

# e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 62

January 2015

No. 1



## Calendar

Fri., Dec. 19	Pick up your <i>Bugle</i> at Penn Place; Film Society Holiday Party and film, <i>Somm</i> , Town Hall, 7 pm	Wed., Jan. 7	Energy efficiency presentation (sponsored by Citizens Association and GP CAN), Town Hall, 7:30 pm (see p 5)
Wed., Dec. 24	No Citizens Assoc. meeting	Sat., Jan. 10	GIVES collection, Penn Place
Thurs., Dec. 25	Christmas Day; no trash pickup; Town Office closed	Mon., Jan. 12	Town Council meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Fri., Dec. 26	Town Office closed	Tues., Jan. 13	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 4 pm
Thurs., Jan. 1	New Year's Day; no trash pickup; Town Office closed	Thurs., Jan. 15	GP Jams, Town Hall, 8 pm
Fri., Jan. 2	Town Office closed	Fri., Jan. 23	Pick up <i>Bugle</i> from table in PO lobby; Film Society, Town Hall, <i>Tell No One</i> ; dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm (see p 6)
Sat., Jan. 3	Large item pickup	Sat., Jan. 24	Town Dinner, Town Hall, 6 pm (see p 4)
Mon., Jan. 5	Christmas tree and monthly yard waste collection; Penn Place Gallery new exhibit: paintings by Charlotte Ghiorse (see p 3)	Thurs., Jan. 29	GP Jams, Town Hall, 8 pm

## Garrett Park's Garrett

The high point of December's Town Council meeting came when we all applauded Garrett Mader on making Eagle Scout. The Mayor listed Garrett's leadership positions in the Scouts as well as his projects (including constructing erosion control areas at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, which involved a lot of heavy stone lifting, and which reduced runoff into Rock Creek).

The gathering was already in a genial mood, having shared drinks and desserts (a heavy chocolate aroma permeated the room) with our county and state representatives, and now it burst into outright happiness as Garrett, wearing badges galore, stood up to accept the town's congratulations, along with handshakes from each Councilmember.

Before the meeting proper began, Rich Madaleno (Dem., District 18) addressed the town.

"In Annapolis, I'll be involved in fiscal matters on the budget and taxation committee, but I'm engaged in many other issues as well. I have all the assignments Chris Van Hollen had, and in

fact I'll be moving into his office! I look forward to representing you."

The meeting itself began solemnly; Mayor Benjamin asked for a moment of silence as we remembered the people killed in the Gaithersburg plane crash (Peter was at the site of the crash earlier in the day). "It was a tough day for the county."

Two residents made presentations. Gideon Kantor asked that the town help him donate trees to Garrett Park. "Is there a clear way for citizens to do this? I'd like to donate a tree in particular in honor of Tom Rodes and his wonderful work for the Arboretum Committee, but it's not clear how I should go about this."

The Mayor responded that Gideon should meet with the Town Manager on the matter, and it should be easy to accomplish.

Michael Specter, who lives on Weymouth, rose to say that the end of that street, adjacent to Parkside Apartments, has lately been used by a lot of Parkside residents for parking. "There are many cars blocking the bottom of Weymouth,

(continued next page)

(continued from previous page)

and they're creating a safety issue, since they're making it difficult for emergency vehicles and trucks to use the street. Does the town have any options? Can we put notices on the cars?"

The Mayor responded that Hans Wegner and Joanna Welch are currently working on our parking regulations, and "they will get in touch with you."

Now Town Manager Gene Swearingen reported on the town budget. "We're in pretty good shape on the revenue side. As of the end of last year, we are through paying off some tax revenue that was given to the town erroneously. We've been paying it off over four years and it's now done. On the matter of local income tax collections, the comptroller has told us that some people aren't filling out their tax forms properly so money that should come to us is going elsewhere. It looks as though we will be able to get that money back, but we should really make a concerted effort to make sure that people write 'Garrett Park' on their form, or it might not come to us."

Penn Place has been costing us quite a bit of money lately, with replacements of the water heater and some floors, as well as issues with heating and air conditioning. We're spending a little more than we'd like to be at this point, but "I think we'll be fine for the year."

Gene noted, however, that "although we didn't spend much on trees this past month, we will soon be doing so." We'll probably need to spend five to six thousand dollars on trees that need attention pretty quickly.

