



PUBLISHED SINCE 1948 FOR THE TOWN OF GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND ~ CHARTERED IN 1904 ~ NOVEMBER 2017

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

The October 9 Town Council meeting convened with Mayor Polak, all four Council Members, and Town Clerk Stacey Malmgren present. With about a dozen residents and no special presentations, the meeting was held downstairs.

Glen Echo Park Update

The Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture (GEPPAC) was established in 2002 by Montgomery County to manage the cultural programs and facilities at the Park. Since its inception, former Mayor Debbie Beers has been the Town's representative on its board, and she had asked the new Mayor and Council to keep her in that role after the Town elections last May. Mayor Polak wrote to Ms. Beers over the summer and told her that he was planning on filling that role, either himself or with his own appointee. Ms. Beers came before the Council on October 9 to request once

more that she be allowed to continue serving the Town on the GEPPAC board. She said that she was in the midst of planning a fundraising house tour of Glen Echo homes next spring, and noted the legal expertise she has been able to donate over the years.

The Council discussed next steps for a while, with Council Member Stiglitz saying that the Town's charter was unhelpfully vague on how these types of appointments are made. The Council will confer with the Town's lawyer, but most likely it is the right of the Mayor to make a selection, and the Council's role is to advise and consent. Other than Council Member Long

saying Mayor Polak should gain a few years of experience before taking over the spot on the board, the Council Members did not take clear sides. There did seem to be agreement that the process for appointing a Town representative needed to be open and clear, that the rep would need to abide by the GEPPAC bylaws and conflict of interest policies, and that the Council must develop a clear policy on appointments to outside boards going forward.

Town Business

Council Member Spealman reported a huge response to his call for volunteers for various Town committees, and said that only the representative to the Fire Board was still missing. Resident Gloria Levin raised her hand and now that position is filled as well. Mr. Spealman added that some of the committees have already met. For example, the street


and sidewalk advisory committee made up of Renny Springuel and Tim Bragan. Not only have they already met, they attended the Council meeting and reported on their progress. They plan to walk the Town and create a detailed survey of current conditions; measure parking lines; assess ADA compliance; review parking signs and how to deal with violations; and create five- and ten-year plans for the Town's roads and sidewalks. They also said that their committee (and perhaps the

LEAF PICK-UP SCHEDULE

November
3, 10, 17, 22

December
1, 8, 15, 22

Leaves should be raked to the curb.



THE ECHO

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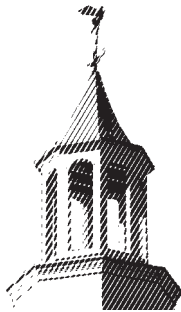
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Next Deadline: November 20, 2017

Letters to the editor are welcome. They must be signed. Articles for publication are also solicited. Please send comments about *The Echo* to the editor, the Mayor, or any Council Member. Volunteer reporters are always needed.



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Stacey Malmgren (301-320-4041)

Next Town Council Meeting: November 13, 2017, 8 PM

others as well) should have open meetings in the Town Hall so that any interested residents could attend.

The Holiday Brunch has been set for December 9 from 10 to 11:30 AM at Town Hall. The main activity will again be gingerbread house decorating.



The Mayor said there has been good response to the Town Clerk/Treasurer job post. Ten resumes (two

from residents, eight from non-residents) have been received and one interview has already been conducted. Residents Ms. Levin and Edie Springuel, who is a former Glen Echo Town Clerk, both said the Council should consider making the position full-time.

Ms. Levin reported that on the evening of October 7, University Avenue was blocked at Princeton Avenue by a vehicle, possibly in association with a private block party held there each year. The Council discussed whether residents should formally notify the Town when they plan to shut down part of a street.

Weathervane Designs

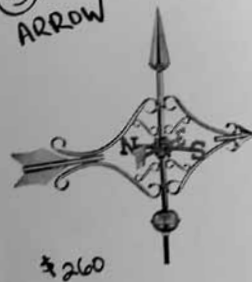
① BANNER



② EAGLE



③ ARROW



④ CUSTOM w/1904"



\$1,150

Weathervane options for the Town Hall presented by Aaron Hirsch



The purview of the new street and sidewalk advisory committee

Town Maintenance

The weathervane on the Town Hall is broken despite several repair attempts. Resident Aaron Hirsch put together some options for a new weathervane, and resident Matt MacFarland offered to climb up there and either attempt to repair it or bring it down for replacement.

