November 2023

Glover Park

Gazette

The Monthly Newsletter of the Glover Park Citizens' Association



Grateful for Our Community

Lisa McCluskey

Glover Park was fortunate enough to have two large events recently. Art All Night, hosted by Glover Park Mainstreet, was held the last week of September and, after many years the Stoddert PTO brought back the Fall Festival this year. Both had something for everyone and were very

well planned. Congratulations and sincere gratitude for the hard work of these two organizations and their voluteers to make these events happen. Enjoy a few photos from these festive activities!



Top rows, 2023 Art All Night event; bottom row, Stoddert's Fall Festival.



The *Gazette* is available online at <u>gpcadc.org</u>. 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! Visit www.gpcadc.org to keep up with community news!

Glover Park Citizens' Association (GPCA) Officers

President
Lisa McCluskey (president@gpcadc.org)
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Treasurer

Association (ar CA) Officers
Lisa McCluskey (president@gpcadc.org)
Chris Finnegan (1stvicepresident@gpcadc.org)
Allen Tomlinson (2ndvicepresident@gpcadc.org)
Maggie Simpson (treasurer@gpcadc.org)

Secretary Vacant (<u>secretary@gpcadc.org</u>)

 Sergeant at Arms
 Frank Martorana (sergeantatarms@gpcadc.org)

 Federation Reps
 Lisa McCluskey, Maggie Simpson, Chris Finnegan

 Membership Directors
 Roger Mingo (membership@gpcadc.org),

Allen Tomlinson (2ndvicepresident@gpcadc.org)

Glover Park Day Cheri Meyer and Melissa Lane (gloverparkday@gpcadc.org)

Stoddert Liaison Lisa McCluskey (lkmccluskey@gmail.com)

Gazette Staff

Editor Sheila Meehan (sammeeha@yahoo.com)

Contributor Randy Rieland

 Design and Production
 Lisa McCluskey (lkmccluskey@gmail.com)

 Advertising
 Maggie Simpson (advertise@gpcadc.org)

Editorial gazette@gpcadc.org

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Your Membership Supports Glover Park Day, Porchfest Holiday Party

Join/renew online now!

The GPCA promotes the well-being and interests of the residents of Glover Park.
Your dues support community events, local advocacy,
the publication of the Gazette, improvements to the neighborhood
including welcome signs, benches and pocket park maintenance.



President's Report

This Season for Giving and Gathering

Lisa McCluskey

Plans are forming for this year's Glover Park Winter Celebration. Save the date of Saturday, December 16, 2-4 p.m. We will once again host this party at Stoddert Elementary School. All are welcome to this free event sponsored by GPCA in conjunction with the Stoddert Elementary PTO. Full details are on page 10 We will once again have our new toy drive for a Wider Circle, Santa, hot cocoa, popcorn, crafts, a free book exchange and tables for community organizations. The book donation drop off and Santa's mailbox will be available at Stoddert the first week of December. Please contact me at lkmccluskey@gmail.com, to volunteer, sponsor or set up a table to sell art/ crafts!

How do we do all of this for the community? Your dues, volunteerism, and advertising revenue from the *Gazette* make it possible. These funds go toward creating Glover Park Day and PorchFest, maintaining Glover Park



signage and benches, supporting neighborhood activities, advocacy, and grants in the community.

Did you know that membership starts at \$20 for seniors or \$25 for adults? If you have not renewed or joined yet, please consider doing so now—a little goes a long way in our community. Paying dues is easily done online!

GPCA Meeting

Tuesday, Novermber 7, 7 p.m.

Via Zoom

Agenda

MPD update
Treasurer's Report
Secretary's Report
Membership Report
Guy Mason Report
Jackson Reed Grant Request
Call for Volunteers

For updates, check www.gpcadc.
org and Glover Park listserv (https://www.gpcadc.





GPCA Meeting Minutes, October 2023

Lisa McCluskey

GPCA President Lisa McCluskey welcomed attendees, noting that the October *Glover Park Gazette* was published Monday, October 11, and is available online. A few members remarked that they miss the paper copies. McCluskey suggested that perhaps GPCA could budget a printed copy several times a year.

Membership Report. Roger Mingo provided the membership update, reporting that there are currently 116 and 148 households. We have a continuing decline in membership, and renewal notices and thankyou notes have not been sent in several months. Lisa McCluskey mentioned that the GCPA supported the neighborhood by sponsoring the performance of Crush Funk Brass at Stoddert's Fall Festival on October 15 and providing a GPCA table for giveaways and signage. GPCA's holiday party in December is also a way to talk to neighbors about membership and provide a service. A date for the Holiday party will be provided in early November.

