



Garrett Park, Maryland

Volume 70

January 2023

No. 1

### Calendar

Mon Jan 2	New Year's Obs.; Town Office Closed	Mon Jan 16	MLK, Jr.'s Birthday Obs.; Town Office Closed
Mon Jan 2	Trash & Yard Waste Pick-up as usual		
Sat Jan 7	Large Item Pick-up	Tues Jan 17	Parks and Open Space Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30p
Mon Jan 9	GP Town Council Meeting, Town Hall & Virtual, 7:30p	Weds Jan 18	Arboretum Committee Meeting, Town Hall, 7p
Tues Jan 10	Garrett Park JAMS, Town Hall, 7p		

*\*No Chicano Sol Farm Stand this month*

*\*No Historic Preserv. Comm. Mtg. this month*

### Town Council Meeting Notes

Prior to the regular December council meeting, there was a work session on November 30 to discuss the role of town committees (Arboretum, Archives, Historical Preservation, Land Use, Parks and Open Spaces, and occasional temporary task forces) and how they align with the needs of the mayor and council. This meeting was the result of the mayor's concern that the role of the town's advisory committees and their interaction with the council was ill-defined and not working as smoothly as they could. The discussion produced a list of nine items for possible follow-up, such as providing an orientation to new committee members so that they understand their role. Those residents interested in the details of this list of suggestions can find the minutes of the meeting on the town website.

The December 12 council meeting had a long agenda that made for a long meeting. After approval of the agenda (with a few additions) and the minutes of both the November regular council meeting and the work session, the meeting quickly moved on to presentations by residents, of which there were two—George Martin, Jr. and Ken Schwartz

George Martin, Jr. spoke about issues concerning the redevelopment around St. Angela Hall. George has been deeply involved with both Holy Cross Church and Holy Cross school for a long time. He raised three issues—intrusiveness, drainage, and sidewalks. He noted that the development is visually intrusive, so that he is pressing for more screening on the property with trees/bushes. Drainage has been a long-standing concern, and the developers need to ensure proper measures. The developer is supposed to build a sidewalk from the boundary with Garrett Park to the intersection at Stillwater. The developer's

proposal, however, calls for a 30-foot-wide path for part of the distance with both a pedestrian walkway and two bike lanes, which George noted would not fit well with the narrower sidewalks at either end of this stretch. All of this was intended to help inform the town prior to a county hearing later in the week.

Ken Schwartz raised three issues—the midyear budget adjustment, response to emails, and the town hall project. On the budget, he applauded the efforts of the town manager for the adjustments in the draft budget proposal provided the council, mayor, and town manager with a memo with several suggestions for other adjustments. On responses to emails sent to town officials, he expressed concern that his emails often elicit no acknowledgement or response, which he thinks is not good governance practice. On the town hall, he was concerned that there appeared to be no forward movement on this large project in the past several months. Nothing about the Town Hall had been on the draft agenda, but note that an update was added to the town manager's monthly report portion of the agenda at the start of the meeting. Her update is covered later in this report.

Following these resident presentations, the next order of business was a PowerPoint briefing by the town's auditor on the audit of the town's finances for the 2022 fiscal year (which ended June 30, 2022). His presentation focused mostly on a review of procedures and internal controls. The bottom line? The town is doing fine, both financially and procedurally. For those who are interested, the full audit is on the town website.

Next on the agenda came monthly updates. **Grotto.** Mayor Welch wanted to publicly acknowledge the work done by Dick and Peggy Pratt on the transfer of a strip of land near the bottom of

Argyle to town ownership. This is the historic town grotto property, the location of an old town spring.

**Dog Park (next to the Pool).** The mayor noted that an engineering survey is in process that will guide the work to repair the retaining wall on the pool property where there was once a water tank for CSX in the days of steam engines. The mayor is hoping that the report and subsequent county approval will be done in time to get the work completed prior to the opening of the Garrett Park Pool in late May. The water tank extended under part of the informal dog park (which is a former town tennis court), and the same contract will include filling sinking land in the dog park as a temporary measure while longer-term plans for the park are considered.

