

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 62

October 2015

No. 8



Calendar

Fri., Sept. 25	Pick up your printed October <i>Bugle</i> in the PO lobby	Mon., Oct. 12	Town Council meeting, Town Hall, 7:30 pm
Sat., Sept. 26	Garrett Park Farmers Market, 9 am–1 pm	Tues., Oct. 13	Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline for November issue
Sun., Sept. 27	Art at Penn Place, new exhibit: Melanie Altar, photography (though Oct. 24; see p 3)	Thurs., Oct. 15	GPJams, Town Hall, 8 pm
Tues., Sept. 29	Arboretum Committee meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm	Fri., Oct. 16	Film Society, <i>Tim's Vermeer</i> , Town Hall; dinner 7 pm, film 8 pm (see p 2)
Thurs., Oct. 1	GPJams, Town Hall, 8 pm	Sat., Oct. 17	Garrett Park Farmers Market, 9 am–1 pm; Attic in the Street, Kenilworth Avenue (south), 10 am–2 pm (rain date Oct. 18; see p 5)
Sat., Oct. 3	Large item pickup; Garrett Park Farmers Market, 9 am–1 pm; GIVES collection, 9 am–12 pm	Mon., Oct. 19	Look for the November <i>e-Bugle</i> on the town Web site
Sun., Oct. 4	Newcomers Welcome, Town Hall, 1:30–3:30 pm; Art at Penn Place, "Meet-the-Artist" reception, Melanie Altar, 3 to 5 pm (p 3)	Fri., Oct. 23	Pick up your printed November <i>Bugle</i> in the PO lobby
Sat., Oct. 10	Garrett Park Farmers Market, 9 am–1 pm		

No Static, No Humidity

At the end of a beautiful early fall day with no humidity, the Town Council met for a static-free gathering. It had lots of business to cover after its summer hiatus, and it covered it quickly, efficiently, and pleasantly.

Although a respectable crowd of townspeople attended, there were no presentations by residents, so the Council moved right away to the unanimous approval of new appointments to the Arboretum Committee: Kathy Benjamin and Bill Elwood.

"Is there any precedent in Garrett Park for a mayor appointing his spouse?" asked Phil Schulp.

"Plenty," said the Mayor.

Hans Wegner now updated us on our street improvement plan, a long-term effort to bring all of our streets up to good service condition. We have now identified the streets that will get attention this year. We've chosen to use the same company we've used in the past because they've done good work for us. Hans moved that the Council

approve \$250,000 for this purpose, and the motion passed unanimously.

A riveting discussion of the effects of roots and water on road surfaces now ensued.

The Council next considered a new "as needed" engineering contract with Nobis Engineering. "We felt," explained Gene Swearingen, "that we needed a more formal arrangement with an engineering firm—a firm that could do it all: roadwork, the rehabilitation of historic structures, maintenance of town equipment, and so forth. Nobis made a great presentation, has plenty of municipal experience, and was the obvious choice."

Tara Flynn asked if Nobis had storm water management experience. The answer: Yes.

"The whole objective here," said the Mayor, "is for us to be able to move quickly if we need to."

The Council unanimously approved our hiring Nobis.

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A soft melodious train whistle sounded. But for sheer noise during these meetings, nothing competes with the crickets.

Gene now moved to the annual leaf collection contract. The Council empowered Gene to choose between Bethke and Hughes for the work. "We need someone to start quickly," said the Mayor. "Within a few days."

The Council now discussed the format of the town meeting (to take place September 15) to talk about the impact of sidewalks on the historical preservation of the town. A representative from Congressman Chris Van Hollen's office was in the audience, and she rose to say that if there is anything the congressman can assist with on the federal level he is happy and ready to help. The Mayor expressed our gratitude.

The boffo moment of the meeting was undeniably the next announcement: As part of working on the new town Web site, said Gene, we decided to change our e-mail to something more logical... So meet... garrettparkmd.gov.

As if that weren't enough, each Councilmember will now have their own town e-mail address. Great excitement among the members at this news.

In his report, the Town Manager noted that we've seen increases across virtually all categories of revenue. We're also well under the budget in just about every category. "Looks like we are going forward in very good financial shape. But of course we've got things coming up in this current year. We're going to need to do work on this building [the Town Hall, that is], and there's additional maintenance work on Penn Place, work on the streets..." Another bit of good financial news is that we now have health insurance for the town staff through Montgomery County. "It's cheaper, and there's less paperwork."

