 5p	Tues Nov 15	Parks and Open Space Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30p
Wed Nov 9	GP Historic Preservation Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 8p	Sat Nov 19	Chicano Sol Farm Stand, Penn Place, 9a – 1p
Fri Nov 11	Veterans Day (Town Office Closed)	Thurs Nov 24	Thanksgiving (Town Office Closed)
Sat Nov 12	Chicano Sol Farm Stand and GIVES Collection, Penn Place, 9a – 1p	Fri Nov 25	Town Office Closed
Sun Nov 13	GIVES Soup Supper, Town Hall, 5-7p	Sat Nov 26	NO Chicano Sol Farm Stand

Town Council Meeting Notes

The October town council meeting was a long one. The agenda also involved a shift in order. The monthly report of the town manager has been the final item on the agenda for a number of years. Mayor Welch, however, moved it to be the fourth item, after the approval of the agenda and minutes, and presentations by residents. The mayor felt that often the town manager’s report gets short shrift because everyone is eager to bring the meeting to a close by the time of the report.

Well, folks, moving the town manager’s report to early in the meeting may have made a major difference at the October meeting. Town manager Matthews’ report came up quickly, since there were no changes to the draft agenda, one small change in the minutes, and no presentations by residents. The report covered a number of topics (the full report is available on the town website), but the big one was an update on planning for renovation of the town hall. She said she would have a request for proposals (RFP) ready for council consideration by the time of the November meeting.

The RFP would ask bidders (architectural firms with experience in historic building renovation) to sketch out ideas for several options, ranging from minimal renovation to “pie in the sky.” As part of drafting the RFP, she wanted confirmation that the council wanted to include the option of physically moving the building to a location close to Penn Place, as a possible but unlikely, expensive option. As background, town manager Matthews noted that she had met with someone on the Montgomery County historical preservation commission and was told that

moving a historic structure is approved only if all other options for preservation do not work out. Discussion of whether to ask bidders to include this option in their report led to a discussion among the mayor, council members and several residents that went on for the next hour.

So, what was the debate about? Those in favor of asking firms to include this option argued that, even if the move was unlikely, it would be useful to have a ballpark estimate of how much it would cost, and whether it is technically feasible. Councilmember Paczkowski, for example, noted that it is useful to have out-of-the-box concepts included at this early stage of a project. Those opposed, mostly Garrett Park residents attending the meeting, argued that, if the move was highly unlikely (especially given the comments by the county official town manager Matthews had talked to), why bother with the work and expense of creating an estimate? Opponents had other reasons as well, including undesirability of relocating the building to be near the noisy train tracks. After an hour of discussion, the council informally agreed to have town manager Matthews keep this option in the RFP.

Compared to the vigorous discussion about the town hall, the rest of the meeting was fairly quiet. The only action item on the agenda was the change in the budget to reflect the reallocation of funds to deal with removal of the former Yeandle house on Kenilworth that now belongs to the town, and it was passed unanimously.

Under new business, three items were on the agenda.

The town’s Historic Preservation Committee has a couple of vacancies. Pamela Parker was proposed

to fill one of those slots, and she was approved unanimously.

Assistant town manager Buker provided a detailed explanation of proposed changes to the town's personnel manual, which has not been updated for some time. Most of these were technical changes, and some were aimed at ensuring that Garrett Park is competitive with other nearby towns in its ability to recruit staff. She expects to have the completely revised manual ready for approval by the town council at the December meeting, so it can go into effect at the beginning of January.

Town manager Matthews brought up the ongoing review of town code enforcement provisions, which had been also discussed at the September meeting. Discussion revolved around how the town could continue to be neighborly in its enforcement, and whether there should be an appeals process. There was no vote on any of this; the goal was simply to provide further guidance to the town manager as she works on drafting new language on enforcement. Her goal is to have the issue on the agenda again in another month or two.

The final items for the meeting were the monthly updates.

Arboretum Committee. Councilmember Bennett listed several things that the committee is working on. Fall tree plantings are underway; the fall tree walk is scheduled (November 6); and advice on plantings around the upcoming rebuilding of the sidewalk on Waverly between Penn Place and Montrose is in the works.

