

# The Gladstone

of the Greater Gladstone Civic Association

## Gladstone Manor is:

Ardmore Ave. (to Bryn Mawr Ave.) • Bryn Mawr Ave. (to Windermere Ave.) • Deforest Rd. • West Baltimore Ave. (from Burmont Rd. to Windermere Ave.) • Eldon Rd. • Gladstone Rd. • Madison Rd. • Mansfield Rd. • Marlyn Ave. • Martin Dr. • West Stratford Ave. (to Windermere Ave.) • Walsh Rd. • East Windermere Terr. • Willowbrook Ave. (to Bryn Mawr Ave.)

Building Community Since 1927 

Winter / Spring 2014

## I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas

Remember long ago before snow fatigue set in, the GGCA kicked off the holiday season with a spectacular series of events in December. The month started with a our traditional Tree Lighting at the Island with special guests incoming Mayor Tony Campazzano, outgoing Mayor Jayne Young, and outgoing Borough Council President Sharon Coleman. Of course THE most special guest, Santa Claus, was also in attendance to greet the children, distribute treats, and lead the countdown to the tree lighting. He also arranged for his special mailbox to be brought to the Island for the convenience of those wishing to send him a note.

Later in the month a record number of neighbors joined the Mansfield Brass to carol through Gladstone. And speaking of records, the temperature was balmy and only light jackets were required. Finally, the month concluded with luminaries on the Island for Christmas Eve.

## We Couldn't Do It Without You

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has so far made a contribution to the Greater Gladstone Civic Association. While the fundraising has been a bit short compared to last year, we nonetheless consider the membership drive a success. If you have not yet contributed and would like to do so, please send our payment to:

Greater Gladstone Civic Association  
c/o Kathy Kauffman  
125 Gladstone Road  
Lansdowne, PA 19050-2110

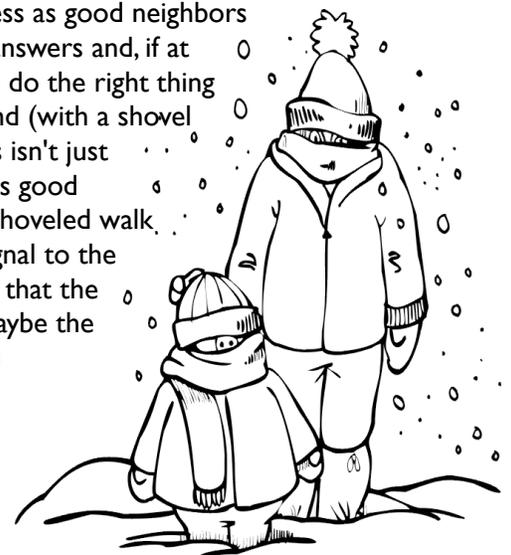
Again, thanks so much to all who have given their financial support.

## What a Winter... so far

Wow, Old Man Winter has really been keeping us on our toes this year – and not letting us put down our snow shovels for very long. And, at least according to the calendar, we'll be having him around for perhaps another month, though hopefully we won't be seeing so much snow and ice. We folks in the Gladstone neighborhood have really done a magnificent job of clearing, and keeping clear, our sidewalks and driveways; but what has been really terrific is the way we have pulled together as a true community by helping our neighbors when they couldn't keep up with the snow removal on their own. If you were the recipient of this kindness, please, please be sure to thank those who have helped you... a few kind words can mean the world.

And while we are on the topic of snow, here is some sound advice from a fellow Lansdowne resident via Nextdoor (see information about Nextdoor later in this newsletter): "So... what's up with those unshoveled patches of sidewalk that I've seen, and skirted, around the neighborhood? Well, is it possible that it's in front of an unoccupied house? or that the current resident is elderly, ill, or disabled?

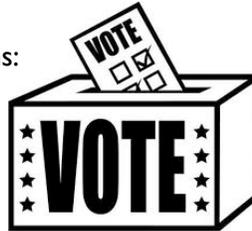
It's our business as good neighbors to know the answers and, if at all possible, to do the right thing and lend a hand (with a shovel attached). This isn't just doing good, it's good sense. An unshoveled walk may send a signal to the wrong people that the house (and maybe the person inside) is vulnerable."



# Greater Gladstone Civic Association Officer Elections

With our last issue of 2013 we invited folks to submit names and votes for the following positions:

President  
Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer



Sadly, we did not get any nominations; and, therefore, the existing corps of officers will continue for the next two-year term. Please know, however, that the Vice-President position is vacant; so if you have any interest in filling that role, please contact any of the current officers:

President - Melissa Englund [menglund1@verizon.net](mailto:menglund1@verizon.net),  
Treasurer - Kathy Kauffman [kk125Glad@aol.com](mailto:kk125Glad@aol.com), or  
Secretary - John Hallinan [chicksdad@comcast.net](mailto:chicksdad@comcast.net)



## **"Flash"Backs (from The Manor Flash, 1937-38, exactly as written)**

*It is reported that Dr. Garry Myers told the Home and School Assn the other night that children should be spanked on the spot and not fooled around with about doing what they are told. We also hear there has been more spanking in the Manor since his talk. Some of the staff say they have proof of this.*

*Shirley Stephens cut her hand Tuesday and fainted away when her Mother was fixing the bandage.*

*SIGNS: The Huits and Snaps have signs on their next door houses. One says measles, the other paint.*

## **Street Lights**



The GGCA is working closely with the Borough regarding the ongoing issues with some street lights in the neighborhood. PECO is contacted on a regular basis and has marked the underground electric wires needing repair in one section and completed a repair in another section. The snow is delaying the work but our Borough manager continues to call PECO to report the issues and push for resolution.

