

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 63

November 2016

No. 9



Calendar

Fri., Oct. 21	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at the PO; Film Society, <i>The Best of Enemies</i> , Town Hall, dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm	Tues., Nov. 8	Election Day
Sat., Oct. 22	Pumpkin carving contest, 11 am, basketball courts; Spooky Woods, 7–9 pm (see p 4)	Fri., Nov. 11	Veteran's Day; Town Office closed
Mon., Oct. 24	Last weekly pickup of yard waste	Sun., Nov. 13	GIVES Potluck Soup and Bread Supper, Town Hall, 5 to 7 pm (see p 2)
Wed., Oct. 26	Citizens Association meeting, Fracking, Town Hall, 7 pm (see p 4)	Mon., Nov. 14	Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Sun., Oct. 30	Art at Penn Place, paintings by Robert LeMar, through Nov. 26 (see p 5)	Tues., Nov. 15	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm
Mon., Oct. 31	Garrett Park Elementary School Halloween parade, 2:30 pm, north Oxford and Montrose (see p 3); Trick or Treat night	Wed., Nov. 16	<i>Bugle</i> deadline
Thurs., Nov. 3	Neighbors Helping Neighbors committee, Town Office, 10 am; GPJams, Town Hall, 8 pm	Thurs., Nov. 17	GPJams, Town Hall, 8 pm
Sun., Nov. 6	Annual Tree Walk, 1–3:30 pm, meet at Penn Place (see p 3); Art at Penn Place, Robert LeMar, "Meet the Artist" reception, 3–5 pm (see p 5)	Fri., Nov. 18	GPNS Annual Craft Fair preview party and silent auction, Town Hall, 7 pm (see p 3)
Mon., Nov. 7	Monthly yard-waste pickup	Sat., Nov. 19	GPNS Annual Craft Fair, Town Hall, 9 am–6 pm; GIVES Collection at Farmer's Market, Penn Place, 9 am–12 pm
		Sun., Nov. 20	GPNS Annual Craft Fair, Town Hall, 10 am–5 pm
		Thurs., Nov. 24	Happy Thanksgiving! Town Office closed
		Fri., Nov. 25	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at the PO; Town Office closed

When the Wind Hits the Trees

America might be in the midst of a turbulent political season, but our very small corner of the nation is purring along lately, its problems the problems of popularity and plenty. Too many people want to live around here, so the schools are overcrowded; too many of our arboretum's beautiful trees grow old and need tending or removal before they do damage. On a lovely, clear autumn night, the October Town Council meeting addressed these two subjects.

Phil Schulp brought up the idea of a town resolution on overcrowding at Walter Johnson

High School, and Liz King proceeded to address the Council on the subject. Six-year figures, she pointed out, show "an extreme problem at the high school, which is going to get way over capacity. Middle schools likewise are growing rapidly, and our own Garrett Park Elementary is also over capacity. The many new housing developments in our area will continue to generate more students. It's in the interest of our town to support a proposal that Woodward be reopened, so long as students stay within the cluster boundaries."

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The Council voted unanimously to support this proposal; Joanna Welch will testify on behalf of the town before the Board of Education.

Town Manager Gene Swearingen described the town's finances as in good shape, especially since we received reimbursement from the county for expenses related to an issue with Comcast. We've had some expenses due to electrical problems at our maintenance facility. And we can certainly expect tree-related expenses. Not long ago, another large tree—a sugar maple—fell, and it landed on top of a house on Argyle. There are in fact, said Gene, a lot of potential problems along Argyle and then along Kenilworth. We have asked the Arboretum Committee to help us start working on a plan to locate problem trees.

