



Help is on the Way

The Avenue Gets a Big Boost

Randy Rieland

Under new Executive Director Kate Dean, the Glover Park Main Street (GPMS) program is up and running, with a first priority of sprucing up local storefronts.

"We're in need of an immediate visual impact so when people are driving by on Wisconsin, they can see that's something's going on here. That there's new energy," she said. Dean was hired late last year soon after Glover Park became one of the 24 neighborhoods in D.C.'s Main Streets program—a public-private partnership designed to support neighborhood business owners and community residents in revitalizing their commercial corridors.

The organization got a big boost on February 20 when Whole Foods announced that after a three-year legal battle with its landlord, it will be reopening its Glover Park store. The date has not yet been determined. "We are absolutely thrilled to see Whole Foods reopen," she said. "Our mission is to restore vitality to the Glover Park business corridor, and Whole Foods is the perfect partner to return energy to the neighborhood.

Dean recognizes the challenges the



Court case concluded, Whole Foods will be renovating and reopening in Glover Park!

GPMS faces in its mission, from high rents for retail space to diminished foot traffic along Wisconsin Avenue. "We have many available properties, and they are some of the larger properties, so it's very visible when you're passing through," she said. "We also have some blighted properties that are in disrepair. Nobody wants to open a business and take a chance on an investment next to something that doesn't look so great."

But she's also encouraged by the enthusiasm of the newly formed GPMS board, comprised of 10 business operators, property owners, and local residents. "I came into a situation where they had already raised money," Dean said. "So, we're in a position to start moving forward."

Ultimately, the District will provide \$150,000 this first year, but in order to stay in the program for a second year, the GPMS must raise at least \$20,000 through private fundraising in 2020. It also needs to show clear progress in improving the Wisconsin Avenue corridor.

First Steps

To that end, Dean said that GPMS will begin accepting applications this month from neighborhood businesses seeking grants to fix up their storefronts. The program will commit a total of roughly \$35,000, and businesses can apply through the GPMS website at <https://www.gloverparkmainstreet.org/>.

In addition, on March 4, a representative of the national Main Streets program will lead a public meeting at the Kimpton Glover Park Hotel to get feedback from neighborhood residents and businesses about how they think the commercial corridor can be improved and revitalized. The meeting will start at 7 p.m.



Kate Dean, GPMS Executive Director.

Demographics

Dean said a marketing survey also is being done to get a clearer picture of not only how the neighborhood is changing demographically, but also who's patronizing local businesses and how many of those customers are coming here from other locations.

"We're under the assumption that Glover Park is now more young families, but we don't know if that's true," she said. "Maybe there's a demographic we're missing. We want people who live here to patronize our businesses. But we also want people from Cathedral Heights to come down. And we want people from Burleith to come up. We need to figure out how to make the area more attractive to all of them."

That kind of information will be valuable when the GPMS broadens its focus to shaping more of an identity for the commercial strip.

Continued on page 5

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Glover Park Citizens' Association (GPCA)

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The *Gazette* is distributed throughout Glover Park by volunteers. If you do not receive the *Gazette* and/or would like to volunteer, contact Maria O'Donnell (modhutt@gmail.com). Responsible letters to the editor will be published as space allows. What's new in Glover Park? Check us out on both Facebook and Twitter! Call us at: **202-379-4824**.

Visit www.gpcadc.org to keep up with community news!

Glover Park
Gazette

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If you love living in Glover Park, get involved!

Join the Glover Park Citizens' Association today!

- Generously support the group that takes care of your neighborhood.**
- Preserve the family-friendly quality of our community.**
- Communicate your ideas to improve your neighborhood.**
- Act locally to get things done.**

- 1 Adult / Glover Park Resident = \$20
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 - 4 Adults / Same Address = \$60
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President's Report

Raise Your Voices

Karen Pataky

Erin Go Bragh and onward into March with the greening of our neighborhood. A warm February has begun to waken the crocuses and daffodils and azalea buds. St Patrick's Day is always festive at our Wisconsin Avenue restaurants. So please make your reservations early.

Save Our Buses

On a more serious note, Glover Park and Burleith communities continue our travail with WMATA (Washington Area Transportation Association) over several proposed elimination/changes in Ds and 30s bus lines. These proposed changes would severely restrict our access to the rest of the city. WMATA did not follow through on scheduled January and February meetings to discuss the proposed changes in our GPCA or ANC3b meetings.