However, YOU can help. If you have lights that are not working, please keep a log and provide it to GGCA on a weekly basis with the exact details regarding the location of the light, when the light went out, if it works sporadically when it is on. General complaints about the lights not working do not help our case with PECO.

## Vacant Properties

Here is some good information and advice from Michael Schleigh, Lansdowne Borough Council, regarding vacant properties in the neighborhood.

Various Committees of the Borough are examining the challenges posed by vacant homes. Whether it be the opportunity for vandals to steal copper pipes, general maintenance issues, or simply quality of life and property values - these are all valid concerns posed by vacant homes and other buildings.

Borough Council is considering various tools to address these issues and welcome your input and ideas! Please feel free to reach out to me to discuss your thoughts. We are trying to balance safety, quality of life, invasion of privacy, and determination of responsible party concerns (among others).

One way you can help immediately is contact our Codes Department and make sure that it is aware that all of these homes are vacant. This will get them on a list for Codes and Police to keep an eye on.

Michael Jozwiak – Zoning Officer  
(610) 623-7300 ext. 232  
Jozwiakm@borough.lansdowne.pa.us

John Gould – Building Inspections  
(610) 623-7300 ext. 212  
Gouldj@borough.lansdowne.pa.us



## 2014 GGCA Events

The following events have been scheduled:

Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 12 at 11am –  
a flyer will be distributed soon

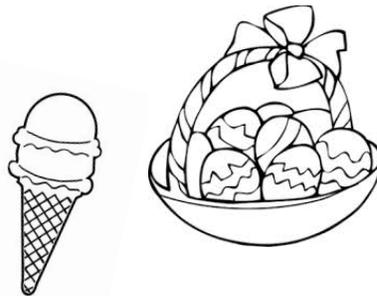
Independence Day Parade – July 4

Ice Cream Social – late summer – date to be arranged

Tree Lighting – Saturday, December 6

You all may recall the “Help Wanted” newsletter we issued last Spring. In that newsletter we indicated that all the events we put on (Egg Hunt, Fourth of July, Tree Lighting) are orchestrated by an average of 3-4 of our neighbors. What these folks do include all the planning, food and supplies purchases, set-up, clean-up, etc. Attendees have always indicated how much they enjoy the events, and that is exactly the feedback we like to hear. But when it comes to volunteering, we end up with the same 3-4 folks doing all the work.

If you would like to assist with the 4 planned events, please let us know. Or if you would like to plan another event, please attend a GGCA meeting to propose the event. You should be prepared to discuss the necessary budget and have new volunteers to support the event.



Christmas Tree Lighting



**Visit the GGCA website at [www.gladstonemanor.org](http://www.gladstonemanor.org)**

## Nextdoor – Gladstone Manor – a new way to connect with neighbors

Nextdoor is the private social network for you, your neighbors and your community. It's the easiest way for you and your neighbors to talk online and make all of your lives better in the real world. And it's free. Thousands of neighborhoods are already using Nextdoor to build happier, safer places to call home. And a site was recently started for Gladstone Manor.

Nextdoor's mission is to use the power of technology to build stronger and safer neighborhoods. And Nextdoor makes it safe to share online the kind of things you'd be okay sharing with your neighbors in person.

Here's how:

Every neighbor must verify their address.

Each neighbor signs in with their real name. Just like in person.

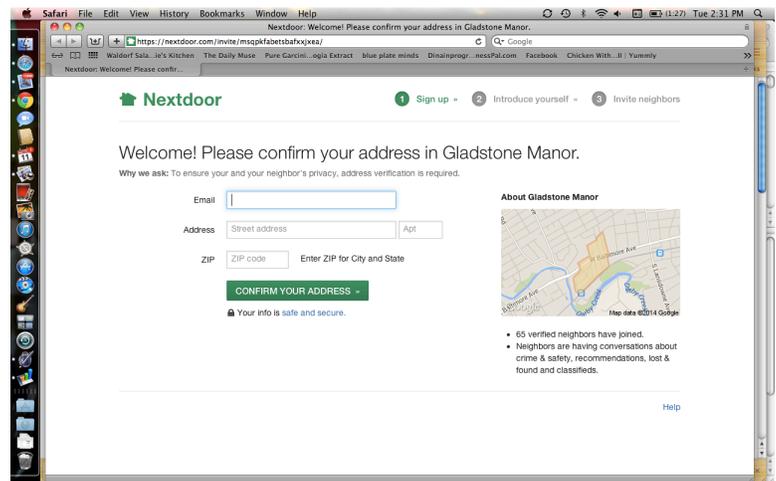
You choose where your information is shared.

Your website is securely encrypted using the HTTPS Internet protocol.

Information shared will never show up in Google or other search engines.

Nextdoor never shares your personal information with third-party advertisers.

Over 60 neighbors have signed up for the Gladstone Manor site. If you are interested in joining and don't have a postcard or email from one of your neighbors who has already joined, go to <https://nextdoor.com/invite/msqpkfabetsbafxxjxea> or email Melissa Englund with your name, email and address and she will send you an invitation to join.



### Pet Waste

We seem to still have some neighbors who walk their pets without taking along a baggie and cleaning up after their pet has "done its business." Certainly, walking your pet in this frigid winter weather might mean you hurry up and don't want to take the time to pick up after your pet. But we want to remind residents again that pet owners can be reported to the Borough under an ordinance, whereby the owner(s) can be fined, even if the behavior is on the owner's own property.