Pepco, Gene added, has been very good about taking trees down at least to the wire line, which saves us a lot of money.

Early next year, work will start on the town's new Web site. Here's hoping they keep that great photograph of someone's dog, covered in snow, poking his nose into their front door.

Finally, the Archives Committee will be about \$1800 in the red by the end of this fiscal year. The town is working with the committee to come up with some ideas on raising money to get this deficit covered.

And now, warmed by cake and good fellowship, we all zipped up our jackets to brave the cold and the dark.

Margaret Soltan



## Latest Jobs List

If you are or know someone who would like to be put on the jobs list (any more potential snow shovelers, for instance?), please get in touch with Elizabeth Henley at the Town Office (301-933-7488), who maintains a list of young people offering to do odd jobs.

The current list is as follows:

Please see the list in the printed *Bugle*. It is the *Bugle's* policy not to include names of minor children, private telephone numbers, or private e-mail addresses in the *e-Bugle*.

## Green Again

Intrepid *Bugle* reporter Margaret Soltan and her husband Karol are this month's benefactors for our green banner. We thank them for this. We have received several more donations and are now good until almost the end of the next printing year. Anyone else care to join the bandwagon, either to finish out this printing year or begin the next? You can make out a check to the Citizens Association for \$45 and mail it to me at Box 98. Many thanks.

Next month we will include an envelope with this newsletter for you to use to mail in your Citizens Association dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address). Your dues cover the major expenses of the Citizens Association (namely this paper) for the year and are also used for the 4th of July and Spooky Woods activities. You can also pay your dues at the Town Dinner on January 24. We hope to see you there.

Mary Moyer

Visit Garrett Park's Web site:

[www.garrettpark-md.gov](http://www.garrettpark-md.gov)

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 (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

**Citizens Association Officers:**

President: Michael Lutkenhouse  
Vice-President: Sean Conlan  
Treasurer: Crystal Lutkenhouse  
Secretary: Lori Conlan

**Bugle staff:**

**Editor:** Barbara Collier (Box 191)

**Reporters:** Margaret Soltan (Box 518), Mary Moyer (Box 98), Randy Auerbach (Box 107, [bugle@randyauerbach.com](mailto:bugle@randyauerbach.com))

**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 mail or hand to *Bugle* staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: [www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php](http://www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php). The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

## Town Manager Notes

*Leaf collection.* Leaf collection will be finished for the year at the end of December. If you have leaves left over after that date, you can either pile them up in a corner of your yard for composting (the Town Office has composting bins available for free), or bag the leaves for the yard waste pickup the first Monday in January (January 5). Please use the paper yard waste bags.

*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 that 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 where Argyle meets Rokeby at Wells Park.

*Holiday fund.* Thank you to the many residents who have generously given tips to the Montgomery County Sanitation employees who take away our trash, recyclables, and yard waste. And please note that it is not too late to make a donation. We typically receive numerous contributions after Christmas and make a second distribution to these deserving individuals.

*Town Office holiday hours.* The Town Office will be closed on Thursday, December 25; Friday, December 26; Thursday, January 1; and Friday, January 2.

*Trash, recycling, and large items.* There will be no trash pickup on Thursday, December 25, or Thursday, January 1. Please be sure to break down gift boxes to help the recycling crew. There will be a large item pickup on Saturday, January 3.

*Christmas trees.* If you miss the scheduled pickup on Monday, January 5, the town's Maintenance Department will collect Christmas trees as they are put out after that date. The trees will be chipped, so please remove as much tinsel as possible to keep our woodchip pile clean.

*Town Dinner.* The date for the annual Town Dinner is Saturday, January 24. Please save the date!

*Taxes.* As much as I hate to bring this subject up, please note Mayor Benjamin's article in this edition of the *Bugle*. It includes an important reminder that greatly affects our town revenue.

Best wishes for Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, and New Year's 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, Garrett-park@comcast.net,  
301-933-7488

## Art at Penn Place

Through the end of December, the Gallery at Penn Place is exhibiting the work of Garrett Park resident artist Lucila San Jose. Lucila was born in Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, and has lived in Garrett Park for 14 years. She began studying photography in Amherst, Massachusetts, and was captivated by the beautiful simplicity in nature. Lucila's photographs invite the viewer to experience her special perception of the secret world of nature and its evolution. Lucila's show will be on display until January 3.