Composting. Councilmember Bennett said that an RFP on kitchen compost collection is in the works.

Strathmore Redevelopment at St. Angela Hall. Councilmember Bennett said that the county will have a planning staff report and a hearing sometime in the second half of November. One issue she is following is whether the plans include extension of the sidewalk on the south side of Strathmore (from the Garrett Park town line to the intersection at Stillwater).

Archives. Assistant town manager Buker is working on guidelines for donation of materials to the archives.

Historic Preservation Committee. Councilmember Paczkowski said that the committee is thinking of having a Chevy House tour.

Land Use Advisory Committee. Councilmember Paczkowski indicated that the issue of whether and how Garrett Park should go beyond the county's new rules on accessory dwellings remains in flux, including the issue of what to do concerning short-term rentals.

Parks and Open Spaces Committee. Now that the former Yeandle property is in the process of being converted into a park, the question is what to call it. Probably it will become the Yeandle Grove, but there is no definitive decision yet.

Cistern at the Pool/dog park. Councilmember Schulp explained that there is an ongoing discussion with an architect of what to do with the subsiding land where there was once a water tank (for watering steam engines) that sits partly on Garrett Park Pool

property and partly under the informal dog park in the former tennis court. The proposal will probably include ideas for dealing with the Pool side, with minimal work at the dog park pending a longer-term conclusion of what to do with the park.

On that note, the meeting came to a close a bit after 10:00 p.m.

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:

- Friday, November 11, 2022 – Town Office closed for Veteran's Day holiday
- Monday, November 14, 2022 –Town Council Meeting – 7:30 pm
- Thursday, November 24, 2022 – Town Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday
- Friday, November 25, 2022 – Town Office closed for Day after Thanksgiving holiday

Leaf Collection – The Town contracted with Bethke Landscaping to provide once a week collection of leaves. Service will be provided through the end of December. Leaves will be collected as early in the week as possible, but rain or inclement weather will delay their pickup.

Leaves should be placed in rows alongside the street side of the curb so that they are accessible for pickup by truck. Please be mindful of the placement of the leaves to avoid blocking storm drains.

Any sticks, rocks, trash, and other debris should be removed from the leave piles as they can damage machinery and will not be collected by Bethke.

Shredded leaves and grass clippings should be bagged and put out for the regular yard waste collection on Mondays.

Parents, please discourage your children from playing in the leaves along the curb.

Holiday Gifts – If you would like to contribute a holiday gift to the crew members who take away our trash, recycling, and yard waste, please mail your check to the Town of Garrett Park, PO Box 84. Checks should be made payable to the Town of Garrett Park with "Holiday Fund" written as the memo. The Town Office will collect contributions through mid-January.

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 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:

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, Town Manager

9am-9pm Mon-Sat
9am-7pm Sunday
301-493-6217
www.grosvenormarket.com

Find us on Facebook

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.

Pencils for Birthdays!
Please bring or send your children to the Garrett Park Town Office on or near their birthdays! The Town Office is in Penn Place (3rd Floor). Take the stairs or the elevator to come visit and ask Elizabeth, Kayla, Barb or Mayor Joanna for your special pencil. We’d like to wish your children a happy birthday and answer any questions they or you may have about our Town government.

-Elizabeth Henley

Call Todd today, your local neighborhood realtor!

TODD HARRIS HOMES

cell: 301-455-5440
office: 240-497-1700
ToddHarrisHomes.com

~ Garrett Park resident ~

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Citizens Association Updates

Thank you to the many volunteers for making this Spooky Woods another rousing success! Thank you, especially, to our treasurer, Rory Smith, for taking charge of organizing this year’s event. And thank you, as always, to Sean Conlan for storing all of the props in his crawl space!

Please join us on November 5 at 5p – 10p in Town Hall for the **First Annual Garrett Park Brew Fest**. Grab your favorite flannel and join your neighbors for all of your Autumn favorites: beer, seltzer, food trucks, and lawn games.