The Mayor continues to price various repairs to Oxford Road. The price tag for painting the speed bumps and putting in some better signs: \$1,600. But this would be for a speed bump that the Town ultimately wants moved, so they aren't moving

forward with painting it yet.

The Mayor also reported that the roof of the Town Hall is going to need to be replaced in the near future. The last assessment was it could last five years or one month. The first estimate in is \$48K. Mr. MacFarland said his company could beat that and promised to put in a bid for the work.

Town Expenses

In September, the Town paid \$11,151 to Bolt Legal, \$6,200 to Elegant Recycling & Refuse Services, and \$5,572 to Dennis Alexander (Town auditor). —EMILY PARSONS

IN MEMORIAM

Phyllis Brady Fordham died peacefully of natural causes in her home, surrounded by her daughters on October 12, 2017 at the age of 81. She was a beloved and devoted mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, dear friend to many, mentor, activist, feminist, poet, fearless adventurer, lover of literature, the arts, gardening, and travel. She was known and loved for her boldness, intelligence, and wit.



and career, first earning a Bachelor's degree in social work and political science from the University of Maryland, and later in life, a degree in English literature. She served as councilwoman for the city

of Rockville, Maryland from 1976 to 1982, was a mayoral and state senate candidate, and later a sales and marketing professional in

the commercial real estate business. She served as President of Peerless Rockville historical society from 1974-1976, and as editor of *The Echo* newspaper as well as a volunteer at the Building Museum and The Kennedy Center. Her other pursuits included sailing, fly fishing, riflery and being the life of any party she hosted or attended.

She was born and raised in Philadelphia, married at the age of 21, and became a wife, mother to five daughters, and homemaker. She later moved to Maryland with her family, first to Rockville and then to Glen Echo. In her 30s, she pursued an education

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Having great tools for gardening helps to make it more enjoyable and rewarding, knowing they will work efficiently and can be relied upon do to the work well. Whether you want these for yourself or as a gift for the holidays here are my top picks.

A Japanese tool called Hori Hori knife is a tool that is so multi-use it can be relied upon as a knife, trowel, and twine cutter. As a weeder, it is efficient, sharp, and can go deep into the soil for easy lifting. It is

Hori Hori knife



ideal for digging holes for planting bulbs, garlic, and small plants. One side has a sharp serrated blade that allows it to be used for cutting through roots, sod, or twine and the other side has markings can be used as a

HOLLY IN THE IVY

ruler for planting depth or other needs. Many suppliers include a handy protective carrying case with it. I discovered this tool years ago in Japan and now it is easily available in the US. You can choose a Japanese version or one of the copies ranging from inexpensive versions, around \$12 to the very high-end fancy types, around \$50, with many in between. Make sure to get a stainless steel blade. I prefer one available from Truly Garden (online) called Hori Hori Garden Knife, which sells for \$27.50.

A great pair of hand pruners is a must for every household. Professionally I learned that Felco # 2 are the only ones to use. I have tried many and resorted to cheaper versions since I lose them occasionally (often later discovered in the compost). Yet, I always go back

to my Felco # 2 as the best. Made in Switzerland, Felcos have strength in cutting, versatility in cutting size, and durability—they last a lifetime. Being ergonomically designed they are great for day-to-day use, cutting



Felco No. 2 pruners

branches up to one inch. Constructed with aluminum alloy, they never rust, have a notch for wire cutting, and all parts are replaceable. Plan on spending around \$50 for a pair of Felco # 2s but know they are worth it.