Beginning January 5, Penn Place Gallery is pleased to present the work of Charlotte Ghiorse. Charlotte received her BFA from the University of New York at Albany, and is currently living and showing her work in New York City. Her paintings focus on portraits of buildings, including bold, linear colors, and "postmodern cartoonism," depicted in detailed patterns of India ink, muted color washes, and "scratches." Charlotte created a series of paintings in gesso, charcoal, and India ink, illustrating her vision of the World Trade Towers collapse, some of which will be included in the online National 9/11 Memorial Museum. She is currently working on a series of paintings in gray, pink, black, and white, as well as large-scale portraits of haunted houses in New Orleans. Her work is haunting, inviting, and unique; be sure to stop by the gallery to see it!

Penn Place Gallery is now accepting applications for our juried Invitational Show.

Because the majority of gallery solo shows highlight the work of Garrett Park artists, the annual Invitational Show is especially designed for non-Garrett Park artists, 18 years and older, who live in Montgomery County and work in acrylics, oils, pastels, photography, watercolor, collage, or other wall-hung art. 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, and all sales are paid directly to the artists with no percentage collected by the gallery. The artist selected as Best in Show will be awarded with a solo show in the Penn Place Gallery the following year.

The Invitational Show will be held from March 29 to May 2, 2015, and an information card is available at the gallery. Artists interested in submitting work should contact Vickie Baily at vbaily@mac.com to receive more detailed information.

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.

# Citizen Association News

Please join us on Wednesday evening, January 7, at 7:30 pm, for an energy efficiency presentation at the Garrett Park Town Hall. Read more about the presentation (sponsored jointly by your Citizens Association and Garrett Park Conservation Action Network, GP CAN) on p 5.

*Save the date!* The annual Town Dinner will be on January 24, starting at 6 pm. The theme this year is "The one that got away." It's time to spread some stories of things that have gone missing or that we have lost (we expect some terrific fish stories). The 2015 Officers of the Citizens Association will be elected at the dinner. We are in need of at least two people (secretary and treasurer are leaving the CA). If you are interested in joining the board or helping out with the CA or want to RSVP for dinner, please contact Michael.

We are working on spring events around gardening, green houses, and more. Watch for a notice in the Post Office and a note to the listserv.

*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 Michael Lutkenhouse or send a note to Box 456.

*Annual dues.* The Citizens Association dues for 2015 are being collected.

*Garrett Park listserv.* To join this electronic forum, which allows neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at [groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join). The listserv will not be used for unsolicited marketing, and you can unsubscribe at any time.

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

---

## Garrett Park Community Fund

The Garrett Park Community Fund has received tax-exempt status for charitable contributions.

### What is the Community Fund?

The Garrett Park Community Fund was established in 2013 to serve as an umbrella organization for charitable projects within the town of Garrett Park. It now administers two well-established and valued projects—the Betsy White Emergency Fund and the Ilah Geiser Music Scholarship Fund. The officers are Garrett Park residents who serve without compensation. GPCF is an independent group and is separate from any town of Garrett Park administration or responsibility. The impetus for the formation of the GPCF occurred when the town of Garrett Park discovered that it could no longer anonymously administer the Betsy White Fund. The GPCF was formed in response to this situation and became incorporated in the State of Maryland. The organization's articles of incorporation are broadly written to make room for future charitable projects that may one day serve the Garrett Park community. After long and resolute work by the GPCF board for tax-exempt status, we recently received the wonderful news that the IRS has granted the organization a charitable 501 (c) (3) status.

### What is the Betsy White Emergency Fund?

The Women's Club of Garrett Park, with a donation of \$700, established this Emergency Fund in 1969. The fund was renamed in 1973 in honor of Betsy White, an officer and beloved member. It has been maintained, since that time, through fundraising by the Women's Club, donations from generous individuals, and bequests.

Garrett Park residents and employees of all ages and duration of residency have used the fund to address a variety of short-term needs, including illness, unexpected death, family separations, storm damage, tax shortfalls, loss of employment, and other unexpected financial costs. The purpose of the Betsy White Fund is to provide financial assistance for town residents and their families during these difficult periods. Applications for the Betsy White Emergency Fund can be made by completing the form, which can be found on a table in the Town Office, or by mailing a request for an application to PO Box 381 (see below). The application process and distribution of the funds are strictly confidential. The fund trustees determine the appropriateness of the requests and make decisions based on need. The anonymity of the applicants is preserved throughout the process. The trustees' decision and fund distribution will be mailed directly back to the applicant.