Treasurer's Report. Chris Finnegan presented the Treasurer's report for Maggie Simpson. He reported that we have \$19,118 in the bank, which is \$5,000 higher than the same time last year. Lisa McCluskey added that she would like to see a budget for Glover Park Day and earmarked money for that yearly event in the GPCA budget. All of the organization's finances currently run through the GPCA and all other GPCA events have budgets. Several members agreed to having a discussion on the topic.

Glover Park Signs and Surrounding Area. Jarrett Ferrier provided an update on the maintenance of the Glover Park Signs. The vendor that was going to help with native plantings is no longer able to, so GPCA needs to make another plan. GPCA still contracts with a landscaping firm to mow and maintain the triangle on Wisconsin Avenue. Holly Pollinger mentioned DC Natives as an alternative program to guide the process.

Guy Mason Activities. Marsha Goldberg provided an update for events at the Guy Mason Recreation Center. "Lunch and a Movie" returned to the Rec Center with a light lunch and screening of *Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris*. The book club reading for the month will be *Parable of the Sower*, by Octavia E. Butler. A full listing of Guy Mason events will continue to run in the *Gazette*.

Glover Park Village Activities. Holly Pollinger shared that Glover Park Village events will continue to run in the *Gazette* and are also listed on the Village website. An exciting event in October is with science journalist, Mitch Waldrop, on Cosmology. He was the former editor of *Nature Magazine*. Holly thanked the GPCA for the grant that it awarded the Village last spring for its food insecurity program. She assured GPCA members that the program is going really well and those enrolled in it were very thankful.

Georgetown Public Library. Wendell Keller of the Georgetown Public library discussed upcoming events, including a book talk on the novel *Daughters of Yalta*, by Shathryn Grace Katz. On October 28, 2–5 p.m., the library is hosting Jam Fest, an outdoor music festival that promises a musical journey for every music lover. Featured bands include local bands spanning a diverse array of genres: rock & roll, punk, blues, garage, jazz, hip-hop, and funk.

Volunteers Needed. Before closing the meeting Lisa McCluskey put out a call for a volunteer to take up the work of the GPCA Secretary. Currently Lisa is doing the monthly minutes herself along with her duties as president, planning events and designing the *Gazette*. Volunteer help is needed badly.

Next Meeting. The next meeting was announced for November 7 at 7 p.m. <u>via Zoom</u>. The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

The Glover Park Archaeological Museum*

Carlton Fletcher

Discovered in an obscure corner of a Glover Park basement in 2023, the age of this artifact is not in doubt, as it has retained its green tax strip, which reads "Made, Fall 1941" and "Bottled, Fall 1946." Although a case can be made that it might have been consumed and discarded by a contractor during a post-World War II home improvement project, other scenarios cannot be ruled out.

One of the oldest American whiskey brands—widely known as "Old Overcoat"—the Overholt Distillery in Broad Ford, Pennsylvania, was founded by Abraham Overholt in 1810, inherited by his grandson Henry Clay Frick in 1881, and passed into the hands of Frick's business partner, Andrew Mellon, in 1919. (For further reading, see Sam Komlenic, "The True Story of Old Overholt Rye," Whiskey Advocate, January, 2018.)

*A <u>virtual collection</u> of (marginally significant) relics of the past.



Old Overholt Straight Rye Whiskey, pint bottle. (Private Collection)

ANC3B News

October Meeting Highlights

Melissa Lane

- Lt. Johnson reported on several property crimes, including an attempted robbery on the 2200 block of Wisconsin Avenue. It happened around 4 a.m. when people jumped out of a car and accosted a victim. Nothing was taken. Four thefts also occurred at CVS. Finally, three motor vehicles were stolen, including one scooter. A new DC 311 app has been released that is much improved from the current version.
- An agreement has been reached between the developer of 2236 40th Street (BZA Case #20937) and the next-door neighbors. The developer is seeking a special exception to add more units to the existing building. The developer has agreed to move the proposed side entrance and the neighbors have agreed to withdraw their opposition. ANC 3B voted 5-0 (with one commissioner absent) to support the zoning request.
- Jamie Donovan from the District Department of Energy (DDOE) made a presentation on the Mayor's Clean Energy Plan 2.0., an update of the 2018 plan. Clean Energy DC 2.0 (CEDC 2.0) seeks to develop a cutting-edge climate and energy action plan for the District of Columbia that includes