You may remember my piece on Insect Hotels and if you are interested but have not tried it from scratch,



please consider buying the “Build It Yourself” Insect Hotel, a great

gift for children and a fun project. The hotel will provide nesting sites for solitary bees, shelter for mason and orchard bees and is an attractive addition to the garden. Check out A. M. Leonard’s—they offer a great kit that has everything you need to build your hotel for \$35.—**HOLLY SHIMIZU**

IN YOUR BACKYARD

Many birds, such as chickadees, molt at the end of summer. They may enter the winter period with as much as 50% more plumage than at any other time of the year. They also have the ability to fluff their feathers up to increase the thickness of their insulation. However, longer winter nights pose an additional problem for chickadees: Fewer



hours of daylight mean less time for foraging. To compensate, chickadees begin and end their foraging times at lower-light levels and intensify their use of reliably stocked feeders, so that their reduced foraging time is well spent. In fact, various studies have found that chickadees which have access to feeders more successfully survive the winter. The difference in survival rates was most dramatic during months when temperatures dipped below zero. More information is available at www.wildbird.com. —**THE WILD BIRD CENTERS**

TIMELY GARDEN TIPS

■ If you still have fallen leaves remember to use them as a mulch in naturalized areas or beds. They will provide a superior mulch while also providing nutrition to the soil as they decompose.

■ Now is the time to dig up tender plants for saving through the winter. I plan to dig up Caladium and Elephant Ears for storage in the basement. After digging, they should be dried out and the foliage cut off, then potted up and kept dry over winter. In early spring start watering and hopefully they will reemerge.



— OUT AND ABOUT —

If you're feeling like your nest is a bit empty after this year's yard sale, don't fret. November brings the full swing of the holiday season with craft fairs galore. Start with our family's favorite, the **DC Big Flea & Antiques Market** November 4–5. As the largest collection of mid-Atlantic antique vendors, it can only be contained at the Dulles Expo Center. The same location hosts the **Northern Virginia Christmas market** later this month, November 10–12. From November 3–5, Howard County holds their **Crafts Spectacular** at the Howard County Fairgrounds featuring over 250 vendors, including free gift wrapping. Or step into Santa's workshop at the **Maryland Christmas Show** in Frederick, with over 500 merchants. This event spans two weekends. You can beat the crowds pre-Thanksgiving weekend, November 17–19, or join them, November 24–26. For those with an eye to spot a future Picasso at peanut prices, head to Penn Social on November 15 for over 100 emerging artists at the **Pancakes & Booze Art Show**.

Engage the little ones with memories they won't forget. This month wraps up the **Kids Euro Festival** with embassy-hosted events across DC. For families with budding archaeologists, check out the **artefacts workshop** at the Embassy of Greece on November 4. Get the family outdoors and into the winter spirit at **Meadowlark Botanical Garden** in Vienna, Virginia. It transforms into a wonderland of lights starting November 10 (through January 7), each night 5:30–10 PM, and comes equipped with fire pits for roasting s'mores. For a much closer and accessible version of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, come out on November 18 at 10 AM for the **Montgomery County/Silver Spring Thanksgiving Day Parade**. Or simply take note to avoid the road closures beginning at Ellsworth Drive and Veterans Place and proceeding south on Georgia Avenue until Silver Spring Avenue. A few other events for your fall calendar: November 4 is the **DC Beer Festival** in National Park; November 10–12 is the **Maryland Irish Festival** at the state fairgrounds; and on November 11 at 7 PM there will be a free **Tribute Concert for Veteran's Day** at the National Cathedral. —MONA KISHORE

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The appearance of strollers and backyard toys at 41 Wellesley Circle heralds the arrival of a new crew of young kids in town, along with physician mom, Amy Chused (pronounced like the end of “Massachusetts” without the “S”). The family arrived this summer from New York City and are already busy with work and school.

Amy is a hospitalist at Sibley Hospital, providing care to patients admitted there. She enjoys hospital medicine because of the acuity it demands—her patients generally need significant and often complex care, and she isn’t ruled by the clock like a general practitioner tends to be. She has also developed an interest

NEW TO TOWN

in palliative care, helping patients and their families be less scared and reach hard decisions when facing end-of-life issues.

Amy began her job search in D.C. when faced with the unappealing prospect of “graduating” from affordable graduate student housing in New York. She worked for eight years as a hospitalist and teaching attending physician at New York Presbyterian Hospital. She grew up here, attending Beauvoir School and National Cathedral School (I tipped her off to Beauvoir’s magnificent playground). Her parents and brother live nearby.