Feel free to make a donation to help fund the purchase of kegs from Lone Oak Brewery, or bring your favorite beer or seltzer to share.

Donate here:

<https://buy.stripe.com/aEU51P8X9dcV2R228f>

This event will be free of single-use plastic cups. Purchase your commemorative Garrett Park steel pint at the link below or at the event for \$10 or bring your own re-usable drinkware.

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 in mind, let us know! This month's feature is on Ryan Fogarty.



Where do you live? I live in the town's original one-room school house (On the south end of Kenilworth Ave). I don't think it's haunted, but I live in constant fear of schoolchildren ghosts.

How long have you lived here? We moved in during ongoing renovations with no kitchen in Nov 2013. I learned valuable lessons about washing dishes and babies in the bathtub separately.

Why did you choose to live in Garrett Park? My wife and I were driving in the area and needed a post office, Google maps brought us through this idyllic small town oasis, and we were hooked immediately.

Tell us about The First Annual Garrett Park Brew Fest and how this idea came into fruition.

After visiting a quaint little town in NJ where they close down the main street and sell beer and food for all the neighbors to enjoy, I wondered why Garrett Park doesn't do something similar. I soon found out: Montgomery County has enough regulations to make an IRS lawyer blush. But we've found a way through the red tape and it should be a fun day!

What do you like most about living/working in Garrett Park? I love giving my kids a small town upbringing similar to my own.

What do you like most about living/working in Garrett Park? I have very kind and considerate neighbors and I'm grateful to live in such a welcoming community.

What are your favorite local shops, restaurants or hangouts? My go-to restaurant is Tower Oaks, but love Guilly's for the beer and sandwiches. We take advantage of our remote work days with frequent trips to BarkSocial with our dog too.

What is your current recommendation for

streaming? I'll be the guy riding my bike through Rock Creek Park with the dog leash attachment. Don't worry, he loves it.

GIVES

Hello Garrett Park! While we're enjoying spectacular weather and gorgeous fall colors, it's easy to forget that others are struggling. And as the colder weather and holiday season approaches, it's more important than ever to think about the homeless. To that end, please join GIVES for the annual Soup Supper fundraiser -- **Sunday, November 13th from 5-7pm at Town Hall**. Come be part of a 40+ year Garrett Park tradition to help those in need while sharing delicious homemade soups and meeting your neighbors. Consider donating the money you would have spent on dinner to help support [Stepping Stones Shelter](#) in Rockville, MD and [Thrive DC](#) in Washington, DC -- homeless shelters that benefit tremendously from all your donations of any amount, especially during these challenging times. Joining us again this year will be representatives from these 2 worthy organizations to share with us how they and their constituents are coping. GIVES will provide tables and chairs, cups, napkins and water and a cozy ambiance. Guests are asked to bring soup or salad or bread to share and your own bowl and/or plate and utensils. Feel free to bring your beverage of choice. In addition to monetary donations (checks or cash only), we will also be collecting toiletries for Thrive DC - specifically travel-sized soap, lotion and deodorant - and we'll be kicking off our annual Winter Coat Collection, so feel free to bring any new or gently used and laundered coats you would like to donate and drop them in the box.

Thinking about a year end donation of what to give a friend who has everything? Please remember **GIVES Gift Donation Cards** will be available at our upcoming monthly collection table on Saturday, November 12th and December 17th. If you miss us then, please consider using the GIVES can on the table in the post office when you stop by to pick up your mail. Or you can send donations to GIVES at P.O. Box 331, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

In 2023, GIVES will continue with in-person collections outside the Post Office (weather permitting) on the first and third Saturday's of each month. If you've volunteered to join [GIVES](#) and host Saturday morning collections, you will soon receive an email with a link to a Sign-Up Genius. Please choose the date/time that works best for you in 2023. And if you haven't joined GIVES but are looking for a way to become involved in your local community, help others less fortunate, and can spare **JUST 2 HOURS PER YEAR**, please contact us at garrettparkgives@gmail.com.

Looking forward to seeing lots of you at the Soup Supper. Wishing you a continued beautiful fall season.

With gratitude,

