

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 63

February 2016

No. 2



Calendar

Sun., Jan. 17	Gallery at Penn Place, Celebration of Penn Place Artists, through Feb. 13 (see p 5)	Thurs., Feb. 11	Bugle deadline, 4 pm
Wed., Jan. 20	Town Council hearing on sidewalk project, Town Hall, 8 pm	Fri., Feb. 12	Film Society, <i>The Lunchbox</i> , Town Hall, dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm (see p 2)
Fri., Jan. 22	Pick up <i>Bugle</i> from table in PO lobby; Film Society, <i>Casting By</i> , Town Hall, dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm (rescheduled)	Sun., Feb. 14	Gallery at Penn Place, Youth Art Show (through Feb. 27; see p 5)
Tues., Jan. 26	Town Council hearing on sidewalk project, Town Hall, 8 pm	Thurs., Feb. 18	GPJams, Town Hall, 7:30–10 pm
Sat., Jan. 30	Town Dinner, Town Hall, 6 pm (see p 4)	Fri., Feb. 19	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at the PO lobby
Mon., Feb. 1	Monthly yard waste collection	Sun., Feb. 21	Art at Penn Place, “Make-Your-Own-Sundae” reception for Youth Art Show, 3–5 pm (p 5)
Thurs., Feb. 4	GPJams, Town Hall, 7:30–10 pm	Wed., Feb. 24	Citizens Assoc. Meeting, Storm Water Management Informational Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm (see p 4)
Sat., Feb. 6	GIVES collection, Post Office lobby, 9 am–12 pm	Sun., Feb. 28	Gallery at Penn Place, “Meet the Artist” reception, 3–5 pm, fiber artist Donna Jacobs (show through Mar. 19; see p 5)
Mon., Feb. 8	Town Council meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm		
Tues., Feb. 9	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm		

Timing Is Everything

The agenda for the January meeting of the Town Council was brief and straightforward. The air was brisk outside and in (an omen of the furnace failure?). The meeting began with presentations from residents.

First, Kristen Altar expressed concerns about the timing of the open meetings on sidewalks. She thought a 30% site plan and the storm water management plan should be finished first. Further, she noted citizens will have no ideas about costs for the projects before January 20 or 26.

In response, Mayor Benjamin noted that he and several members of the Council had met with the State Highway Administration (SHA) about the storm water management plan. SHA stated that their storm water management plan will not affect the sidewalk plans.

Tony Altar then addressed the Council and asked for written confirmation of the SHA state-

ment. He further proposed, given that a large majority of the homeowners on Kenilworth and Oxford oppose the project for their streets, that the Council hold off on any actions on those streets. However, the Council should go ahead with work on Clermont Avenue, which has a sidewalk in dire need of repair/replacement and which has the approval of most if not all affected residents. He thought doing this noncontroversial section of the sidewalks as a model also would provide the town with better ideas about total project costs.

After citizen comments, the Mayor announced the appointment of George C. Martin to chair of the Land Use Committee (formerly the Setback Advisory Committee). Mr. Martin has worked with Harry Gordon for the last six months in preparation for taking on this role.

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Councilmember Kacky Chantry asked whether the new iteration of the committee should be chartered, since it appears to have an expanded scope. Did this new scope give it “powers” and thus justify a charter, or is it still “advisory”? The Mayor agreed to consider a charter for the committee, but, at present, he still considers it “advisory.”

Town Manager Gene Swearingen then presented a proposal to make a mid-year adjustment to the 2016 budget, transferring \$96,772 of unused prior year funds to the current year to make up the difference between anticipated and actual receipts. Further, the proposal asked to move \$25K from salaries (money not spent on a third maintenance position) to General Administrative Expenses. This latter would give him the flexibility to hire temporary help when needed, among other things.

This led to discussion of other currently unfunded needs facing the town, which included Town Hall repairs, a comprehensive storm water management program, a new maintenance facility, repairs to Penn Place, roadwork on Strathmore, and one-time funds for the Town Archives. The Mayor asked if the Council thought a special budget meeting to look at these issues now is necessary, or whether considering them during 2017 budget planning this spring would be better. The Council agreed to wait for the 2017 budget planning session.