**Strathmore Redevelopment.** Councilmember Bennett shared the outline of the upcoming testimony by the mayor at the county hearing for the redevelopment at St. Angela's Hall, the project that George Martin had discussed earlier in the meeting. This included a request to reduce the number of road entrances/exits to Strathmore Avenue to two, support for a sidewalk (without the town taking a stand on width), better screening with foliage, etc.

**Archives.** Councilmember Max noted several projects in process, mainly around the topic of the town's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023, but also including an exhibit concerning on the history of the Town Hall.

**Historic Preservation.** Councilmember Paczkowski said the committee is having discussions about developing a town history tour route with explanatory QR codes posted at various spots around town.

**Land Use.** Councilmember Paczkowski noted that there will be an effort to pick up speed on addressing the question of rules governing accessory buildings, including whether the town should opt back into county rules (from which the town had opted out when the issue was on how to block short-term rentals--think Airbnb).

After these updates came the town manager's monthly report. For details, see the full report on the town website. Of manager Matthews oral presentation, two items stood out to your reporter. First, the town is planning to move forward with installing four exterior and two interior security cameras at Penn Place.

Second, the draft request for proposals (RFP) on the Town Hall renovation is moving forward. The draft is almost ready and will be reviewed soon by the town attorney. Hopefully, the finished RFP will be ready to be sent out to potential architectural-firm bidders in early January.

Finally, the meeting turned to two action items—a variance request, and the introduction of the midyear budget adjustment.

The variance request involved restoring a Chevy House's front porch to its original form (replaced decades ago by a different, narrower porch) which will not meet the current front set-back rules. This was, as they say, a “no-brainer” and was approved unanimously.

On the budget adjustment, town manager Matthews explained all the changes on both the revenue and expenditure side. Resident Ken Schwartz, who had earlier made suggestions about the adjustments, made a point about the size of the contingency fund (which he had devised back when he had been on the council). Mayor Welch noted that since the vote was on introducing the budget changes, there was time for councilmembers to consider Ken Schwartz's several suggestions prior to the vote to adopt in January. The council voted unanimously to introduce the budget change ordinance. This brought the meeting to a close.

Ed Lincoln  
Bugle Reporter

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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, January 2, 2023 – Town Office closed for New Year's holiday
- Saturday, January 7, 2023 – Large item pick up
- Monday, January 9, 2023 – Town Council Meeting – 7:30 pm
- Monday, January 16, 2023 – Town Office closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday

### Holiday Gifts

Thanks to everyone who has contributed a holiday gift for the crew members who take away our trash, recycling, and yard waste. If you would like to donate, there's still time to do so. Please mail your check to the Town of Garrett Park, P.O. Box 84, or drop off your check at the Town Office. 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 the close of business on Wednesday, January 18, 2023.

### Income Tax Return Reminder (MD Form 502) –

Did you know that income tax receipts are one of the Town's most significant revenue sources? By State law, municipalities in Maryland receive a portion of the income tax levied by Montgomery County. But the State of Maryland needs to know to return this revenue to the Town.

What can you do to ensure that the Town receives its fair share? 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.” The political subdivision code for the Town is 1604.

**REQUIRED:** Maryland Physical address of taxing area as of Deceml taxpayers. **See Instruction 6. Part-year residents see Instructi**

1604	Town of Garrett
4 Digit Political Subdivision Code (See Instruction 6)	Maryland Political Subdivision
Maryland Physical Address Line 1 (Street No. and Street Name) (No PO Box)	
Maryland Physical Address Line 2 (Apt No., Suite No., Floor No.) (No PO Box)	
City	MD State

**Guidelines for Large Item Collection**

As noted above, the next quarterly pickup of large items is scheduled for Saturday, January 7, 2023. Only items that can be carried to the curb by one or two people will be accepted. Items should be placed curbside by the evening of Friday, January 6.

Please be advised that the hauler cannot accept the following items:

- Tree limbs, bamboo, or other yard waste
- Paint
- Tires
- Gas or oil
- Car batteries
- Pesticides or chemicals
- Construction materials

**Snow Removal and Sidewalk Clearing**

With the official start of the winter season only a few weeks away, just a few reminders about actions you can take to help the Town and community members navigate inclement weather.