Mayor Peter Benjamin concluded this brief meeting of the Town Council by noting that on trees we're too reactive, waiting until a dramatic event occurs rather than anticipating problems and dealing with them before something critical happens. "One of our responsibilities as an arboretum is to manage the landscape and to assure, for instance, that we have tree cover all the time, and not to do what we did recently on Keswick—take out all trees. In the future, some town trees will have to come out before they're in distress. This approach requires a change in the way people in town tend to look at trees, and at cutting down trees. People may get upset if you try to cut down a tree that's not actually dying; but in order to have trees at all times that are safe, and that provide cover, we may at times deliberately cut down a tree that isn't going to fall down soon. And this may be a difficult sell."

Along these lines, Jane McClintock noted that weather patterns have changed, and we will continue to have intensifying storms. "We need to be ready when the wind hits the trees."

We have, by the way, found new trees for Keswick, so now it's a matter of when the town crew can plant them. This should happen pretty soon.

Margaret Soltan

Fall into Yoga

Tuesdays at Garrett Park Town Hall

Oct. 4–25 5:30–6:15 pm Beginners series
Sept. 13– 6:30–7:45 pm Yoga and meditation
Dec. 20 (all welcome)

Classes include a combination of simple yet challenging physical movement, breathing exercises, music, chanting, and meditation.

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For questions, email Liz at gayatrimantra.liz@gmail.com

Visit lilylotusyoga.com

GIVES Soup & Bread Supper

Hope all GP residents, friends, and family are planning to attend the GIVES Potluck Soup and Bread Supper on Sunday, November 13, from 5 to 7 pm, at the Town Hall. This supper honors our supporters, volunteers, and wonderful recipients, Thrive DC and Stepping Stones Shelter. The Executive Director of each organization will speak briefly, and our new Treasurer, Jenny Krivanek, will give a short financial report for 2016.

We ask that each attendee bring either a soup to share or bread, along with his or her own bowl, utensil, and drink. Please consider donating the money that you would have spent on dinner to help support the two organizations. Created in the 1970s, GIVES was formed as Garrett Park's answer to helping the hungry and homeless in DC and Montgomery County.

If you'd like to assist us with the setup or cleanup, contact Rana Koll-Mandel or Nancy Walz.

Greening Report

This month's green banner is sponsored by Bridget and Noah Silverman in honor of those who put the *Bugle* together, past and present. Thanks, Bridget and Noah! The money and the thought are much appreciated.

Alas, although we do have at least one sponsor in the pipeline for a month in the next year, there is no one for next month or those following. So, if you would like to support the green, please make out a check to the Citizens Association for \$45, with "greening" in the memo line, and mail it to the Citizens Association at Box 456. We'd be most grateful.

If you would like your sponsorship to honor something or someone, please enclose a note to that effect with your check. If possible, please also send the information to editor Barbara Collier by e-mail (gp.bugle.editor@gmail.com); phone, USPS, or a note on the door would also work... check the boxed masthead (below) or your directory for details.

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:

Editor: Barbara Collier (Box 191, gp.bugle.editor@gmail.com)

Reporter: Margaret Soltan (Box 518)

Ads and Distribution: Peggy Pratt (Box 158)

Subscriptions: Joanne Schmader (Box 415)

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

Halloween. Garrett Park Elementary School will hold a Halloween parade on October 31 at 2:30 pm. The parade will start at the school, proceed down Oxford Street, turn south on Montrose to the dead end, and return to the school. There will be over 500 participants in the parade! The parade route streets will close to vehicular traffic at 1:30 pm.

Spooky Woods. The annual Spooky Woods event will be held on Saturday, October 22, with pumpkin carving at 11 am and the walk through the woods from 7 to 9 pm. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

GIVES Soup and Bread Supper. All are invited to the supper at Town Hall on Sunday, November 13, 5 to 7 pm. Bring a soup or bread with butter and enjoy!

Leaf removal. During the leaf removal season, each street will be cleared once every week, as early in the week as possible (rain will delay collections). Leaves should be placed in rows along the street side of the curb. Please remove sticks, rocks, trash, and other debris that could damage the machinery. Shredded leaves or grass clippings should be paper bagged and put out for the regular yard waste collection. And as you

drive through town, please be aware of children who may be playing in leaf piles! Thank you for your cooperation.