Councilmember Chantry, however, argued that the Archives request was so small compared to the other items that it could and should be considered now. After much discussion, Swearingen amended the mid-year budget adjustment proposal. Instead of transferring \$25K from Salaries to General Administrative Expenses, he proposed transferring \$1440 to Archives and \$23,560 to General Administrative Expenses. This passed unanimously.

That ended the business portion of the meeting, and we were sent into the blustery night by 8:20 pm, early enough to get home and catch the start of the BCS game, for those of us who cared.

Suzanne Grefsheim

Town Yard Sale

New Year’s resolutions:

- Clean out closets
- Go through toy chests
- Tidy garage, etc. etc.

It’s 2016! This is the year for another great Garrett Park town yard sale. The sale will be held late spring or early summer, but the precise date is yet to be determined.

Watch for more information in the usual places!

Caroline Turner

GPFS Presents *The Lunchbox*

In a nod to Valentine’s Day, on February 12, the Film Society offers you a love story. *The Lunchbox*, described “as one of the best films to come out of India in a long time” by critics, is a well-told, old-fashioned romance that “gracefully unknots the trials, tribulations, fears and hopes of everyday people” in modern Mumbai. The film will start at 8 pm. Admission is free for GPFS members and is \$5 per person or \$10 per family for nonmembers.

The Lunchbox is also a “foodie” film. With that in mind, dinner, served at 7 pm, will feature Indian cuisine. Menu details will be on the garrettparkneighbors list and on the poster in the Post Office a week before the showing. Drinks—soda, beer, and wine—will be on offer before the film at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5.

This really is a film not to be missed.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Now that we are in anticipation of colder weather, here is some transportation information we hope will be useful:

County Senior Center shuttles. The Montgomery County Department of Recreation and the Jewish Council on Aging have entered into an agreement that will provide a combination of curb-to-curb and fixed route transportation, Monday to Friday, to the department’s five Senior Centers.

County residents 55 and over are eligible for this program if they are within the service area for one of the centers. Seniors not currently using county transportation may call their local Senior Center or 240-777-4925 for more information. Senior Centers in this program include Holiday Park, Schweinhaut (these are the closest to Garrett Park), Damascus, Long Branch, and White Oak.

Taxicab Companies

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Barwood Taxi	301-984-1900
Orange Taxi	301-912-0000
Regency Cab	301-990-9000
Sun Cab	301-252-0575

The *Garrett Bugle* is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* 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.

Citizens Association Officers:

President: Sean Conlan
Vice-President: Michael Lutkenhouse
Treasurer: Bridget Silverman
Secretary: Mike Grieb

Bugle staff:

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Reporters: Margaret Soltan (Box 518), Mary Moyer (Box 98)

Ads: Mary Moyer (Box 98)

Subscriptions: Jane Salomon (Box 227) **Distribution:** Peggy Pratt
First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by e-mail, mail, or hand to *Bugle* staff. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Town Manager Notes

Leaves. Leaf collection is now finished for the year. If you still have leaves left over either pile them in a corner of your yard for composting (the Town Office has compost bins available for free), or bag the leaves for the yard waste pickup.

Snow. Just a few reminders regarding snow: it is especially important to try to park off the streets when snow is expected so that the town crew can clear them curb-to-curb whenever possible. This will allow for more space to park after the streets are plowed; if you have a special need for your driveway to be open (medical supplies, caregiver services, etc.) please call the office and let us know so we can see that your driveway is among the first to have the plowed snow pushed aside.

Also remember that Argyle Avenue is closed for sledding when the snow falls. Be especially

careful driving where Argyle meets Rokeby at Wells Park.

Town Dinner. The date for the annual Town Dinner is Saturday, January 30. All are invited!

Taxes. Please remember when filling out your state income tax forms to be sure to write "Garrett Park" in the box labeled "City, Town or Taxing Area." This ensures that our community receives its fair share of the income tax revenues that the state distributes to the 23 counties and 157 incorporated cities and towns throughout Maryland. This revenue supports many of the services the town provides to residents.

Best wishes for the New Year from all of us who work for you as town employees. We are always looking for ways to improve our service— suggestions are always welcome!

Gene Swearingen, 301-933-7488

Greening Report

Thanks go to Rob and Kathy Freer, who are sponsoring this month's green banner in memory of former Garrett Parker Thomas S. "Tam" Wilson, Jr. Tam grew up at the corner of Kenilworth and Strathmore, where Tam's brother Jim and his wife Leslie now live. Tam passed away last July after a distinguished legal career that included service as a judge in Florida.