### What is the Ilah Geiser Scholarship Fund?

The GPCF also administers the Ilah Geiser Music Scholarship Fund. This fund is named for a long-time Garrett Park resident and music lover who came up with the idea for the project in 1997. The fund provides resources for one year of private instrumental music lessons for a rising 5th grade music student at Garrett Park Elementary School. A yearly musicale featuring the talents of Garrett Park residents helps fund this scholarship.

To support the work of the Betsy White Emergency Fund or Ilah Geiser Fund, tax-exempt donations can be made out to GPCF to PO Box 381 Garrett Park, MD 20896. Please specify Betsy White Fund or Ilah Geiser in the memo line. Thank you for your support!

## Got Energy?

We all know energy is important to our national security and that saving energy can benefit our pocketbooks and the planet, but somehow it all seems so complicated and technical.

We have an answer for that.

Please join the Garrett Park Citizens Association and Garrett Park Conservation Action Network (GP CAN) for an energy efficiency presentation on Wednesday evening, January 7, at the Town Hall; it promises to be enlightening, relevant, and—yes!—even entertaining. We'll start promptly at 7:30 pm in order to have time for your questions at the end.

Speaker Chris Conway of Conway Green Construction has a solid technical understanding of residential energy. Happily, he also can present building science concepts in laymen's terms... and with a good bit of humor and lightheartedness. No lectures here, only sound advice from someone who is a certified energy rater for a wide variety of programs—LEED for Homes, Energy Star, PassivHaus, EarthCraft and more.

GP CAN members will supply cookies and apple cider. We'd like a feel for how many people are coming, so please RSVP via e-mail to Karen Anderson.

David Altar (301) 602-2713  
David.Altar1@gmail.com



Your computer ready, today or tomorrow

Fast, professional repairs & hardware upgrades. At home tutorials. Your computer likely as good as new, or better in most cases.

\$45/hr flat rate.

**Free pick-up and return.**

**Virus** removal; **memory** upgrades; restore **speed**; computer to **smartphone** assistance; **printer** help; custom computer builds for **gaming** or other needs. Can't start your computer? **Blue screen** at startup? Computer **slow**? Programs, devices, or features **don't work**? Need **wireless** capabilities? Call or email me and a solution will appear.

"Serving Garrett Park since 2010"

## Choosing Cleaner Electricity

We hope you support the development of sustainable energy with your home electricity supply, and here we offer information to help you make the best choice for your home. The monthly electric bill from Pepco has two charges: the "supply rate," to generate the energy, and the "delivery rate," to get it over the transmission lines and right to our homes. We can choose whether Pepco or another company will supply our electricity, but whatever we choose, it will be delivered on Pepco transmission lines, and our bill will come from Pepco (and that's who we blame when bad weather knocks out our power).

There are two ways to support sustainable energy in your home: generate it yourself, or choose a supplier with wind, solar, or other renewable options. At this time, Pepco isn't supplying renewables. Renewable energy suppliers in Maryland are advertised on Pepco's Web page. We recommend that you first check them out online with the Better Business Bureau at [www.bbb.org/greater-maryland](http://www.bbb.org/greater-maryland).

Groundswell, a local nonprofit, does bulk clean energy purchases (their Web site is [www.groundswell.org/energy](http://www.groundswell.org/energy)). Groups including Chesapeake Climate Action Network and Interfaith Power & Light (IPL) have partnered with Groundswell to offer 100-percent wind power through other suppliers. Although these rates may change, at the time of our research, Groundswell negotiated a price of 8.3 cents/kWh for 100-percent wind energy, whereas wind energy on your own from Pepco is 10.2 cents/kWh; clean wind power is marginally more expensive than "dirty" energy from Pepco of 6.73 cents/kWh.

Clean power means cleaner, healthier air and water, and a greener environment. The earth and future generations will appreciate your move to clean power today. You can get more information from the Garrett Park Conservation Action Network (GP-CAN) Web site at [www.gpcan.org](http://www.gpcan.org).