The meeting ended with a resident asking if the Council would be willing to explore cost sharing with the county in regard to the maintenance of a certain much-used section of Oxford Street. The Mayor said that this certainly could be looked into.

Margaret Soltan

GPFS: Tim's Vermeer

The final film for the 2015 GPFS season, *Tim's Vermeer* (2013, documentary), will be shown on October 16 at 8 pm in the Town Hall. The film chronicles Tim Jenison's efforts to duplicate a Vermeer painting using a mechanical technique beyond the "camera obscura" most art historians believe Vermeer employed. Jenison, a successful computer graphics engineer, sets out to prove this theory by recreating the original scene in Vermeer's "The Music Lesson" and then using the controversial technique to paint it. You be the judge as to whether he succeeds.

Dinner and drinks will be served at 7 pm; meat and meatless options will be available. Cost for dinner is usually \$10 with dessert extra. Drinks include soda, bottled water, beer, and wine at prices ranging from \$1 to \$5. For more details about the menu, see the poster in the P.O., or read about it on the GPneighbors list the week before the showing.

Admission to the film is free to GPFS members and is \$5 per person or \$10 per family for nonmembers.

Lunch Bunch!

All Garrett Park residents are invited to the monthly potluck luncheon at the Garrett Park Town Hall, which takes place on the second Tuesday of each month (except during the summer hiatus of July and August). Whether you are new to Garrett Park or a longtime resident (or any duration in between), come visit with your neighbors. We provide a variety of beverages, alcoholic and nonalcoholic (\$1.50 beverage donation). We held our first luncheon of the "new year" on September 8.

Here is the schedule for the rest of the 2015-2016 season for you to post on your refrigerator:

October 13	March 8
November 10	April 5
December 8	May 10
January 12, 2016	June 14
February 9	

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

Bugle staff:

Editor: Barbara Collier (Box 191)
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 mail or hand to *Bugle* staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov/submitBugleArticle.php. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Town Manager Notes

Welcome back! We hope you had a pleasant summer and had the opportunity to participate in some of the town activities, such as the June Musicale and the End of Summer Picnic (with music by Garrett Park's own Border State band).

Newcomers Welcome. For all new residents to the town, we will hold a Newcomers Welcome at the Town Hall on Sunday, October 4, at 1:30 pm. Longtime residents are encouraged to come and meet the new folks. Sponsored by the Citizens Association, the gathering will be informative and festive. Light refreshments will be served.

Street rehabilitation. During early October the town will be re-paving parts of several streets throughout town. You may have seen the markings on those streets indicating where the work will be done. The paving work will be done by M.T. Laney and will take about two weeks to complete, weather permitting. During that time, heavy paving equipment will be in various parts of town. Watch out for the work and for the workers!

Leaf removal. Leaf raking season is here again, and the leaves seem to be coming down earlier than ever. We have made arrangements for Bethke Landscaping, our leaf removal company, to start pickup in late September because of the quantity of leaves already in the streets and also to clean the streets before the paving work. 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 bagged and put out for the regular yard waste collection on Mondays (or you can use them for mulch!). Thank you for your cooperation with the leaf collection.

Large item pickup. The fall large item collection will take place on Saturday, October 3. Please mark your calendars accordingly, and be sure to place your items curbside no later than Friday.

Trees. The town's Arboretum Committee will meet on Tuesday, September 29. New members will be joining the committee and the leadership will change. Thank you to long-time Arboretum Committee Chair Keith Mayhew for his distinguished service. The Committee has a full agenda of issues and invites any residents with questions or concerns about the Town Arboretum to attend. The meeting will be held at the Town Hall, 8 pm on Tuesday, September 29.

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

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

Gene Swearingen, Town Manager

Art at Penn Place

Series 11 at Penn Place. The gallery is currently presenting its Series 11 Group Exhibit (through September 26). The series opened with a champagne Gala catered by Black Market Bistro on September 13.

Since the inauguration of the Art at Penn Place Gallery, the town of Garrett Park has sponsored a group exhibition at the beginning of each series, consisting of one piece from each of the artists who will exhibit their work during the coming months. The Gala provided an opportunity to

meet the Series 11 artists and get a peek at their upcoming solo shows.

We are very excited to present the work of these talented artists and hope you stop by to see their Group Exhibit.