If anyone wants to sponsor the green for the rest of 2016, we'd be most grateful. The greening fund is almost dry. If you're interested, please make out a check to the Citizens Association for \$45 and mail it to Mary Moyer at Box 98. If you are sponsoring a banner in honor of something or someone in particular, please enclose a note to that effect. Please also send the information to editor Barbara Collier by e-mail (but phone, USPS, or a note on the door would also work... check your directory for details!). Many thanks.

Archives Notes

New Archives e-mail address. The Garrett Park Archives now has a new e-mail address: archives@garrettparkmd.gov. Our old address, archives.garrettpark@comcast.net, will work for a while, but please use the new one in contacting the archives. The new address has more gravitas and more accurately portrays our role in the town community. It is part of the town government's program of switching all official e-mail addresses to a ".gov" domain, including those of the Mayor, Town Councilmembers, and town committees. For a full list, you can ask Gene or Elizabeth in the Town Office, or contact them at adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov or managergene@garrettparkmd.gov.

Oral history, anyone? While we are at it, we are also trying to resurrect our oral history interviewing and transcribing program. If anybody is interested in taking part in that exciting initiative, please let us know. You would be surprised how much fun it is.

Charlie Snyder



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Would you like to receive a brochure in the mail, or set up an appointment?

Citizens Association Notes

Town Dinner, Saturday, January 30. The theme for this year is "This Old House." Please bring your stories of renovations gone wrong, unusual discoveries, and the history of Garrett Park houses. Doors of the Town Hall (Kenilworth Avenue) will open at 6 pm, and we will sit down at 6:30 pm. As always, this is a pot luck dinner. Along with your own serving and eating utensils, you are asked to bring one of the following: appetizer, salad and bread, main dish, or dessert (enough for 8 to 10 people). Please RSVP to Sean Conlan (check your directory) to let us know you are coming and what you'll be bringing. Alcoholic beverages will not be provided; however, please feel free to BYOB. A fee of \$5 per person will be collected at the door to cover the cost of decorations, nonalcoholic drinks, and paper goods. This is also a convenient time to pay your annual CA dues (\$15 for individuals and \$25 per family). Please invite your neighbors and friends, especially if they haven't previously been to a Town Dinner. The Citizens Association is nothing without you!

Storm Water Management Informational Meeting, Wednesday, February 24. Charles Dudley Warner once said, "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." Over the last few years, we've experienced severe weather that has caused flooding and erosion in areas of town. The CA is hosting an informational meeting with representatives from Montgomery County to discuss storm water management in town. This marks the beginning of developing a town storm water management plan and an opportunity for attendees to influence how it might be created. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24, at 7:30 pm, Town Hall.

Future meetings. Do you have a suggestion or idea for a meeting topic that you feel would be of interest to the town? If so, please forward your thoughts to Sean Conlan or send a note to Box 456.

Annual dues. The Citizens Association 2016 annual dues are being collected. The annual dues are \$15 for individuals and \$25 per family. Thank

you to all of those who have already paid. For those who have not, please submit dues by mailing them to the Citizens Association at Box 456.

Garrett Park listserv. Our neighborhood is made up of people with a wide variety of backgrounds, skills, perspectives, and experiences. Tap into these resources and stay informed with the Garrett Park neighborhood listserv. The listserv is an electronic forum for neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services (for example, contractors, lawn care, doctors, and baby sitters). The listserv will not be used for unsolicited marketing, and you can unsubscribe at any time. To join, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join.

Questions or comments for the Citizens Association? If so, please send a note to P.O. Box 456 or e-mail Sean Conlan.

Exploding Gardening Myths

If, in mid-February, you would be looking out your window wishing for spring and looking forward to getting back out into the garden, then consider registering for the Sixteenth Annual Spring Gardening Conference, presented by the Montgomery County Master Gardeners. The conference, entitled *Exploding the Myths: Facts to Help You Avoid Common Garden Mythstakes*, will be held on Saturday, February 20 (snow date February 27), beginning at 8:30 am at the Agricultural Farm Park located at 18410 Muncaster Rd, Derwood, Maryland.