Autumn/winter yard waste pickup schedule. From November to February, yard waste will be collected on the first Monday of each month only. Weekly collection will resume in March.

Leaf raking & yard work assistance. Any young people in town who would like to offer their services to help residents with fall yard work may contact Elizabeth Henley at the Town Office (301-933-7488) to add their names to our list.

Town committee. The town is asking for volunteers to serve on the Archives Committee, one of several committees established to advise the Mayor and Town Council. The Town Archives collects and maintains documents, maps, pictures, and other memorabilia relevant to the history of the town. The Archives Committee assists with the oversight and care of the collection. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact the Town Office at 301-933-7488.

As always, please call me with any questions or concerns, 301-933-7488.

Gene Swearingen, Town Manager

A Tour of Our Arboretum

Mark your calendar for a walk around Garrett Park with Town Arborist Phil Normandy, Sunday afternoon, November 6. Phil will take us around town, pointing out some of the town's finest and most interesting trees and sharing his vast knowledge. Meet at 1 pm in front of the Post Office.

Dates to Save!

A note from the Women's Club—save these dates in December: Sing-along and caroling at the Town Hall on Friday evening, December 9, and Santa's visit to the Town Hall on December 10 around 3 pm. Watch for details in the next *Bugle*.

Nursery School Craft Fair

The Garrett Park Nursery School will host its 50th Annual Craft Fair on November 18 to 20 at the Town Hall. There will be a preview party and silent auction on Friday evening, November 18. The fair itself (9 am to 6 pm on Saturday, November 19, and from 10 am to 5 pm on Sunday, November 20) is a great place to find holiday gifts, and the perfect place to allow kids to browse and pick out gifts for grandparents, aunts and uncles, and other family members. The Craft Fair also has a large bake sale with pies, cakes, cookies, breads, and other delicious treats. We hope to see you there!

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Citizens Association Notes

This year's Newcomers Welcome was held in September. We had live music from GPJams, lots of food, a bouncy slide (courtesy of Moe), games for the kids (thanks, Jean!), and representatives from many of our wonderful town organizations. If you made it out, you know what a great time we had. If you couldn't make it out... there's always next year!

Upcoming events.

- October 22: Spooky Woods! (see below)
- October 26: The CA's monthly meeting will update the town about ongoing efforts to permanently ban fracking in Maryland. "Fracking" is a controversial technique for extraction of petroleum/natural gas. Dr. Gina Angiola, a retired physician and Board member of Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility (CPSR), will be speaking at the Town Hall, 7 pm.
- January 28: Save the date for the Town Dinner. The 2017 theme is "Our National Parks: Tales of the Outdoors!" Ever been trapped in your tent by a bear? chased by a moose? We want to hear about it to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the U.S. National Park Service.

Spooky Woods. It's back for 2016! It will be held on October 22. As usual, the entrance to Spooky Woods will be by Penn Place. All ages are welcome. This is a free event but donations are appreciated. This is a clown-free event! There is no rain date. Questions? Contact Sean Conlan.

Schedule:

- 11 am–noon: The Annual Pumpkin Carving Contest! Bring your own pumpkin and carving tools. We provide snacks and drinks. Loan us your Jack-o-Lantern for Spooky Woods!
- 7–9 pm: The Garrett Park Elementary School Education Foundation will be selling cider, cocoa, and cookies. Come out early for some tasty treats that benefit our school!
- 7–7:30 pm: Walk through the woods with your little ghosts and goblins. We won't bite!

- 7:30–9:00 pm: The Spooky Woods are waiting for you! (Scares for all ages!)

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.