Amy is mom to twins David and Elspeth, who are kindergarteners at Bannockburn, and two-year-old Diana, who attends the Goddard School. She started



her family after realizing that her desire to have kids outweighed her concern about doing it without a partner. She describes her biological clock as “ticking loudly” at age 38. The family

is aided by an au pair, Dulce, who is from Mexico.

After years in Manhattan, Amy appreciates “nature-filled” Glen Echo, and the children are delighted by the squirrels, bunnies, and cicadas that surround us. They are also taking advantage of the resources at Glen Echo Park, where David is taking an Adventure Theater class.

Amy is a fan of science fiction and fantasy books and would love recommendations and to share her collection. She also enjoys board games and would be interested in an occasional musical evening. She was once a member of a “psinging” (pseudo singing) group that jammed to the Rise Up Singing songbook.

—ANGELA HIRSCH

THE DISH



Sometimes it’s nice to cook something a little decadent. I was recently surprised to find inspiration in a decidedly non-decadent work-a-day staple: **the potato**.

I took small new potatoes and boiled them whole (and unpeeled) for 15 minutes. Truly, you could use any potato on hand. Pour off the water, keep the fire going on medium, and add what you think is an appropriate amount of butter, at least a couple of tablespoons. With a potato masher, smash the potatoes flat, keeping them relatively intact. Salt and pepper. Cook until crispy and brown, about 4 minutes, then flip and do the same on the other side.

So far, it’s sounding pretty typical, right? Take a deep breath and prepare to pamper yourself—you deserve this every now and then. Serve each person a portion of the potatoes and top with a tablespoon of **creme fraiche** and a scoop of your preferred **caviar**. A deluxe baked potato? Only fried?

It might be tough to come up with a main course that can stand up to the competition. I go for rack of lamb, which needs no pity along side this indulgent dish. —EMILY PARSONS



“Yes, they are ruining it, but remember in our time frame, soon it won’t be there!”

CARTOON BY JOE SHANNON

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SIGHTS OF THE SEASON

October brought the annual Town yard sale and Halloween



The memorial for our friend and neighbor **Phyllis Fordham** was held on October 20 at the Church of the Little Flower. It seemed like half the Town was there to honor and remember Phyllis and to grieve their loss with her family. Many came back afterward, to Phyllis's at 6103 Princeton Avenue, her home of the last twenty years. There was a lunch there in her backyard, live music, and a party that went on for hours. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. That beautiful Friday was also a reminder of what a special place Glen Echo is and what a wonderful community of friends can be found here.

.....

There has been much discussion recently on the Town listserv about **cars speeding** down University

HAVE YOU HEARD?



Avenue. With the volume of small children swelling, this is a serious concern. Residents have discussed speed bumps, new signage, and strategic placement of cones. The conversation will continue as the street and sidewalk advisory committee holds regular open meetings. In the meantime, residents can start by slowing way down while driving through Town.

.....

It's time for **Bannockburn Nursery School's fall rummage sale** at the

Bannockburn Clubhouse! You can donate anything you didn't sell in the Town yard sale November 14-16,

and come shop on Saturday, November 18 from 9 AM-12 PM. Early birds can start shopping at 8:30 AM for \$5. Donations can include furniture, clothing/shoes, toys, baby items, household goods, kitchen gadgets/appliances, working electronics, books, dvds, etc. There is also a "Chic Boutique" with higher end items, so please keep that in mind while cleaning out your home. Email eileenreyna313@



Enjoy *The Echo*? **You could be a part of it.** I am looking for someone to take over circulation, which means mailing copies to paying subscribers outside of Town, as well as high ups at the Park and in local government. Susan Grigsby is hoping to retire after many years of doing this service, and it is a very important position. I am also always looking for residents interested in writing. If you have an idea or just the will, let me know and we can work together. Years ago, there was a Town news feature in *The Echo* called "The Keyhole." Residents were asked to share information via a box at the Post Office. Today, I populate the "Have You Heard" feature as best as I can, but I know there is tons of Town news that I'm missing. I hope you will write to me of kids' performances, school sports triumphs, renovations, curious animal encounters, public service announcements, etc. that you'd like to share.