The daylong event provides participants with the opportunity to attend three of nine concurrent workshops and two lunch-time talks, all taught by Master Gardeners. Advance registration is required. Cost is \$55, or \$50 each if you sign up with a friend, and includes lunch and snacks.

To register, go to mcmgconference.eventbrite.com. Payment can be made by credit card or check.



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"Serving Garrett Park since 2010"

Art at Penn Place

We had a change of plans in January and are pleased to present a Celebration of Penn Place Artists in the gallery this month. This vibrant and diverse show of the work of local artists is on display from January 17 until February 13. Please be sure to stop by and see their work!

Our Garrett Park Story Box Workshop was filled with incredibly creative young artists who are excited to be showing their work in the Penn Place Gallery for the very first time. Three local artists (Suzi Gifford, Vickie Baily, and Lynn Lewis) worked with the participants, who ranged from ages 6 to 16, creating unique and whimsical story boxes in which to illustrate their vision, their interests, and their talent. Two workshops were held at the Town Hall, and the finished pieces will be displayed at the Penn Place Gallery from February 14 to 27. A "Make-Your-Own-Sundae" reception will be held on February 21, and we hope that you will join us to support these amazing young artists and their talent!

From February 28 to March 19, Garrett Park artist Donna Jacobs will display her beautiful fiber art at the gallery. Starting with an idea, color palette, textures, and patterns, Donna assembles an image out of fabrics and threads, enhanced with unique quilting designs. She has chosen to

include fiber art pieces created by her fellow guild members in her display, and the show promises to be one of a kind. Be sure to join us at the gallery for Donna's "Meet the Artist" reception on February 28 from 3 to 5 pm.

The 2016 Penn Place Gallery Invitational Show is fast approaching! This annual juried group exhibit is held for artists who do not live in Garrett Park, but who do live in Montgomery County. The Invitational is held each year in April, and is kicked off with a reception catered by Black Market Bistro.

Artists must be 18 and older, working in acrylics, oils, pastels, photographs, watercolors, collage, fiber, or other wall-hung art. Each artist must submit a .jpeg or digital print of their entry piece to Vickie Baily (check your directory) by March 1. Work submitted must be new to the Gallery, and pieces larger than 36 by 48 will be considered on a space-available basis. A fee of \$25 will apply to accepted work only.

Art exhibited in the Invitational Show is chosen by a different juror each year, who also selects second and third place winners. The Best-in-Show artist is awarded a solo show in the Penn Place Gallery the following year. Artists interested in participating should e-mail Vickie Baily.

Obituaries

Jutta Ulrike Bothe Brubaker

On November 22, 2015, the world lost a unique spirit and we lost our beloved mother, Jutta "Judy" Brubaker. Jutte Ulrike Bothe was born on November 13, 1926, in Berlin, Germany, the only child of Wilhelm Bothe and Kaethe Faust Bothe. She lived through WWII Berlin as an adolescent and later enrolled as a doctoral student in comparative literature at Heidelberg University. She loved Shakespeare and dreamed of becoming a dramaturg. It was in Heidelberg that she met Sterling Brubaker, an ex-GI then working as a civilian statistician for the American occupation forces. She was teaching German to earn some money, and he wanted to learn the language: a perfect match. Judy and Sterling were married in Heidelberg in 1950, two brainy, independent people who built a loving marriage that lasted 65 years.

It took Congressional intervention for Judy to get her visa to come to the States. She arrived in NYC by boat in 1951 to meet up with her young husband, and together they took off on a cross-country tour of her new homeland and eventually settled in Berkeley, California (moving to Garrett Park 12 years later). For the next 30+ years, she lovingly raised her brood of seven children.

The Brubaker family cherishes the many years spent in Garrett Park, first on Shelley Court and later on Rokeby Avenue. It's such a unique and caring community. We remember the daily trips

to the Post Office, lazy summers at the pool, and our wonderful friends and neighbors.

Our mother delighted in our individuality. Judy was the original "health food mom" (no one else was making yogurt in their kitchen in the 1970s), and she shared her encyclopedic knowledge of nutrition with us. Always busy, she still carved out time for reading, bridge, and swimming. She went back to school for a degree in early childhood education and taught preschool; years later, she became a small business owner, running a successful children's consignment shop.