They have agreed to a single public meeting on February 26, 4:30 p.m. at WMATA HQ, 600 5th Street NW. They will hear testimony between 4:30 and 9 p.m. Each person must sign up ahead of time, around 3:30 p.m. Testimony is limited to 3 minutes. In addition,

every GP resident should flood WMATA with comments, via anc3b.org/saveourbuses.

Dog Days in Glover Park

Glover Park is known for being very dog friendly. We have pure breeds and multiethnic mixtures, from huge to teacup sized. And we love them all. But a few reminders are in order:

DC has a leash law, which means your dog must be leashed at all times unless in your fenced yard or public dog park. All dog waste must be picked up in a plastic bag and deposited in your own trash can or in one of several public receptacles.

An energetic group of our neighbors is looking into increasing the number of waste receptacles and plastic bags to prevent pet waste from being rudely left in someone's easement, yard, or garden for neighbors, children or other pets to step in.

The group will be presenting options at our next meeting.

And on a Happy Note. Planning for Glover Park Day #31 is beginning. Stay tuned. We will need many volunteers.

Glover Park Citizens' Association
Tuesday, March 3, 2020
GP Community Center at Stoddert

Agenda

Police Report

Friendship House

WMATA Decision on GP Bus Routes

Guy Mason Classes/Activities

GPCA Signs: Vote to Purchase Spares

Committee on Dog Waste

Treasurer's Report

Membership Report

Secretary's Report

GPCA Election Committee: slate open to all members.

New Business

Check www.gpcadc.org and the Glover Park listserv for updates



GPCA February 2020 Minutes

Sally Everett

Police Report. Lt. Ralph Neal provided crime statistics for the January 4–February 3, 2020, in 204 PSA as compared with the same period in 2019. Motor vehicle thefts was down to 0 from 2 in 2019; burglaries were up to 2 from 1; theft from auto up to 6 from 5; theft up to 11 from 7; and robbery was up 1 from 0. There were no reports in either period of sex abuse, assault with a dangerous weapon, arson, or homicide.

Pathways to Housing. Christy Respress, Executive Director of Pathways to Housing DC, provided an overview of the organization, which was created in 2004 “to transform individual lives by ending homelessness and supporting recovery for people with disabilities.” Its model is to provide housing first and then support to individuals with services to address mental and physical health, substance abuse, education, and employment needs. The organization also has street outreach teams and a downtown day services center providing restrooms, showers, laundry, nondriver identification, employment assistance, case management, legal services, vital records, primary healthcare, computer access, and social

activities among other services. An urgent care clinic offers same day walk-in services, including psychiatric and addiction treatment.

Regarding the city's recent removal of tents occupied by homeless people in NoMa, she said Pathways only had two weeks' notice to help find alternatives. With funding from HUD and local rent supplements from DC, the organization works with landlords, city agencies, and many organizations to secure housing. She encouraged residents to advocate to make housing a priority in the mayor's budget. In response to a question about homeless people living in the woods, she suggested calling 311, which will contact Pathway's street outreach teams for assistance.

Georgetown Public Library. No representative was available.

WMATA Decision to Cease Multiple Bus Routes. ANC-3B Commissioner Melissa Lane reported that WMATA has cancelled its participation in all public meetings, citing insufficient staff. WMATA will hold a closed meeting on February 11 to brief the city's 235 ANC commissioners. Most DC communities will be affected by the reduction or

elimination of bus service. The ANC will post WMATA's final proposal, which is expected to be released on February 8 and open a period for public comments. WMATA will hold a public hearing at its headquarters on February 26 at 4:30 p.m. Councilmember Mary Cheh and the GPCA will testify at the hearing. Residents are encouraged to attend this meeting and file comments during the open period.

Pet Waste Pickup Problems. Emily and Clark Barrow, Daniel Clark, and Andrew Shaw raised the issue of pet waste not picked up and/or disposed of improperly and the need for additional receptacles and waste bags throughout the neighborhood. They reported on the Crestwood's successful effort to reduce pet waste by installing eight dog waste stations maintained by the community, and also described other options, such as soliciting the city or vendors to supply and maintain waste containers. Discussion included the need to avoid placing receptacles directly in front of a home, investigate methods to eliminate odor, and do a public awareness campaign. A

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ANC3B News

February Meeting Report

Melissa Lane

Police Report. Lt. Ralph Neal presented the crime statistics for ANC 3B between January 14 and February 12. There were 8 thefts from auto; 10 thefts; and one robbery. Captain Brian Bray spoke of the two arrests for assault that occurred in residences on Wisconsin Avenue. Both were domestic situations and did not present a danger to the public.