Melanie Altar, photography. Beginning September 27, we are pleased to present the photographs of Melanie Altar. Born in 1987, Melanie moved to Garrett Park at the age of 11. She photographs natural settings, both distant and ordinary, to capture moments of isolated relief within a solitary scene. Selected scenes invite the viewer to waver between feelings of connection and separation. Living in Scotland for five years, Melanie took most of the photographs in her upcoming show in the Highlands, Glasgow, and Fife. The black and white imagery illustrates the dramatic and constantly changing lighting of Scottish landscapes, making each scene unique in its transience. Melanie currently lives in New York City, where she works as a nurse.

Melanie's photographs will be on exhibit until October 24, and we hope you will join us at her "Meet-the-Artist" reception on October 4, from 3 to 5 pm.

2015/2016 artists, Series 11	
Melanie Altar	September 27–October 24
Glenn Roberts	October 25–November 21
Warren Kornberg	November 22–December 19
Margaret O'Brimski-Bonacorda	December 20–January 16
Joe Cloher	January 31–February 27
Donna Jacobs	February 28–March 19
Jane Salomon	April 24–May 21
Martha Seigel	May 22–June 18
Suzi Gifford	June 19–July 16
Dave Almy	July 24–August 20
Jennifer Kahn Barlow	August 21–September 17

Citizens Association Notes

4th of July and end of summer barbecue. Thanks to everyone who made this year's July 4th celebration a success in spite of the uncooperative weather! Our dedicated parade participants and hard-working Kensington Volunteer Fire Department started us off as soon as the sun came out. The pool was a gracious host, and thanks to the hard work of lots of people (you know who you are), the burgers and hotdogs were ready right on time.

Unfortunately the change of venue prevented Border State from playing. The Citizens Association didn't think that was right, so we hosted an end of summer concert and barbecue on September 13. Those of you who came out were treated to some great music, good food, perfect weather—and a dance contest! The winners of the contest were as follows:

Best Teamwork: Ellie and Henry Welch

Wiggliest Butt: Jill Marsteller

Most Enthusiastic: Izzy Lieberson

Best Footwork: Juliana Altar

"Coolest Couple": Elizabeth Henley and Glenda & Ken Ingham

Spooky Woods. The traditional Spooky Woods event held in Porcupine Woods is something we look forward to each and every year. As I'm sure you can imagine, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes getting ready and planning new scares. If you only knew how many of us have crawlspaces stuffed with rubber rats and disembodied hands. This year, many of the principal "Scarers™" are going to be out of town on the day we would be running Spooky Woods. As a result, we are going to do something a bit different. Keep your eyes

open for more details on the "Garrett Park After Dark Halloween Movie Festival" (October 30). We want to bring Spooky Woods back in 2016 better than ever, but to do that we need your help! Contact Sean Conlan if you want to help plan next year's Spooky Woods.

Save the date. Note that the September CA meeting is cancelled

- October 4 (1:30-3:30): Newcomers Welcome, Town Hall
- October 30: Garrett Park After Dark Halloween Movie Festival

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 2015 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. 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. The listserv will not be used for unsolicited marketing; 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 Sean Conlan.

New Town Archivist

We've had a change of the guard at Garrett Park's archives. The town is lucky to have found a new archivist, Rachel James, who just received a master's degree in Library and Information Science at Catholic University and came to us highly recommended. She succeeds Stephanie Sheridan, our previous archivist, who has left Garrett Park to pursue a master's program in art history at the University of Sussex in Brighton, England. Rachel began last month and has already proven her worth by starting a number of new initiatives in our cataloging efforts.

The summer also marked a very productive period for the archives with a bumper harvest of volunteers, mainly students, who completed the cataloging of a large number of documents in our file boxes. Our Community Support Service teams continue to offer great help, and have completed the digitization and cataloging of our 4,000-plus photo collection.

With the help of the town's manager, Gene Swearingen, the archives will soon have a new

e-mail address: archives@garrettparkmd.gov, when the town switches to a new ".gov" address.

We invite everybody to come into the archives, meet Rachel, and learn more about the town. If you would like to help us in the archives, so much the better.

David Altar
David.Altar1@gmail.com

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"Serving Garrett Park since 2010"

Attic in the Street Is Coming

The Garrett Park Women's Club is pleased to announce the annual Attic in the Street townwide street sale on Saturday, October 17, from 10 am to 2 pm. The rain date will be Sunday, October 18. Attic in the Street is like a giant yard sale in one location: participants will have allotted spaces along Kenilworth Avenue, between Strathmore Avenue and Oxford Street. The street will be closed to traffic. It's a great place to find a good buy, socialize with neighbors, and enjoy refreshments.

The cost is \$20 for one space or \$35 for two spaces. Setup time is from 8 am to 9:30, and all unsold materials must be cleared by 3 pm.