Although German was her native language and she never lost her accent, she spoke impeccable English that was nuanced and expressive. She was a word lover. Together with Sterling, she would complete the *New York Times* Sunday crossword puzzle in one sitting (in pen), and she easily bested her children in Scrabble. Lively conversation was her oxygen. She never lost her interest in people, ideas, art, and politics. Her zen came from long family summers by the lake in Maine; there she taught us to listen carefully at dusk for the sound of the loon. The family table she set for holidays and birthdays was a magnet for all her children and grandchildren. We'll have to set a place for her now. Judy lived her life as a happy nonconformist. We like to imagine that her twinkling soul has reconnected with that of her lifelong partner Sterling, somewhere in the great beyond.

Judy is survived by her children: Nils Brubaker and his wife Irena of Chapel Hill; Tina Chovanec and her husband Stephen of Alexandria; Wendy Brubaker and her husband Rafael Ravelo of Monroe, Virginia; Joel Brubaker and his lifelong partner Sara Southard of Silver Spring; Philip Brubaker and his wife Kim of St. Petersburg, Florida; Seth Brubaker and his wife Silvia of Lutz, Florida; and Katie Brubaker of Innisfree Village, Crozet, Virginia; plus eight grandchildren (Natalia, Philip, Alex, Kyle, Jeff, Rachel, Emily, and Nora) and three great grandchildren (Lila, Sabrina, and Jonathan). In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Innisfree Village (www.innisfreevillage.org).

A celebration of Judy's life is planned for Saturday, January 23, from 2 to 4 pm, at 1568 Sawgrass Court, Charlottesville, Virginia. If you plan to attend, please e-mail brubakerva@gmail.com. The family also welcome those who cannot attend to share memories of Judy via the same e-mail. Those will be added to the family memory book.

Captain John E. Dolan, U.S.M.C. (retired)

Ned Dolan, long-time resident of Garrett Park, died November 25, 2015, at the tender age of 91. Ned's passing marks the end of a long and remarkable career of service to his country and fellow citizens. He was born January 19, 1924, in Scranton, Pennsylvania, and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He was pre-deceased by his wife and fellow Marine, Elaine; his parents LtCol. John J. Dolan U.S.M.C (ret) and Isabelle; and his brother, LtCol. Eugene T. Dolan. He is survived by six children: Clare Harris, Janet Dolan, Thomas Dolan, Kathleen Dolan, Paul Dolan, and Suzanne Knight; 14 grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

As Ned was fond of beginning any story, it was interesting... Ned began his career of service by enlisting in the Marines in 1942. The Department of the Navy through the V-12 program sent him to Yale University to study electrical and chemical engineering. He was mobilized to the fleet in 1945 to prepare for the invasion of Japan. The end of World War II brought the opportunity to enter the reconstituted Basic School at MCB Quantico. Corporal Dolan became 2LT John Dolan when he graduated with the 46 members of the First Basic Class of 1946. He first deployed to Pearl Harbor and with the massive drawdown of active personnel after the war became the Brig Officer and overnight a Company Commander. From Pearl Harbor he was sent to Midway Island and commanded the last active duty Searchlight Battery in the Corps. While he and Elaine were at Midway, daughter Clare became the third American child born on the island.

From Midway Ned was sent on a classified mission by sea to Enewetak Atoll to participate as Marine security for Operation Sandstone. The Operation involved three air bursts of nuclear weapons, and Ned became an atomic veteran in the process.

In 1950 Ned's life was changed forever. After the landing at Inchon and during the march north to the Chosin Reservoir in the village of Sudong-Ri, Ned's Sergeant was killed, and he was shot through the hips by a sniper during the night of November 2. He eventually was retired by the Marines for the combat disability. Before the Marines decided to retire him and while he was recovering, he became the Marine liaison to the Army Biological Weapons Labs and the Chemical Corps at Camp Detrick and Aberdeen Proving Grounds. He was responsible for assessing the military usefulness of chemical and biological warfare for the Marines.

After retirement in 1955 Ned went to work for the CIA. He worked closely with the National Reconnaissance Office in its early days and through the Cuban Missile Crisis. In the 1960's he spent much of his career specializing in nuclear, biological, and chemical warfare intelligence. He retired from active government service in 1974.