Proposed Changes to Metrobus Services Affecting ANC 3B Area. Commissioner Mladinov described WMATA's proposed changes to bus routes in Glover Park and Cathedral Heights and the disadvantages of these compared with current services, including how current services meet the Commission's goals for residents as well as long-time city commitments to quality Metrobus service. The Commissioners strongly urged everyone to submit comments to WMATA during the public comment period, which closes at 5 p.m. on March 2. The Commission voted unanimously to send a letter recommending that WMATA reject all the proposed changes to the D1, D2, 30S, 30N, and 37 routes. WMATA was asked to attend the meeting. After first confirming, it declined attending ANC 3B and all other community meetings on its proposed changes.

Grant Request for Sports Equipment and Supplies. Dean Hill, Treasurer of Friends of Glover Park, presented a grant request for \$982.01 for sports equipment for the Glover Park Community Center, including basket-

balls, basketball nets, and a double ball rack. The grant was approved unanimously.

Resolution to Amend ANC 3B Settlement Agreement with Wingos. The restaurant is asking to add an entertainment endorsement to its liquor license. Commissioner Blumenthal presented a resolution supporting an amendment to the settlement agreement with Wingos and to limit the endorsement to the Trivia Nights and Comedy Nights it is currently holding, not DJs or live music. The resolution passed unanimously.

Proposed Amendments to the DC Comprehensive Plan. Commissioner Mladinov presented a letter to the Office of Planning regarding the draft amendments to the Comp Plan. The letter emphasized the importance of guiding planning in key areas, including housing, transportation, schools, and development and zoning decisions in the District. The letter recommended specific changes affecting the ANC area and also urged OP to follow a much more transparent and thorough process for involving the public in future Comp Plan updates. The letter was approved unanimously.

Updates and Information

Kate Gillespie, who lives at 2213 38th Street, spoke about a rear-deck addition to the property next door to hers. That addition was built without permits and without following all building codes. DCRA inspected the deck and ordered it to be torn down, but it

has not enforced the order and the owner of the property has applied to the Zoning Board for retroactive approval. ANC 3B only supports zoning requests that are supported by adjacent neighbors. Commissioner Turmail explained that the ANC would not support the owner's retroactive zoning request since neighbors objected to the project. He asked Rich Harrington, the Mayor's Ward 3 representative, and Cole Wogoman, from CM Cheh's office, to contact Ms. Gillespie to help her resolve the issue.

RoseMarie LaPeter from Good Guys spoke of the chronic rat problem in the alley and entire area outside that building. The situation has become untenable because the rat infestation in the former Whole Foods building is not being addressed. Rich Harrington agreed to work with Commissioner Blumenthal to find a way to get action on the rat problem in that area.

The next meeting of ANC3B will be Thursday, March 12.

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COMPASS

Continued from page 3

motion was unanimously approved that the GPCA establish a committee to consider how to secure funding and implement a neighborhood program to address pet waste.

Guy Mason Activities. Marsha Goldberg highlighted upcoming activities at the center, including a Valentine's Day luncheon, discussion, and concert featuring Latin American favorites, and another concert, luncheon, and discussion on February 28. A Valentine Card-making workshop will also take place on February 8, and a plant-based nutrition and cooking class will be held on February 25.

The Mayor's representative noted that there will be an open house with Guy Mason's new manager on February 6.

GPCA Signs. Jarrett Ferrier reported that one sign advertising the GPCA meeting was stolen. In view of the usefulness of the signs, members unanimously approved a motion to purchase six additional signs.

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How GPMS Can Help

"As the corridor changes with new development and opportunities, everything is on the table," Dean said. "We want to fill the available properties, of course, and are hoping to attract the attention of retail pop-ups and startups. Glover Park has a lot of design businesses. There are other hidden pockets, too. There is a huge wellness community here."

She sees the fact that the local business area is smaller than many others in the city as an advantage. The neighborhood could get more bang for the bucks coming from the District. Dean also noted that once the GPMS is more established, it could step in and help

Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Maggie Simpson reported that the GPCA's 2019 year-end assets of \$25,651.19 were roughly the same as in 2018. Noting that annual income doesn't cover costs, including what is now a subscription-based accounting software, *Gazette* and website costs, and insurance premiums, she asked for ideas to help lower costs.

Membership Report. Membership Director Allen Tomlinson reported that the GPCA has 354 members, representing 236 households, not counting over seventy envelopes and other memberships recently received and not yet processed. In an effort to boost membership, he and Michael Rainho have delivered information packets with current and recent *Gazettes* and a membership envelope to recent homeowners, and visited neighborhood businesses to let them know they are also eligible for membership.