- an implementable, comprehensive policy roadmap covering the transportation, energy, and building sectors now through 2045. The plan includes goals for reduction of fossil fuel use, incentives for solar installation and new job creation. The mayor hopes to have the plan completed in 2024. If anyone has questions on the plan or where to locate resources, please contact jamie.donovan@dc.gov.
- Matthew Lee, from R. Michael Cross Group, presented plans to convert the existing 4-unit building at 2639 41st Street to a 7-unit building with a third floor and roof deck. They have asked for a special exception to do so (BZA Case #21009). No complaints were registered by nearby neighbors and two letters of support were received. Commissioners asked them to consider adding electric hookups around the parking pad that could be used to charge electronic vehicles. ANC 3B voted 5–0 in support of the special exception request.
- ANC Commissioner Kevin Carroll gave a brief report on the quarterly ANC meeting with Ward 3 Councilmember Matt Frumin and his staff. The top current issue is the surging crime rate. This problem is

- exacerbated because MPD feels under siege from the community. Efforts are being made by the new Police Chief to heal the rift with the community. Another current and critical issue is affordable housing and reaching those who need help both with housing and other life issues.
- Anne DeBuys from the Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) discussed the Washington Gas Light Company's (WGL) Project Pipes Plan, which is a 40-year accelerated pipeline replacement program estimated to cost \$4.5 billion—a cost that will be borne by a surcharge on customer gas rates along with costs included in the regular rates. WGL has asked the DC Public Service Commission to approve \$671.8 million for Phase 3 of this project. CCAN would like ANC 3B to consider a resolution that opposes the WGL proposal for Phase 3.
- Linda Greenan, External Affairs Manager at Pepco, announced an Open House on November 4, 11 a.m.–1 p.m. at 700 8th Street, NW, to discuss Pepco's multi-year plan for 2024–26. Free parking is available.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 9, 2023.

2023 GPCA HALLOWEEN DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS



People's Choice Award 3801 Benton St reet



Spookiest Home Award 3838 Beecher Street



Most Creative Award 3754 W Street

Glover Park Village

Food Support Program and More

Glover Park Village (GPV) launched a Food Support Program that may be of interest to those in our neighborhood who are finding food prices almost out of reach for them. The program was launched a few months ago and has proven very welcome for many of our friends and neighbors.

Each month, Glover Park Village volunteer drivers deliver food to those residents of Glover Park who have signed up on our website to receive a \$25 food box that contains a variety of meat or fish along with fresh fruits and vegetables. We have compared costs and find that most food boxes provide \$50-\$60 worth of food, so it's a great value for participants. Thanks to GPV member Barbara Ferris, we learned about the SHARE program, which is supported by the Catholic Church. Our Ward 3 hub is at the Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament near Chevy Chase Circle. This is where our volunteers pick up our food boxes for distribution once a month.

The food program is only one of several programs and projects carried out by GPV volunteers.

Glover Park Village is celebrating its 14th year of service to residents of Glover Park. Our volunteer-managed Village programs have supported many people who are determined to remain in their homes in Glover Park and look to us for help doing just that. We help neighbors buy groceries, fix things that need fixing, call to chat and make sure all is well, drive our members to doctors' appointments, hold events to amuse and delight, visit for a cup of tea and generally create a fuller, richer life for both those who are aging in our community as well as the volunteers who support them.

GPV is free to anyone who wants to join and welcomes those who need services as well as those who want to provide services. Often, they are one and the same!

Please go to our website at www.gloverparkvillage.org or call (202) 436-5545 to learn more about us. There, you can sign up for the Food Support Program, see what events are coming up, read the latest newsletter and get an idea of what services we provide or volunteer projects you might like to participate in.

Please spread the word especially to your neighbors who don't use computers and may not know about us. Most of all, join in a celebration of the kindness of our Glover Park community to be able to sustain Glover Park Village for so many years!

Prayer

The bamboo prays before me swaying back and forth like my grandfather's bearded minyan davening in shul; back and forth they rocked. They kissed the sacred words carried, covered, through the narrow aisles.

The words, The Book. Books beckoned me, blessed me, brought me a world of words. I seldom go to synagogue, but bend and straighten with the wind.