- Please park off the streets when snow is expected so that the Town maintenance staff can clear curb to curb where possible. This will allow for more space to park after the streets are plowed.
- Please be a good neighbor and clear the sidewalk in front of your home of ice and snow for safe pedestrian use. If clearing is not practicable, then residents should spread sand on the ice and snow. In accordance with the Town Code, sidewalk clearing should take place within 24 hours of a snowfall or freeze.

**Thank You to Members of Town Government Committees**

With calendar year 2022 drawing to a close, I wanted to take a moment to thank our many volunteers who gave of their time by serving on one of our Town government committees. These volunteers play a vital role in making our Town government work, and I’m grateful to each of them for their service and their contributions.

**Birthday Pencils**

Is your child celebrating a birthday? Garrett Park youths are invited to stop by the Town Office to get a celebratory birthday pencil, engraved with the Town of Garrett Park.

**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](http://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](http://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](mailto:Barbara.Matthews@garrettparkmd.gov).

Barb Matthews, Town Manager

**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](mailto: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.

**WINTER JOBS LIST**

If you would like to be listed with the Town Office



and/or in an upcoming Bugle, please specify the job title (snow shoveling, babysitting, pet sitting, etc.), your age and contact information. Please submit this information to Elizabeth in the Town Office: 301-933-7488.

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## Holiday Decorating Show Results

Many thanks to all our fine neighbors for bringing joy in the fashion of lights, trees and fun figures! It was a treat to stroll the streets and admire efforts to beautify the town and your home. Some special recognition was noted in the following houses....

- **Best House** Alicia & Andrew Provost, 10916 Montrose
- **Best Yard** Alicia & Jason Bone, 10903 Kenilworth
- **Best Door/Window** Ann & Jim Mallet, 10804 Kenilworth
- **Best Porch** Molly & Scot Shuck, 11011 Kenilworth
- **Kid's Award** Jean Horan & Phil Schulp, 4419 Cambria
- **Most Creative** Jennifer & Brian Hicks, 10700 Montrose
- **Most Charming** Mindy & Mike Flaherty, 10905 Clermont
- **Best Trees** Keri & Adam Glance, 11019 Kenilworth
- **Mayor's Award** Ginna Goodenow, 4710 Albemarle
- **Elves' Award** Lori & Sean Conlan, 10926 Clermont

Cheers!

**Lillian Del Priore**

President | GP Women's Club

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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 in mind, let us know! This month's feature is on Lesley Maloney.

**Where do you live?** 11118 Kenilworth Ave (and 11200 Rokeby before that).

**How long have you lived here?** 12 years.

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**Why did you choose to live in Garrett Park?** We lived at the Avalon apartments near Grosvenor-Strathmore and would walk our dog through the trails in Beach Drive and up the big hill into Garrett Park. We wondered why this certain section of the sidewalks had streetlights along it. We came to an open house, and then found out it was its own little town. Since we both came from small towns in rural Oklahoma, we loved the idea of a small-town feel in the middle of an urban area.

**Tell us about how and why you started planning events for kiddos in town.** Around 2013, with a 6-month-old baby and no family nearby, we wanted to meet other young parents with kids. After being somewhat rejected by the Kensington MOMS group because I wasn't a stay-at-home mom, I put out a request on the GP listserv for families with kids less than a year old to join us for brunch at our house. That brunch started a great group of GP friends, which we still have today. It also led to me starting the Garrett Park Parents listserv as a way for us all to meet other families, buy/sell items, and ask "new parent" questions. As for the events, I was used to big Easter egg hunts and other fun events with all of my cousins in Oklahoma, and I wanted my kids to have some of the same types of memories. I decided to organize an egg hunt for our group of friends, and then just decided to post it on the list-serv, asking other parents to donate candy and help with stuffing eggs. It continues to grow. Other events, like the Halloween parade, GP Stroller Crawl, or organizing a Meal Train for families with new babies, come about from a casual conversation or an idea I see somewhere else and adapt to GP. It just takes a willingness to organize and see it through. I've got an awesome husband (Pat) who helps me implement the crazy ideas. And, thankfully, there are some other great parents in the community who volunteer and donate, as necessary, to make things possible.