Secretary's Report. The January meeting minutes were approved.

businesses work through problems such as a broken HVAC system or permit red tape.

In that way, Main Street programs are designed to be more hands-on than an advocacy organization like a Chamber of Commerce. But they're also meant to be a unifying force for neighborhoods trying to regain momentum. She said that when the GPMS does fundraising events, it will need to rely heavily on volunteers from the community.

"There's really no existing organization that brings together the Glover Park businesses," Dean said. "We want to make the businesses really feel part of this community. Businesses and residents have both chosen to be here for a myriad of reasons. We just want to bring them closer together."

New Business. Marcus Goodwin introduced himself as an independent at-large candidate for the DC Council. As the son of immigrants growing up in DC neighborhoods that offered few opportunities for advancement, he built a career developing commercial properties that provide jobs and affordable housing. He helps lead an organization that advocates for job training and after school programming. More information can be found at www.goodwinfordc.com.

2020 DC Budget Engagement Forum. Rich Harrington, Ward 3 Liaison for the Mayor, announced a Budget Engagement Forum on February 20 at 6:30 p.m. at UDC, and encouraged residents to attend and share their values, priorities, and ideas with the mayor and other district offices as the FY2021 DC budget is developed.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held on **March 3**.

After Eden


The opposable thumb with its motion freed hands to hold tools and make fire. What nourished the breathtaking notion that words could express our desire?

God offered a life filled with pleasure but stated one clear prohibition. With a curious bent to our nature we did not accept this condition.

Was it only the snake luring us on or the call of the knowledge then hidden? Although our innocence then would be gone we were hungry to taste the forbidden.

We know we are mortal. That sets us apart providing the power we draw on for art.

Edna Small




Stoddert Elementary's Annual Auction!

Saturday, April 4, at Stoddert Elementary

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Glover Park Village Green

The 21st Century Victory Garden

Sharon Kirby

During World War II, anyone with land and patriotic spirit could pitch in to prevent food shortages. Two million Victory Gardens supplied 40% of America's vegetables. Victory Gardens are needed again to mitigate climate change impacts.

Green America's Climate Victory Garden movement encourages diversity and commitment to gardening methods that capture carbon for underground storage and reduce greenhouse gas emission from the food system. No garden is too small or gardener too inexperienced to join. Just commit to any or all of ten principles:

1. Grow edible plants to reduce food miles.
2. Keep soils covered to curb erosion.
3. Encourage biodiversity to balance ecosystems.
4. Plant perennials to control weeds.
5. Ditch chemicals to decrease pollution runoff.
6. Compost waste to grow healthier food.
7. Integrate animals and crops for natural fertilization.
8. Use people power to reduce fuel dependence.

9. Rotate plants and crops to ensure balanced soil nutrients.
10. Get to know your garden to become a better garden planner.

Kate Johnson, DC Energy and Environment climate chief, predicts it's going to be "warmer, it's going to be wetter, and it's going to be wilder in terms of our weather." In 2019, a month of rain fell in just one hour. By the 2080s, DC's climate will probably be more like Mississippi's. In 2017, Glover Park gardener and *Washington Post* columnist Adrian Higgins wrote in "How Gardeners Can Combat Climate Change" that "I've seen winters get warmer and shorter, summers longer and hotter, and the arrival of new pests and diseases."

Bottom line: the need for Climate Victory Gardens is well-grounded, and the impact of a changing climate is undeniably a critical consideration when Glover Parkers garden.

In 2019, the 2.7-acre Glover Park Community Garden, originally a WWII Vic-



tory Garden, joined Green America's list of registered Climate Victory Gardens. In zip code 20007, seven private gardens ranging in size from 8 sq. ft. to 162 sq. ft. are currently registered. Gardeners—beginner to expert—are needed.

Visit greenamerica.org to learn more about how to start a Climate Victory Garden. If you'd like to join or learn more about Glover Park Village Green, call 202-436-5545 or write to info@GloverParkVillage.org.

Parenting in the Park

Back Talk: Seven Alternative Strategies

Paige Trevor

When our child back talks, we get emotional, forget about the task at hand and redirect all our energy to stopping it. We often turn to lecturing about how it won't be tolerated, it's not respectful and they can't do it. And some of us just back down. We ignore it completely.

Neither solution is mutually respectful, so let's explore alternatives.

1. If they have just talked back, avoid saying, "don't back talk me" or "we don't allow this in our family." Because, ummmm, they just did. And remember, back talk is a fairly normal problem-solving solution for kids to try. You are not alone if you have a back-talker.