## Services for Seniors

### Activities of Daily Living

- Bathing
- Dressing
- Lifting
- Transferring
- Personal Care & Hygiene

### Support Services

- Companionship
- Meal Preparation
- Medication Reminder
- Physical Therapy
- Light Housekeeping
- Transportation to Appointments

### What Makes ElderCaring Different?

- 2 hour minimum for services – most companies require 4 hours as a minimum
- All caregivers are professionally trained nursing assistants
- The owner of ElderCaring personally meets with you to discuss your needs
- All caregivers are fluent in English
- Personal choice in selection of every caregiver
- Licensed, Bonded, Insured
- 24 Hours Service – 7 Days a Week

Services now available in Northern Virginia  
The quality of care you would want for your parents.

*ElderCaring*

MD • Call 301-949-0060 VA • Call 703-956-3564  
[www.eldercaring2.com](http://www.eldercaring2.com) [www.eldercaringofnova.com](http://www.eldercaringofnova.com)

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



9am-9pm  
Mon-Sat  
9am-7pm  
Sunday

301-493-6217

[www.grosvenormarket.com](http://www.grosvenormarket.com)

Strathmore

Tuckerman

Grosvenor Metro



Rockville Pike

10401 Market

Grosvenor Place

- ♪ The e-Bugle is available online on the town Web site the Monday after the Town Council meeting.
- ♪ On the mend: Peggy Pratt is recuperating from shoulder surgery done in November. Donna, of the Post Office, is limping around with a crutch after breaking her ankle. And Joe Smith, music teacher at GPES, has been using a scooter to keep his leg elevated as he moves after injuring his Achilles tendon. Anyone else around who has had a problem and is getting better?

- ♪ From the past: "Living along the railroad tracks as they did, the Penn family was often visited by bums... The following incident took place before Mr. and Mrs. Penn were married. It involves Mr. Maynard Penn and his brother, Marion. 'One night Maynard and Marion went to the movies and some bums climbed into their bed and took a nap while they were gone. You know all that soft black coal dust next to the tracks? (Apparently, the bums left clear evidence of this visit.) They heard Maynard and Marion coming back and got away.'" —From the oral history of Mrs. Lina Penn when she was 79.

---

### GPFS Presents *Tell No One* on January 23

The film is based on a book by a popular American thriller writer, Harlan Coban. Dr. Alex Beck, still grieving over the murder of his wife eight years ago, is implicated in a double homicide. A mysterious video turns up in his e-mail, and things really get dangerous. Better than *Gone Girl*! Rotten Tomatoes consensus: "An intense, well-crafted thriller... equal parts heart-pounding and heart-wrenching." (In French with subtitles, rated R.)

The film will be shown at 8 pm on Friday, January 23, in the Town Hall. Admission is free to GPFS members; nonmembers pay \$5 per person or \$10 per family. A "thrilling" French dinner will be served at 7 pm. For details about the menu, look for information on the GP neighbors list-serve or the poster in the P.O. the week before the showing. Cost for dinner is usually \$10 to \$12 per person; dessert is extra. Soda, water, beer, and wine are available at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5.

---

### Town Archives News

The Garrett Park Archives received one of its most exciting gifts in October, when a large box jam-packed with antique documents landed in our first-floor room behind the Post Office in Penn Place. It was sent by a Virginia woman named Michele Trankovich (née Putnam), who is the great-granddaughter of Smith L. Putnam, one of the town's longest-serving Clerk/Treasurers. Putnam, sort of an early version of Glenda Ingham, held that post from 1910 to 1928, and was a Town Councilmember from 1907 to 1908.

The box contained a treasure trove of information and insights on the first three decades of the town's existence, a period for which our historical record is somewhat limited. It included such gems as hand-written appointments by the town's first mayor, Eugene D. F. Brady, in pristine condition (the appointments on May 12, 1898, of a town Clerk/Treasurer, Marshall, and Health Officer); three volumes of the town's first ledgers, starting in 1899; an ad for the Atwater Kent radios that were a feature of Chevy Houses; official correspondence; and a plethora of more quotidian scraps such as receipts, invoices, and other miscellany of life in Garrett Park in the *fin de siècle* period and its aftermath.

According to Ms. Trankovich, the box bounced around forgotten corners of various family members' homes until it got to her. When she opened it, she knew we would be interested. She recalls as a child living in the Victorian at 4702 Waverly and the adjacent brick house at

4700. She is the daughter of Harry Putnam, son of Ellen and Colonel William D. Putnam. She says that over the years other family members who were Garrett Parkers were Page Mote, Jean Duffy, Robert Lester, and John Lester.