The deadline to register for a space is October 10 (postmark date), and there are a limited number of spaces, so register early! (Last year we filled up before the deadline date!) To register, please send your name, address, telephone, e-mail address, number of spaces requested, and check (made payable to the Garrett Park Women's Club) to Garrett Park Women's Club, P.O. Box 494, Garrett Park, MD 20896. Once you register, you will receive an e-mail confirmation and other details.

For more information or to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Celia Peacock or Kathy Hedge.

Garrett Park Community Fund

For those new to town (or needing a reminder), here's a brief description of the Garrett Park Community Fund. The 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. After long and resolute work by the GPCF board for tax-exempt status, IRS granted the organization a charitable 501 (c) (3) status in late 2014.

What is the Betsy White Emergency Fund? The Women's Club of Garrett Park, with a donation of \$700, established an "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 then through fundraising by the Women's Club, donations from generous individuals, and bequests.

The fund provides emergency financial assistance to residents of the town when other resources are not available. 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, and loss of employment. A form to apply for assistance from the Betsy White Emergency Fund can be obtained from a table in the Town Office or by mail (send a request to GPCF, PO Box 381). 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 Music Scholarship Fund? The GPCF also administers the Ilah Geiser Music Scholarship Fund. This fund is named for a long-time Garrett Park resident who had yearned to learn to play the piano as a youngster, but had been unable to afford lessons. In 1997 she decided to establish a music scholarship for elementary school students. 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 make tax-exempt donations, make checks out to GPCF and send to GPCF, PO Box 381, Garrett Park, MD 20896. Please specify which fund you wish to support in the memo line. Thank you for your support!

Services for Seniors

<p>Activities of Daily Living</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bathing • Lifting • Personal Care & Hygiene <p>Support Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Companionship • Meal Preparation • Medication Reminder • Physical Therapy • Light Housekeeping • Transportation to Appointments 	<p>What Makes ElderCaring Different?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	
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Bugle Notes . . . Sweet and Sour

- ♪ New neighbors Ruth Vargas Hill and Jose Vargas, and their daughter Ella, are enjoying their view of all those vast azaleas at the corner of Rokeby and Albemarle. Ruth is an economist with the World Bank, and Jose is a cardiologist at Georgetown University.
- ♪ Ania Soltan, daughter of *Bugle* reporter Margaret and her husband Karol, has joined the Washington Chorus. Catch her singing alto on December 18 at 8 pm at the Music Center at Strathmore. The show is "A Candlelight Christmas."
- ♪ GPES welcomed 812 students this year—getting a little crowded?
- ♪ Intrepid *Bugle* reporter Mary Moyer is now home from Rehab and resting comfortably. She would welcome calls, visitors (with notice), and the opportunity to show off her new front steps.
- ♪ This month's green banner is courtesy of former residents the Platais family, who contributed to the banner fund and subscribed to the *Bugle*. As they noted, "After 16 years in Garrett Park, we are enjoying Georgetown, walking everywhere, and staying in touch with the special folks of Maryland." If anyone else cares to fatten the greening fund, you can make out a check to the Citizens Association for \$45 and mail it to Mary Moyer at Box 98.
- ♪ *Bugle* editor Barbara Collier and husband Jonathan Paul survived a hiking trip in the Alps, where they repelled a sneak attack by a couple of horses intent on stealing their backpacks. The backpacks were successfully wrestled away from the horses, who then subsided into peaceful grazing.
- ♪ Any sweet or sour notes for the next *Bugle*? Please send them to one of the *Bugle* staff by the next issue deadline, which is October 13.

GIVES Welcomes New Treasurer

GIVES (Garrett Park Intercommunity Voluntary Experiment in Sharing) is still going strong after more than 40 years. Established by a small group of determined Garrett Park residents who wanted to do something to help relieve hunger locally and internationally, GIVES began by collecting monetary donations monthly in Penn Place. Just a few years ago, GIVES added a second collection, which takes place outside the Garrett Park Farmers Market, and began asking Garrett Park neighbors and visitors for donations of clothing and toiletries. Each year, GIVES has evenly divided all the money collected and donated it to Thrive DC and the American Friends Service Committee. All the clothing and toiletries have been gratefully accepted by Thrive DC. The need for helping the less fortunate grows, and GIVES continues to respond! The current volunteer staff of GIVES is committed to continuing this important work and hopes that GP neighbors, both old and new, will continue to work with us and support this ongoing community effort.

