

GREATER GLENMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION BULLETIN

Glenmont — The Gateway to the Nation's Capital

Winter 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

Community Meeting & Holiday Party

Celebrate the holidays with the GGCA on Tuesday, December 13, 7pm-9pm, at the First Assembly of God church (12805 Georgia Avenue). We'll have a short meeting followed by a party with food (feel free to bring a dish to share), music, and activities for the kids. Santa may even drop by! (On that note, we are looking for a volunteer to don the red suit. Contact us at glenmontcivic@gmail.com if you are interested.)

Canned Food Drive and Raffle

Bring a canned food item to the holiday party to donate to needy families in the area. For each can you bring, you'll receive one ticket for a gift card raffle!



Time to Renew Your GGCA Membership!

Annual dues for the 2012 membership year are due by February 1. If you are not a member, please consider joining; it's only \$10 a year! Please send in payment with the mail-in form on the reverse page. Your dues will help pay for a host of community-building projects, including our efforts to spruce up public spaces (see article on right).

se habla español

Esta hoja informativa contiene información importante sobre la comunidad de Glenmont. Si desea recibir esta información en español, por favor llame a 240-398-7906 o escribanos al correo electrónico glenmontcivic@gmail.com.

A Greener Glenmont *Sprucing up community spaces*

Our community is fortunate to have a number of public green spaces and islands where shade trees can grow and kids can play. But many of these spaces are marred with overgrown shrubs and trees as well as bulk trash and other litter—an environmental and safety risk as well as an eyesore.



As part of our efforts to make Glenmont cleaner and greener, the GGCA plans to revitalize some of these green spaces, beginning with the triangle at the intersection of Hathaway Drive and Weller Road. This space currently contains a large, unkempt shrub; a dilapidated bulletin board; and a flagpole with no flag. Our goal in restoring this space will be to create an attractive, safe, environmentally friendly area that will require minimal upkeep and discourage littering.

Our options for cleaning and beautifying this neglected area are numerous. For example, we could do a combination of the following:

- Plant a rain garden (a shallow garden designed to soak up stormwater and keep it from washing pollutants into storm drains and, ultimately, into our streams and rivers)
- Perform other types of conservation landscaping, such as planting low-maintenance native plants that are adapted to local rainfall and soil types
- Install community benches
- Plant a tree canopy
- Replace the bulletin board
- Install permeable pavers for walkways

We plan to work with GreenWheaton (a local nonprofit consulting group) and take advantage of county funding through the RainScapes program. RainScapes helps local communities plant rain gardens and do other types of landscaping that benefit the environment and increase the community's curb appeal.

What we are ultimately able to do will depend on GreenWheaton's recommendations, county regulations, costs, and available volunteers. Have questions, suggestions, or want to help with the project? Drop us a line at glenmontcivic@gmail.com, or write to us at P.O. Box 9821, Silver Spring, MD, 20916.

At the Crossroads

What's the scoop on the Georgia/Randolph intersection?

By Oriole Saah, 2nd Vice President

During a recent tour through Glenmont with some sector-planning representatives, I had an opportunity to ask a Department of Transportation staffer how I would get out of my neighborhood and onto the "clover leaf"

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the county is building over of my house. My question was a bit of an exaggeration, but my concerns about the new intersection were real. However, the staffer informed me that the county is not building a clover leaf but an “urban diamond” instead. And it will be very accessible to those of us who live in Glenmont!



BULLETIN BOARD

GGCA Opposes Delay of School Renovations

Montgomery County public schools superintendent Joshua Starr recently recommended delaying the renovation of Wheaton High School for a year, citing lack of funding. However, after a public protest, the Board of Education rejected his proposal and kept the renovation on track. Starr’s \$1.49 billion proposal also included 10 new projects, 9 of which were in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Northwest, and Northwood clusters.

GGCA board members attended the “Listen and Learn” sessions with the superintendent to support the renovation that Wheaton so desperately needs, and to fight any efforts to put our community on the back burner.

Construction on the new Wheaton and Thomas Edison High Schools, which have been in the same Silver Spring building since 1982, is slated to begin in 2013 and to be completed in 2018.

Community Yard Sale

It’s not too early to start thinking about spring cleaning! As you clear out the accumulated clutter of the past year, please keep in mind that the GGCA is planning a community yard sale for spring 2012.

Bring your unwanted treasures, sell them, and donate the rest to charity for an easy tax write-off (we’ll make arrangements with a charity to pick up the surplus). Time and location to be determined. Stay tuned for details!

This “diamond” will be designed to maximize flow on both Georgia Avenue and Randolph Road. Georgia will remain at ground level, as it is now, while Randolph will go under Georgia without disturbing the underground Metro tunnel. Randolph will begin its eastbound descent at Judson Road and rise back to ground level at the entrance to the Glenmont shopping center.

If you enter Randolph from, say, Denley Road and want to go north or south on Georgia, you would move to the far right before Judson and take a ramp. You would merge onto Georgia to go south and turn left at a light to go north. The flow of north/southbound traffic on Georgia will also be longer between lights. The intersection to enter Georgia will look similar to Cherry Hill Road going over Rt. 29 or Falls Road going over Rt. 270.

The construction will not affect the location of the police station, but the fire station will be relocated next to the parking garage. This move is slated to begin in summer 2012 and should be complete by January 2014.



What is Your Vision for Glenmont?

The GGCA is working closely with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission to find out what residents would like to see in a re-developed Glenmont. To gather feedback efficiently, the Commission and its urban-planning contractor, Rhodeside and Harwell, are organizing a visioning forum in January or February 2012, and all residents are invited to participate.

The sector plan will guide how our area grows over the next few years; the mix of retail, residential, and office development we will have; and the kinds of infrastructure (roads, public facilities, etc.) that we will need to support our growing population.

Don’t miss this opportunity to make your voice heard on these vital issues. Stay tuned for the exact date and location of the forum.



FILL OUT & MAIL BACK TODAY!

Greater Glenmont Civic Association • P.O. Box 9821 • Silver Spring, MD 20916

Check Enclosed • Membership Fee (\$10) / Donation Amount: _____

Name: _____ Email Address: _____

Street Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.