Edna Small



Puttering in the Garden

You, the Seed Starter

Roger Williams and Laura Ivey

f you were a scientist—and you might be—you would know that most natural phenomena are not on/off, black/white, go/no-go. You'd also know that it is very hard to isolate a given reaction to a single change, as our real world rarely offers us that view. One size does not fit all.

It is thus with starting plants. And I bring this up because you want to be ready for spring and the starting of seeds.

Seeds need just the right conditions to start well. A look on websites, such as Johnny's Selected Seeds under "germination" for any given seed, will show the temperature for the best germination for any given seed. And it does vary. What they don't show is best humidity and best acidity balance in the soil.

How Dry Seeds Come Alive

The magic of a dry seed awakening is a beauty of its own; the capsule of survival that surrounds and feeds the germ plasm is small, so the seed first develops roots to extract what it needs from its immediate neighborhood: physical purchase, moisture, and nutrients. Seeds will start by putting out roots using that miniscule package of fats and carbohydrates they carry within them. The hope and prayer is that where the seed lands can provide a safe and supportive haven. Only then do they start to develop leaves, part of the longer-term feeding process. You, the seed starter, get to provide that local immediate haven.

To maintain a "best temperature for seed germination," you will probably want a heat mat such as the Vivosun or Jovati. But that alone is not enough to maintain that best germination temperature. Mats just get hot; they have no temperature control. You will want to plug the mat into a controller, such as the Inkbird or iPower units. These have an adjustable processor that will turn the mat on and off to maintain defined temperature—assuming the sensor is in touch with the mat.

And then, of course, you want to maintain the proper humidity, so planting trays and covers are the way that this is best done—unless you want your apartment kept at 80F and 95% humidity. The *Charlotte Observer* published a good article on seed trays, but give some thought to how many seeds you are starting and how often you will want to transplant them. Like children, they outgrow their "clothes" quickly and would become root bound if you kept them in the small starter trays. You will want to move them to larger units, such as peat pots, relatively early on. Some plants are less happy being transplanted, so you want to do this as little as possible.

Pretty soon, the little germinated plant will put out its cotyledons, the first leaf forms of a plant. These are not like its regular leaves, but they are the first to start turning light into sugars. The plant will use the sugars both for its own construction and to give away through its roots. This magic bit of chemical cooperation allows the plant to attract the community of bacteria around its roots that



will both feed the plant and protect it for its whole productive life.

The need for light at this point is obvious; leaves want that. How much, and of what sort, is interesting. Greenhouses will use lights capable of adjusting the various wavelengths depending on whether the plant is in its vegetative or reproductive/flowering stages.

Light Matters

Most of us, though, have only our windows and our house lights. There can be a lurking danger here, however. Many recently made windows have glass coatings that interrupt certain wavelengths to keep the heat gain down. Windows that look clear to you may block wavelengths that the plants want—in effect looking "darker" to the plant than to you. Our new LED light bulbs can also emit varying types of light, perhaps pleasing to us but a bit dim in certain wavelengths the plants need. You may have noticed that green fabric can look almost black under some artificial lights. That is because the light is not generating much of the green spectrum to reflect from the fabric. It is wiser to get both plant-specific lights and to run them on a timer, allowing the 16 hours or so that emerging plants will want to keep from getting rangy as they seek light. The voltlighting.com website explains the concept in great detail.

Lastly, the planting medium matters. Bagged starter material has one important property that is not obvious: It is sterilized. This protects the new plant, which does not have the capability to protect itself yet. The last thing a gardener wants is to see the white fuzz that appears around new shoots when using unsterilized or pre-used potting material at high humidity. This mold will kill the baby plant in a day or two, and there is not much you can do about it once it is there. Best to give your plants the healthiest start you can by using new, or at least oven-sterilized, potting material. 180–200F @ 30 minutes will kill off mold spores, making old potting material safer to re-use.

Once again, being ready and well prepared to "put another season's promise in the ground" will serve both you and your new plants well.