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Bugle Notes . . . Sweet and Sour

- ♪ By all reports, the Porches and Patios event was a big success, as always. Many compliments were extended to the organizers and participants.
- ♪ Congratulations to Leo Bradford for his horticultural exploits. This summer he won Best in Show at the Prince George's County Fair; at the Howard County Fair, he won Best in Show and the Rolfzen Award for Horticultural Excellence; and at the Montgomery County Fair, Leo had the best amaryllis, asters, celosia, coleus, dahlias, sunflowers, zinnias, rough gourds, and cucumbers and won one Grand Champion and three Champion ribbons. (And thanks, Leo, for providing evidence in the form of a beautiful bouquet of flowers and a handsome gourd, left on the editor's porch!)
- ♪ Congratulations also to our neighbor Richard Heath for his recent commission as a Kentucky

Colonel by Matthew G. Bevin, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels is a voluntary philanthropic organization. Kentucky Colonel is the highest title of honor bestowed by the Governor of Kentucky, in recognition of an individual's noteworthy accomplishments and outstanding service to community, state, and nation. Richard and his wife Jessica live on Montrose Avenue.

- ♪ The Attic in the Street Sale certainly had perfect weather! It also appeared to be very well attended. Hope lots of attics and basements are looking uncluttered.
- ♪ As you admire the beautiful fall colors on your walks around town, remember to thank the Arboretum Committee for all their hard work!

Art at Penn Place

If you haven't yet visited the gallery to see Ann Gordon's wonderful paintings, there's still time to stop by! Ann's exhibit will be on display through October 29.

Our November artist is Robert LeMar, a Garrett Park artist with a unique style of blending abstract elements into realistic paintings. Robert began his art career when, at 10 years old, his stepmother noticed his artistic talent and drafted him to help support the family by sketching portraits on the beaches of the Chicago lakefront. He charged 50 cents for each portrait, making between 5 and 8 dollars a day. At 11 years old, Robert won a Golden Key award in a school competition and also a scholarship to attend lectures at the Art Institute of Chicago. After serving in the Army, Robert attended the Maryland School of Art and Design, and sketched portraits on the summer boardwalk in Ocean City, Maryland, to finance his art career.

Portraits aren't Robert's only talent, however: his beautiful landscapes are also amazing! His

work has been shown at local galleries, including Whitehall Gallery in Annapolis, Sheryl Leonard Gallery in Potomac, and Waverly Street Gallery in Bethesda, and is also featured in various online galleries. Robert's work is on display in many private collections as well, including Sea Colony Resort in Bethany Beach.

You won't want to miss this fabulous show, exhibited from October 30 through November 26. Please join Robert at his "Meet the Artist" reception on November 6 from 3 to 5 pm—everyone is welcome!

Reminder ... if you are part of the Facebook community, please be sure to visit and "like" our gallery page at "Art at Penn Place." It is a great way to keep up with gallery events and get a special peek at the art on exhibit.

Questionnaire

If you are aged 55 or older, the Garrett Park Neighbors Helping Neighbors Committee wants to hear from you. Please complete the front and back of the questionnaire attached to the end of this *Bugle*. If you are reading the online *e-Bugle*, you can print the questionnaire and complete it, or you can pick up a copy of the questionnaire from the wooden table in the Post Office.

Please return questionnaires to the box in the Garrett Park Post Office.

Thank you.

The Garrett Park Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors Committee:
Anne Atlee, Florence Gootenberg,
Glenda Ingham, Gideon Kantor, Ken Keppel,
Rita Pittillo, Bonnie Tyler, Judy Wentworth

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Letter from the Mayor

Garrett Park is an arboretum. This means that our trees are important to us, maintaining our tree cover is key to the character of the town, and that we value the environmental benefits that our trees provide. Being an arboretum allows us to access a variety of species that we might otherwise not be able to obtain, increasing the health of our overall stock and the beauty of the town. It also requires that we manage that arboretum in a thoughtful, deliberate, and environmentally conscious manner.