As she steps down on November 1, 2015, we would like to extend profound thanks to current GIVES Treasurer Karen Anderson, who has been serving in that position with commitment and dedication for the last 10 years. We wish to recognize her for her years of service, as well as her husband, Bob Reinhardt, who has not only supported Karen, but GIVES as well. Beginning in November, GIVES will welcome a brand new Treasurer, Garrett Park resident Jenny Krivanek. In the coming months, we will be providing *Bugle* readers with a bit more history about GIVES, those who volunteer their time, and our plans for the future. Thank you to all who have contributed their time, money, and support to GIVES since 1973.

If you have any questions or would like to volunteer (just 2 hours a year!) to collect donations on behalf of GIVES, please contact Rana Koll-Mandel or Nancy Walz.

Obituaries

Sterling L. Brubaker

On June 23, 2015, Sterling Brubaker, beloved husband and father, flew into the wild blue yonder, destination unknown. He was born in 1924, in Conway Springs, Kansas, the sixth of eight children, son of Jacob and Grace (Foote) Brubaker. Child of the Depression, he spent his early years in Kansas, Texas, and Oregon and left home at 16 to create a new life in California. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California at Berkeley and held a doctorate in economics, also from Berkeley. WWII interrupted his studies; he enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Forces and headed off to Europe. This unconventional

man learned to fly an unconventional plane, the P-38 Lightning, and completed combat tours over Austria, southern Germany, and the Balkans. For most of his career he worked in a Washington, D.C., think tank, Resources for the Future. He wrote a number of clear-eyed and prophetic books about the use and protection of the Earth's resources, published in multiple languages. He traveled the world through his work, sending the family dispatches from Kabul, Teheran, Nairobi, Mumbai, Tokyo, São Paulo, Buenos Aires, Oslo, Paris, and Prudhoe Bay. He called himself a peasant, but in reality he was a man of accomplishment with a sharp mind and wit, a lifelong

learner. A man who loved the outdoors, he was a passionate hiker, skier, tennis player, and swimmer who hugely enjoyed cottage summers in Maine shared with children and grandchildren. His interests were the environment, quality of life for all people, and crossword puzzles.

He will be sorely missed by his wife Judy and his seven children. He is survived by his brother Keith Brubaker, of Stockton, California; his wife Jutta (Judy) Brubaker, of Charlottesville, Virginia; and his children: Nils Brubaker and his wife Irena of Chapel Hill, North Carolina; Tina Chovanec and her husband Stephen of Alexandria, Virginia; Wendy Brubaker and her husband Rafael Ravelo of Monroe, Virginia; Joel Brubaker and his wife 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 Sterling's life was held on August 8 at his home: 1568 Sawgrass Court, Charlottesville, Virginia.

Judy Brubaker

Gunde Hellman

Gunde Hellmann passed away at the age of 91 in a nursing home near Burlington, Vermont. She and her family were longtime residents of Garrett Park, first living at 4401 Oxford Street from 1965 to 1984, and then at the corner of Oxford and Keswick from 1984 to 2014. Gunde was perhaps best known for the elegant gardens she created, as well as helping other aspiring gardeners with plentiful cuttings and lots of "green thumb" advice. She is survived by her son Roland and grandchildren Laura and Matheo from Grenoble, France, and Renate and grandchildren Lukas and Filip from Burlington, Vermont.

Elaine Kennedy

On Thursday, July 29, 2015, F. Elaine Godtfring Kennedy died peacefully and surrounded by family and caregivers.

Elaine was born in Chicago and raised in Sioux City, Iowa. She attended Morningside College in Sioux City, Penn State, and Columbia University School of Nursing. After earning her RN, she worked in children's services at the New York Psychiatric Institute and then at Goldwater Memorial Hospital, where she met her husband, Dr. Thomas J. Kennedy, Jr. Elaine moved to Washington, D.C., in 1949, working as a nurse at Children's Hospital and then as a staff nurse with the Red Cross Blood Program. Elaine and Tom married in 1950, living first in Silver Spring and moving to Garrett Park in 1952, where they lived until 2009.

In addition to raising her family, Elaine engaged in regular volunteer work. She was active in the Individual Psychology Association of Greater Washington, including having an instrumental role in its formation and serving as president for two years and vice-president for one year. She was actively engaged with political causes, especially regarding anti-war, civil rights, and women's issues. She was also active in numerous Garrett Park organizations.

Elaine returned to nursing in 1976, working at Georgetown University Hospital and then Fernwood House Nursing Home. After Elaine's retirement in 1988, she and Tom traveled extensively, including trips to Alaska, Australia, the Galapagos, Machu Picchu, and China.