Real Estate Watch

How Covid-19 Shaped the Housing Market

Maggie Simpson

The multiple listing service (MLS) that services the DC area real estate market, BrightMLS, has published a fascinating study of how Covid-19—and, specifically, the government policies it engendered—has shaped the housing market for years to come. Its findings point out that "The pandemic resulted in massive economic upheaval, with economic activity slowed by public policies designed to moderate the spread of the virus. The federal government engaged in a series of actions that boosted household cash, spurred growth and spending with ultra-low interest rates, and further stimulated the economy with new spending programs. These economic changes all impacted the housing market in various ways, the most notable being a dramatic increase in home prices. Ultra-low interest rates resulted in an increase in the number of sales in the MidAtlantic financed with a conventional loan, a trend that reversed as mortgage rates began to increase. The rapid home price appreciation recorded from late 2020 through late 2021 was likely the result of ultra-low mortgage rates increasing buying power. Indeed, conventional buyers paid the highest premium over listing price in order to close the sale and accounted for the largest share of all sales. Moving forward, the ultra-low interest rates that buyers locked in are likely to keep them in their homes and keep supply low and market activity constrained for the foreseeable future."

Glover Park Sales of Single-Family Houses				
Address	Sold Price	Date		
2239 Observatory Pl NW	\$1.065.000	09/20/23*		
3759 W St NW	\$1,300,000	09/26/23		
3815 Benton St. NW	\$1,480,000	10/03/23		
2306 Tunlaw Rd. NW	\$1,222,505	10/03/23*		
3712 Manor Pl NW	\$1,189,000	10/13/23		

^{*} Reflects corrections of sale data in the October Gazette.

It's no surprise that those with 3% mortgage interest rates are loathe to sell their homes, and we can see the impact in unusually low market activity. Here in DC, September sales were almost 20% lower than last year yet the median price of a home rose by 3.5%!

To get the report, go to: <u>Brightmls.com/PostPandemic</u>



Curbside Composting Pilot Program



The Department of Public Works' Office of Waste Diversion has launched the Curbside Composting Pilot Program. The Program has the following objectives: Divert food waste from landfill and incineration; Increase access to composting services; Determine the feasibility of expanding curbside food waste collection to all DPW-serviced households; and Evaluate the food waste processing capacity in the region. For more information, visit: zerowaste.dc.gov/curbsidecomposting.

Guy Mason Recreation Center

November Virtual and In-Person Events

Marsha Goldberg

Guy Mason Thanksgiving Baskets

This year Guy Mason will be giving Thanksgiving baskets to needy families. If you would like to donate canned or non-perishable food items, please drop them off at Guy Mason Recreation Center from October 25 through November 15 between 1:30 and 5:30 pm. Thank you for your support!

Guy Mason Virtual Reading Group Wednesday, November 15, 11 a.m.–Noon

The book for November is *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler. Written in 1993 this speculative fiction novel is set in a post-apocalyptic Earth, heavily affected by climate change and social inequality. The protagonist is Lauren Olamina, a young woman who can feel the pain of others. To join the group and receive the link to participate in the virtual meeting, please contact Wendell Kellar at Wendell.kellar@dc.gov. Copies of the book are available at the Georgetown Branch of the DC Public Library. Ask the librarian for the book for the Guy Mason Reading Group.

Lunch and a Movie

Friday, November 17, Noon-3 p.m. In-person at Guy Mason

This month, due to the Thanksgiving holiday, we are meeting on Friday, November 17. The movie for November is *Nobody's Fool* starring Paul Newman, Jessica Tandy, Bruce Willis and Melanie Griffith. Sully Sullivan is an out of work, stubborn construction worker with bad knees and a worse attitude. All his life he has avoided responsibility. When the son he walked out on shows up with his grandson, Sully is forced to deal with emotions he'd prefer to forget. This touching film proves that you're never too old to make a few changes. Lunch begins at noon and the film starts at 1 p.m. Closed caption will be available. If you would like to join us, please RSVP by November 14 to Marsha Goldberg at mslonegoldberg@gmail.com or call Guy Mason at 202-727-7527.

Glover Park Village

Free October Events

Erin Byrne

Veterans Day Intergenerational Walk in Holy Rood Cemetery Saturday, November 11, 11:00 a.m.

In honor of Veterans Day, let's meet just inside the cemetery's entrance at 2128 Wisconsin Avenue. This is Glover Park's oldest historic site, we will mark the gravesites of soldiers and sailors who served in eight American wars.

Coffee and Conversation-Meetup at Point Chaud

Friday, November 17, 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Join us for coffee and conversation while we discuss our experiences with art and life.

Brain Health: Stronger Memory Series–Zoom Meeting Saturday, November 25, 10:00–11:30 a.m.

Join us for Brain Health check-ins. We will discuss ways to develop a stronger memory with easy athome 'reading, writing and rithmatic' exercises that will give you pleasure and light up your brain at the same time!