Finally, I'd like to specifically invite any of Glen Echo's young people to consider contributing. I've recently heard of a couple of junior versions of *The Echo*, which is wonderful, but there is room for those voices in these pages as well. In past years, Ola Simpson, then a recent high school graduate, wrote about a summer trip to Poland, the country of her birth, and Emelia Bohi, age 12 at the time, wrote about getting to meet the Pope. If you feel inspired by something that you could share with the Town, write me! I can help you hone your ideas and your writing. There is another opportunity here for a high schooler interested in journalism: I'd love to have an editorial intern for fact-checking and research, as well as writing, for which you can most likely get school volunteer credit. If you feel inspired to get involved, write me at TheEchoEditor@gmail.com. —EMILY PARSONS

Town of Glen Echo, Maryland
Chartered 1904 | Centennial 2004

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Welcome

THE ECHO
Published once, twice for most of
the year, irregularly

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Our Town website, *GlenEcho.org*, has a new look designed by Bruno-LandMedia. Check it out!

of DC has attracted women interested in science by encouraging the expansion of one's intellect through writing and sharing a paper on any scientific subject of personal interest in a thorough and scholarly manner. In 1895, before the Wright brothers, Mrs. Oldman presented "Aerial Navigation." In 1974, Mrs. Dryden presented "Skylab." In

gmail.com if you have any larger items that need to be picked up. All profits from the rummage and bake sale go directly to supporting this wonderful community preschool.

Money and a charging block were stolen from the **Glen Echo Park Aquarium** sometime during the last week of September. The money, which came from the aquarium's collection of donations, totaled about \$50-\$60. Luckily, the coffer had been recently emptied. There was no sign of forced entry.

From its early roots in the woman's suffrage movement over 100 years ago, **Eistophos Science Club**

2009, microbiologist and Glen Echo resident **Diana Hudson-Taylor**, presented "String Theory Tying Everything Together." Sharing presentations keeps the spark of scientific inquiry burning. You can join the next meeting of the club on November 10 from 1-4 PM at our Town Hall.

After many hours of labor by **Patty Sieber**, **Alec Graham**, and **Mary Parsons**, the new **Town Directory** will be appearing on doorsteps soon. Thanks to them for the effort of getting it together! The goal is to update it annually, if possible. If you have a correction or update to your entry, email TheEchoEditor@gmail.com.

They say it's your Birthday!

Nov. 18, **Kate Dobson**, 9
Nov. 19, **Cristina Hooper**, 7
Nov. 19, **Caroline Koonce**, 8
Nov. 29, **Magdalena Castro**, 14

GOINGS ON

Glen Echo Town Hall Events

FSGW English Country Dance, Wednesdays, **Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29**, 8-10:30 PM, free to Town residents



November 10 1-4 PM Eistophos Science Club of DC meets, open to residents

Local Events

November 18 8:30 AM-12 PM, Rummage Sale at Bannockburn Nursery School

Glen Echo Park Events

November 1 & 15 11 AM-1 PM, Animal story time at the aquarium, for ages 2-5, standard entry fees apply

November 12 3-5 PM, The Folklore Society of Greater Washington presents a Family Dance in the Spanish Ballroom's back room, \$5



The Puppet Co. www.thepuppetco.org; 301-634-5380 **Pinocchio** through November 17

Tiny Tots select Weds, Sats, and Sundays at 10AM

Adventure Theater MTC

www.adventuretheater-mtc.org; 301-634-2270

Frosty the Snowman November 17-December 31

LADIES THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30 8 PM

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NIGHT



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O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

■ **SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE**

Holy Eucharist 8:00 a.m.
Nursery Care Adult Forum 9:15 a.m.
Choral Eucharist & Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Wednesdays: Morning Prayer at 9:00 a.m.; Eucharist at Noon
Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Potluck & Christian Education
Thanksgiving Day at 10:00 a.m.

■ **MUSIC AT REDEEMER SERIES**

Sunday, November 5th, 5 p.m.

Gabriel Faure's Requiem

& Remembrance of all Faithful Departed

Sunday Services are available on our website!

<http://www.redeemerbethesda.org/worship/service-recordings/>

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