It was the Lesters who owned the Waverly homes. Putnam lived in 11006 Kenilworth, the house now owned by the Almays, and the first house in town to receive electricity, when students from a nearby electricity school installed a dynamo in 1905 when Putnam lived there.

Town Archivist Stephanie Sheridan has been sorting the material and encasing it in preserving media. It fills five archival boxes and will be kept as a special collection. We are all very anxious to get around to reading it all. If you wish, come in and take a look.

### Singing in the Season

The Town Hall was full of the sound of music on December 12 as a full house supplied the town's welcome to the holiday season. Aably directed by Doug Mader and accompanied on the piano by Mee Knystautas, joyful song was the name of the game. The first half was geared towards the children, and after the refreshments at intermission, harder songs (in harmony!) were attempted. We even made a game effort to perform the Hallelujah chorus from Handel's *Messiah*. However, we could use some more men and altos next year!

Mary Moyer

## Letter from the Mayor

Last spring, as we viewed the revenues the town was receiving, it seemed clear that the decline in income tax receipts did not seem to track the economic recovery. We suspected that it might be related to how our residents were filing their state income taxes. We knew that we had asked our residents, when filing their Maryland income tax forms, to make sure that they filled in the bottom line in the top box to designate that their "City, Town, or Taxing Area" was shown as Garrett Park. We clarified that if you do so, you do not pay any extra tax. Your receipts just go to our town, rather than to some other taxing area, such as Montgomery County. Yet, we still were seeing an unexpected decline in income tax receipts.

We started working with the State Comptroller's Revenue Administration Division to review the Maryland Income Tax Returns, Form 502, to see what had happened to the filings for people who reside in Garrett Park but might not have filled in that box correctly. We supplied street addresses for each home in Garrett Park, and the state matched them against income tax returns. The results are now available, and it has been determined that for returns from at least 30 residents in our town either that box was not filled out or did not contain Garrett Park. For those returns, the income tax was given either to Gar-

rett County or to Montgomery County. The state is now returning those errant tax funds to Garrett Park.

This time we are starting even earlier in asking that, as you begin to work on your 2014 Maryland income tax returns, you please fill in that box to designate your "City, Town, or Taxing Area" to be Garrett Park. It is particularly important that you check a return prepared for you by an accountant or other tax professional to be sure that the box is filled in correctly. Many tax professionals do not realize that Garrett Park is an incorporated municipality that receives tax funds (for instance, Silver Spring is not) and that the box should be filled in. If we do not receive our fair share of income tax revenues from the state we either have to reduce services or increase the property tax. We do not want to do either. It takes only a few seconds to fill in the box, and saves money for you, your neighbors, and all the other residents in Garrett Park. This coming year, please double check the entry in that box.

We are now approaching the end of another wonderful year in our extraordinary town. The town staff, the members of the Town Council, and I all wish you a happy holiday season and another fantastic year as a resident of this very special place we share.

Peter Benjamin



as a Garrett Park resident, we'd love for you to enjoy

**25% off your bill**

Lunch ☼ Dinner ☼ Brunch ☼ Happy Hour

**NOW OPEN in North Bethesda Market across from Whole Foods.**

11333 Woodglen Dr, Rockville, MD 20852 / paladarlatinkitchen.com / 301-816-1100  
Free parking is available daily after 5pm and all day on weekends in our lot off Woodglen Dr.

Please bring this ad along to receive your discount. Valid on parties of six or less.  
Each guest may only redeem this offer once. Not valid with other offers. Expires 3/31/15.

### Put the #1 to work for you

It's official. Jeremy Lichtenstein was Maryland's number one RE/MAX® agent in 2012. Just like he was in 2011, 2007, 2006, 2004 and 2003.

In real estate, experience counts. Jeremy brings together satisfied buyers and sellers in your neighborhood—and has for over 20 years.

There is just One Name in Real Estate.

**Jeremy**  
*The One Name in Real Estate*



Jeremy Lichtenstein • RE/MAX Realty Services  
4825 Bethesda Avenue • Bethesda, Md. 20814  
[www.jeremyhomes.com](http://www.jeremyhomes.com) • 301.652.0400