She was the beloved wife of the late Thomas J. Kennedy, Jr.; loving mother to the late Thomas J. Kennedy III and Charlotte A. Kennedy of Churchton, Maryland; Ann E. Kennedy of Austin, Texas; Joan F. Kennedy of Silver Spring; Paul E. Kennedy and Domi Long of Silver Spring; and Christopher A. Kennedy of Pleasant Hill, California; and dotting grandmother of Laura Elaine Kennedy-Long and Frannie Jeanne Kennedy-Long of Silver Spring. A memorial service is planned at a later date; contributions may be made to Planned Parenthood.

An Appreciation

Marge Gott (1934–2015) and Barbara Rodes (1938–2015) lived next door to each other at 11009 and 11011 Montrose Avenue from 1975 on, when the Rodeses, with three children, moved in next to the Gotts, with their three children of roughly the same age. The mothers shared many of the life experiences of women in those decades.

Marge was a very willing stay-at-home mom. She poured her energies into the Holy Cross School and Church. She was well known for contributions to fundraising, most especially the flea market. As her family grew older, Marge turned hobbies into short, paid projects. She maintained her network of D.C. elementary school friends while enjoying her growing skill at golf.

Barbara was an ambitious library professional, struggling for a time to get acceptance for credentialing, but her curiosity and passion took her to the World Wildlife Fund. Barbara co-authored *A Dictionary of Environmental Quotations* and was enthusiastic as a volunteer at Brookside Gardens as well as a participant in the Film Society in town. Her early and vociferous support for the Hiker/Biker Trail was well in advance of the current trend.

From across the street, I watched these two women with very different personalities and style be good neighbors to each other for almost 40 years. I will miss them.

Marian Green

Letter from the Mayor

We are making progress on developing our new town Web site, which will have a new domain name. When it goes live, it will be at www.garrettparkmd.gov, which is the format for many cities and towns. We have already changed our e-mail address to use that domain, and have standardized the address format to make it easier for you to e-mail us. My address is mayorpeter@garrettparkmd.gov, Gene's is managergene@garrettparkmd.gov, and Elizabeth is adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov. The Councilmembers' addresses are structured as councilhans@garrettparkmd.gov (and so on), and you can reach us all at mayorandtowncouncil@garrettparkmd.gov. For the time being, we are retaining our old addresses, so you can reach us at those, as well. We hope that this will make it easier for all to communicate with the town government.

In my July letter I discussed that Garrett Park is an arboretum, we value our tree cover, and we try to preserve all our trees, but that we are faced with a large number of older trees, many being tulip poplars, reaching the end of their lives. When those trees fall, they can cause (and have caused) substantial damage to homes and cars. Although they have not caused personal injury, there have been some close calls.

There are 10 tulip poplars over 100 years old left standing along the roadway in the 10700 and 10800 blocks of Keswick Street after others have already fallen. We have worked with a number of arborists to explore the accuracy of predicting the likelihood of a tree coming down, and have determined that this is an art, not a science. When given a small set of trees to examine and to recommend three that should be removed, the arborists, working independently, did not select even one tree in common.

Recognizing potential danger, the residents of the Keswick blocks have asked us to remove the threat they perceive. We have held meetings and have had discussions with the residents of

these two blocks and most of them have asked us to take down all 10 trees as soon as possible. We are quite aware that these stately trees define the two blocks in a way that cannot be reproduced immediately, and that taking them down would severely change the look of the street, the amount of shade, and other positive attributes. We have asked the Arboretum Committee to discuss this matter at its meeting on September 29 at 8 pm in Town Hall in the context of our desire as an arboretum not to destroy trees if at all possible, balanced against our responsibility as a municipality to protect lives and property. We will take whatever recommendation the Arboretum Committee makes to the Town Council meeting on October 12 for its consideration. This is an extremely difficult issue, and we welcome all interested residents to participate in both meetings.

If that is not enough disturbing news, I also wish to warn you that a demolition and a construction permit have been issued to replace the house at 4508 Strathmore Avenue. The new house will be of a much larger size and scale than the rest of the homes along that portion of Strathmore. The demolition permit was an agenda item at the June Council meeting. The plans for the new house meet all the limitations and requirements of both the county and the town code, so we have had no option but to issue the permits. I expect that many of you will be as concerned as I am about this. If we wish to prevent similar instances in the future, we would have to reopen the Land Use Task Force discussions concluded three years ago.

Peter Benjamin

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