**What is your proudest career accomplishment and why?** I do regulatory policy, previously at the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and now at a pharmaceutical company. Policy is usually a marathon, not a sprint, but seeing a policy idea or change make it into legislation or be accepted by other stakeholders is always exciting...especially knowing how much it can make a difference to patients.

**What do you like most about living/working in Garrett Park?** I love the community feel -- we've really been able to build an amazing village of friends who have become family. I love our proximity to DC (and public transportation). And growing up on the flat plains of Oklahoma, I love the trees!

**What are your favorite local shops, restaurants or hangouts?** I admit I do much less eating out and hanging out outside the confines of my own home than I would like. But we love getting to pop into Grosvenor Market for groceries, grabbing coffee and a sweet treat at Java Nation, and shopping/eating at Pike & Rose. I finally was able to eat at Melina and even my foodie DC and San Francisco friends were impressed.

**If you were to suddenly find yourself with a free afternoon on a beautiful day, where could we most**

**likely find you?** Out for an adventure with the family. It's hard to stay cooped up in the house with a big family, so we try to get out as often as we can. Funnily enough, we had never been hiking or to the Maryland/Delaware beaches until the pandemic, so free time on a nice day would definitely beg for a road trip to get out in nature. Now, if I could get some alone time to just sit on the beach with a good book, that would be amazing (and a miracle).

**What is your current recommendation for streaming?**

We've been into British crime dramas, especially "Endeavor." I will also admit that I still have a subscription for DVDs from Netflix (I may be the only person left!), so I'm all in for receiving a red envelope ranging from a new blockbuster release to old Cary Grant movies and MGM musicals.

**What else would you like to share about yourself or your family?**

Family: My husband, Pat, and I've been married for almost 19 years. We first met at church camp in high school and started actually dating in college. We have 4 daughters and 1 son: - Emma Kate (9); Jack (7); Collier (5); Quinn (3); and Campbell (1). Our beloved 15-year-old dog, Eddie, passed away this summer but we have a new dog, Obi-Wan, who loves meeting the neighbors and their dogs on walks. We attend St. Paul's Methodist Church in Kensington and invite anyone who may be looking for a church nearby. Finally, we love cooking, entertaining, and music. With so many kids, it's always easier to host, so we love opening our doors and our dining room table to friends and neighbors with some great tunes on in the background. "Crowded Table" by the Highwomen speaks to me!



To answer the first question, I tried matching some of the faces with faces in labeled photographs but had little success with Google Photos' facial recognition utility. Then, I came across the following article in another favorite place, Library of Congress' *Chronicling America*.

*Montgomery County Sentinel*, December 1, 1893:

“Many lady friends of the newly appointed postmaster of Garrett Park, Mrs. C.G. Berryman, met at the residence of Mrs. Wm. L. Wilson on Friday evening with the object of giving Mrs. Berryman a surprise. After consultation, dressed in their unique costumes, they proceeded to the house of the new postmaster, where they were charmingly entertained by the hostess, and an enjoyable evening was spent by all present. The visitors were appareled masqueraders, Mrs. Soleau and Mrs. Brady appearing as Josiah Allen and wife, and Mrs. Dorsett representing Folly. An original poem complimentary to the new United States employe [sic] was read by the lady personating Samantha Allen, which afforded an intellectual treat, and was highly applauded by the audience.”

What do you think? Mystery solved? Could these be the “appareled masqueraders” referenced in the article? Decide for yourself by checking out the Galloway Collection some Friday afternoon when the Archives is open. (I have printed reproductions you can view.)



## From the Town Archives

One of my favorite collections in the Archives is the Galloway Collection. Donated by a descendant of early resident, Beverly T. Galloway, the collection is wonderful mix of digital images capturing the town's earliest days (and residents). Fortunately, the donor labeled many of the images, so we can identify most buildings and some people. But not all the people are identified. I find the following photographs—both labeled “Masquerade” circa 1894—to be especially intriguing. Who were these women, and what were they celebrating?

Claire McDonald  
Town Archivist