2. When you are not angry, sit one-on-one and replay the scenario with them. "Hon, I'm trying to understand, when I reminded you to take the trash out, why your response was so intense. How can trash be taken out without anger and hostility?"

3. Inform them—not at back talk time—

that "When I am spoken to disrespectfully, I will stop what we are doing and take the dogs for 30 minutes in the woods." Or "I am unwilling to drive people who speak to me disrespectfully until the next day." Or "If there is disrespect, the car will be unavailable for 24 hours." Then when they try back talking again, let the consequence unfold—no reminders, no I told you so. Let experience do the heavy lifting.

4. Most kids back talk at one time or another. We want to diminish it, but we do not want to spend a lot of energy trying to eradicate it completely.

5. Tone down our issuing of commands, instructions, good ideas or "nifty tips." Sometimes our bossy tone invites a power struggle and back talk is a way kids can express power. Remember, they don't have much money, can't drive the car, and aren't really in charge of their schedule. Kids are, in reality, fairly

powerless. Our compassion can dial down the back talk.

6. Ignore the back talk and see if they do the task—just as an experiment. This takes a lot of self-control and will need to coincide with different self-talk. "My child is cooperative, this will pass, he is doing the chore, he doesn't sass his teacher."

7. Back talk is stress relief for them or problem solving, or showing their power. Can we help them relieve stress, solve problems or be powerful in other ways? Think—"adding in" skills and techniques instead of "Stop back talking!"

Paige Trevor is a Certified Parent Educator and Professional Organizer. She helps parents through coaching, speaking and workshops. Sign up for the weekly Nifty Tip and check out the event page at www.paigetrevor.com/events to see upcoming events.

REAL ESTATE WATCH

“Aging in Place” ... or Not

Many of us long-time residents of Glover Park, like other older Americans across the nation, have a strong desire to “age in place.” This means staying in one’s own home for the later years of life; not moving into a smaller home, assisted living, or a retirement community. Remaining in a home you’ve lived in for many years is so much more appealing than the thought of moving to a totally new or unfamiliar environment. You’d miss the woods, your nearby friends, your neighbors - not to mention how costly a move might be. But be careful here: you need to plan ahead for how you will manage maintenance and care—for your home, and for yourself. And while you’ll likely want or need to do some remodeling for your comfort as you age, you’ll also want to make sure such renovations don’t end up being more costly than the long-term benefits.

Twenty years ago you may have had a growing family, for example. Now your children are adults and have moved out, so it may be tempting to convert one of your smaller bedrooms into a fantastic master bathroom, or a great walk-in closet. Maybe you’d like to make one room into a study complete with custom built-ins so you can finally display all of your books and mementos. For the short term, you may really enjoy the new upgrades, but you’ll still have to climb those stairs, pay to heat

and cool a home that’s larger than what you need, and continue fixing all the things that go wrong with an older home.

The time may come when you change your mind and decide to sell this house after all. That can pose a big challenge if you’ve already taken cash value out of your home and used it to do the type of remodeling mentioned above. You may have inadvertently lowered the value of your home by doing things like reducing the number of bedrooms or creating highly specialized spaces. The potential buyers of your home may be like you were 20 years ago: a family with young children, needing the extra bedrooms and – nowadays - keeping their books on a Kindle.

Before you spend the money to remodel or renovate your current house so you can age in place, determine if it is truly your best option. Making a move to a smaller home or a condo in the neighborhood might make more sense. But if you decide to stay in your current home, get advice on renovations that will help maintain or even increase your home’s value.

Give me a call to discuss the pros and cons of aging in place, and what home features will help you do so.



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Guy Mason Recreation Center

March Free Events

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Friday, March 13, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

Games, Lunch, and Movie, *The House of Mirth*, starring Laura Linney and Gillian Anderson. Based on the Edith Wharton novel.

Friday, March 27, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

Games, Lunch, and Movie, *Ladybird*, starring Saoirse Ronan and directed by Greta Gerwig.

Evening Yoga (New Class)

Thursday, March 5, 7–8 p.m.

This program is restarting with a new instructor, Allison Caras.

Please check with the Guy Mason Recreation Center for its 2020 list of programs, classes, and events.

AARP Tax Assistance Program

Georgetown Library & Chevy Chase Community Center
Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1–5 p.m., March 3 until April 15

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- Other criteria that would make you ineligible to participate in the study



Compensation for time and travel is available to those who qualify.

Contact: Esteban Garcia (202) 800-6885, 2440 M Street NW Suite 507, Washington DC 20037