Vaccine Clinic at Guy Mason Recreation Center

Tuesday, November 28, Noon-3 p.m.

Pharmacists from CVS will be on hand to administer the shots. We'll have refreshments, prizes, plus fancy band-aids and lollipops to give away. Come for the shots, stay for the party!

















Saturday, December 16
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Stoddert Elementary School
all are welcome!



- Toy donation collection and raffle prizes (new unwrapped)
- Guess the gelt
- Santa's mailbox drop-off
- Book exchange for all ages
- Hot cocoa and cookies
- Crafts and more





Sponsored by GPCA in conjunction with the Stoddert Elementary Parent Teacher Organization



more information: gpcadc.org

Glover Park Dining Guide!

Enjoy a Night Out This Fall

Glover Park's mainstreet corridor offers a wide variety of shops and restaurants to enjoy. Forget the traffic, parking hassles or extra cost of a car service and enjoy a walk over to dine-in at one of our many local establishments. Ordering in or for pick-up on busy weeknights is also a benefit of living close by.

Looking for entertainment or a special date night? Check out individual websites listed below or call for more information about offerings, including music, trivia, sporting event coverage or try out a new drink.

Don't forget the gift cards! Many local businesses offer gift cards, printed or virtual, that are perfect for anyone on your gift list.



Aladdin House of Kabob & Gyros aladdinhousedc.com (202) 944-3933

Angelico La Pizzeria angelicopizzeria.com 202-333-8350

BreadSoda breadsoda.com 202-333-7445

Chipotle Mexican Grill chipotle.com 202-706-7508

Domino's dominos.com 202-342-0100

Dumplings and Beyond places.singleplatform.com 202-338-3815

Eerkin's eerkins.com 202-333-3600 Einstein Bros. Bagels einsteinbros.com 202-448-9473

Glover Park Grill gloverparkgrill.com 202-625-5400

In Bocca Al Lupo inboccaallupodc.com/ 202-750-7939

Mario's Trattoria www.mariosdc.com 202-735-0033

Mogee Tee mogeteeusa.com 202-333-2929

Old Europe old-europe.com 202-333-7600

Point Chaud pointchaudcafe.com 202-758-2241 Rocklands Barbeque & Grilling Co. rocklands.com 202-333-2558

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Monthly real estate reports for select NW neighborhoods, Eastern Shore & luxury markets

In 2023, there has been an overall decline in market activity compared to 2022. However, since May '23, there has been a slight uptick in the average sold prices of Glover Park homes falling within the \$1M - \$1.5M range.

CLOSED SALES, May - September averages



Data as of Oct. 10, 2023 © 2023 BRIGHT. In the event that your property is currently listed for sale, this is not intended as a solicitation for services. This material is based upon information which we consider reliable, but because it has been provided by third parties, we cannot represent that it is accurate or complete, and it should not be relied upon as such. This material is subject to errors, omissions, changes or withdrawal without notice.

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How is the Market?

Washington, DC is a city of more than one real estate market. And even in Glover Park, we see very different trends depending on the price point and whether the property is a house, condo or coop.

Call me any time for a market review, customized for your interests.



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The Department of Public Works (DPW) will conduct leaf collection service October 30, 2023, through January 20, 2024, to residents who receive DPW trash and recycling services.

Check out our real time leaf collection tracker brought to you by Bob the Blower!







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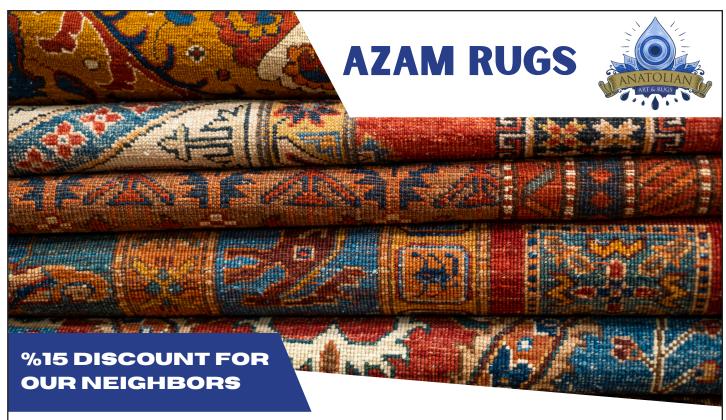
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