Trees die a natural death as they age or as they are affected by disease. As they approach that point, they may fall down more easily due to wind or water. They then become a potential hazard to life and safety of individuals and to property. We have an ongoing program of assessing our trees to try to predict when they might be reaching the point at which they should be removed and replaced in order to protect life, limb, and home. As you may have read in my previous letters in the *Bugle*, the process of predicting when a tree may become dangerous is more of an art than a science, and is inexact, at best. This means that the longer we wait to remove a tree, the higher the possibility that it may fall before we remove it. That is a mistake that we prefer not to make.

By managing our arboretum we can increase the degree to which we maintain our tree cover, avoid damage from falling trees, and contain the effects of disease. By planting a variety of trees with an emphasis on preserving and maintaining native and unique species, and by ensuring that the trees of a similar type in any location have

a range of ages, we make it less likely that any one area will lose tree cover due to either age or disease. All of this means that we need to plan our tree removals and plantings, rather than react to aging and disease. It means that we need to plant some trees in the expectation that others in the immediate area will be removed in the near future. It means that in some situations we may need to remove trees before they die to provide space and light for their replacements.

Some of the things I have just said are anathema to our town practice of saving trees until we are sure that they are dead or dangerous. We love our trees and preserving each one for as long as possible is a widely held value for many of us. However, meeting the broader goals of maintaining tree cover, environmental benefit, and safety may point toward a more structured plan in which the longer term goals have precedence over saving individual trees.

In order to understand what meeting such goals might mean in a managed arboretum, the Arboretum Committee has been asked to assist in having a consultant develop a comprehensive multiyear tree management plan. Before we hire a consultant, we will hold hearings to give all an opportunity to comment on this proposed approach. If and when the plan is developed, we will ask all interested residents to review and comment upon the plan. We will conduct an open and deliberative process to allow each of you to participate in the decisions as we proceed, and to provide guidance to the Town Council should we get to the stage of asking it to approve the resulting plan.

Peter Benjamin

Elbert Chang, DDS, MS

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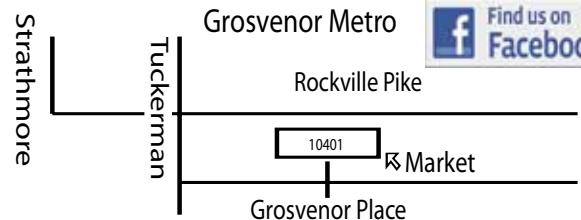
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Neighbors Helping Neighbors

To our neighbors in Garrett Park:

There are many programs and services available to Seniors and others in our Town. In one way or another these programs contribute to our ability to "Age in Place." The GP **Neighbors Helping Neighbors** Committee would like to know which programs and services you use in GP, which services you would like to know more about, and whether there are other services that would help you.

	Have you or anyone in your household used this service?		Would you like to know more about this program?
	YES	NO	MARK (X) IF YES
Grocery delivery service Such as Peapod--from Giant, Top Banana or Safeway Grocery Delivery			
Meals On Wheels Home delivery of meals			
GP Lunch Bunch 2nd Tuesday, 12:30, Town Hall			
Rides to appointments or shopping Using drivers on the Neighbors Helping Neighbors list			
Senior Smartrip card Reduced fare on buses and Metro subway			
Metro Access Scheduled pick-up by Metro van			
Fire safety inspection Mont. Co. Fire and Rescue			
Home security survey Mont. Co. Police Department			
Exercise programs:			
Yoga			
Exercise			
Tai Chi			
Any other exercise program			
Senior Center Activities At Holiday Park or elsewhere			
Montgomery College courses 60+ pay fee, tuition waiver			

over

How would you like to receive information about programs and services for Seniors?

- Description in the GP Bugle
- The town website
- The GP Neighbors list serve
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors community meeting

Are there any other programs or services that you would like to have in Garrett Park?

Any other comments?

Are you over age 65? Yes _____ No _____

Name (optional) _____

Please return this survey to the box in the Garrett Park Post Office.