Before retiring Ned had been a founding committee member and lector at his church, Holy Cross Catholic Church near Garrett Park, and a member of the Garrett Park Town Council and Citizens Association. After leaving active federal service, Ned expanded participation in local politics. He became active in the Democratic Party, ran for state delegate, represented Garrett Park at the Maryland Municipal League, and became President of the MML and then Legislative Director for the League. He was also a long-time member of the Military Officers Association of America, served on the Maryland Veterans Commission, Representative Chris Van Hollen's service academy selection board, and the Montgomery County Fire Rescue Association, and was Uncle Sam every year in the Garrett Park Fourth of July Parade. He also devoted many hours to the Ostomy Association visiting patients and to visiting wounded veterans at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. He was also honored to be a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War through his maternal great-grandfather's service.

Ned's service in the Marines didn't end with retirement. He was very proud to present the "Gung Ho Award" at every graduation of the Basic School. The award was endowed by the members of the First Basic Class. Never one to let being disabled slow him down, he continued going to the Basic School up until October of 2015 when illness prevented him from attending. He volunteered in many other ways, wrote numerous articles, was always involved in another research project, and loved his family. He would like to be remembered for coining the slogan "Freedom isn't free but the Marines will pay most of your share," for being a proud Marine, for raising a family, and for serving his country and community. Please donate to the charity of your choice and be of service to others, Semper Fidelis.

Letter from the Mayor

I was listening to a sermon about how each generation makes changes which become the base for the next generation to develop further. Thus, the leader said, women did not reach equality when they were allowed to vote in this country, but with more building and change pursued by others, that step allowed her to become a religious leader, and the growth is not over because women are still not equal to men in areas such as employment. She said that equality for minorities was not achieved when the Civil Rights Act was passed, but that was a step toward having a minority president, and much work still needs to be done. Interestingly, the people who submitted the application that allowed our whole town to be declared a National Historic District recognized the same need to grow and change. The application stated, "Garrett Park is not a Williamsburg. It is a small suburban town that is still serving its original purpose after almost ninety years. It is a significant historic district because of the imprint of each of those ninety years, and because its nineteenth century village plan and its citizens have been able to incorporate these years of growth into a community that meets the needs of any age while maintaining its ties to the past."

I believe that we need to honor that tradition by ensuring that we continue to grow and change while safeguarding the values that make this town so special. That is exactly what we are trying to do as we propose to improve the sidewalk system of the town. If the thoughts below make sense to you as a resident of Garrett Park, I want to make clear that your vocal support of the project is necessary for it to occur. The Town Council will hold hearings on this project at 8 pm on Wednesday, January 20, and on Tuesday, January 26, in the Town Hall; the Council will vote on whether to proceed with the project at the Town Council meeting at 7:30 pm on Monday, February 8. Please come and support the project at one of the two hearings, and attend the Council meeting if you can do that as well.

I strongly support the proposed project because I believe that providing a safer option than requiring our residents to walk in the streets is consistent with the philosophy of the town and is basic good government. We already have several heavily used sidewalks in town, and they enhance safety, encourage walking rather than driving, and provide a mobility option for persons with both developmental and physical disabilities. We need these facilities for children going to school; for parents pushing strollers; for children playing after school; and for persons who are deaf or blind, use wheelchairs, rely on crutches, or have difficulty walking, particularly on ice and in snow. They should not have to try to stay out of the way of cars. We are proposing to build these not for the Garrett Park that was 50 years ago, but for the town today and for the town that will be here 50 years from now. I do not want to wait for our first critical injury or fatality when a car hits a pedestrian to justify the project. I believe that I have heard all the arguments against the project, and I have yet to hear one, or any combination of arguments, which is more important than the safety of people walking in our town.

We now have completed preliminary design, which shows without a doubt that we can build the proposed four-foot-wide sidewalk project completely within the existing town right of way, therefore not requiring the use of any private property; preserving all trees except a few identified by our Arboretum Committee as needing removal anyway; not eliminating any off-street parking; using materials that will blend with the surroundings; and meeting all federal, state, and county environmental, storm water management, Americans with Disabilities Act, and historic preservation requirements. The project will be 100-percent federally funded. If this is what you want, please tell the Council.

Peter Benjamin, Mayor

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