



PUBLISHED SINCE 1948 FOR THE TOWN OF GLEN ECHO, MARYLAND ~ CHARTERED IN 1904 ~ MARCH 2019

TOWN COUNCIL NOTES

Mayor Polak, the entire Council, Manager Nicole Ventura, and Town lawyer Ron Bolt, along with five residents were in attendance at the Town Council Meeting on February 11.

Vassar Circle Roadwork

The meeting opened with a detailed discussion about the pending roadwork on Vassar Circle. Work to widen the road around the circle is expected to start in mid-March and should be completed with a temporary topcoat by mid-May. A final topcoat will be installed in sections after construction of each home is complete. A bond for this roadwork will be posted with the County to protect against incomplete or improper work. Via Mr. Bolt, the Town asked the County if it could be coinsured under the County bond and the County denied the request. The Council discussed whether the Town should also impose a second

bond on the builder to protect the Town if it disagrees with the County inspection of the completed roadwork. After a lengthy exchange, the push for a second bond dissipated as the Council appeared to favor relying on Joe Toomey, the Town's recently hired professional engineer, to review the roadwork as it occurs and inform the County of problems if they should arise. No specific decision was made, so it's possible this issue is not closed.

Small Cell Towers

Last month, the Council introduced an ordinance requiring service providers get a permit from the Town before installing small cell towers. The council pro-

ceeded to pass the ordinance unanimously. Additionally, the Council agreed to send letters of support to state and national level bills that allow municipalities such as Glen Echo to restrict small cell tower installation.

Town Communications

As noted in last month's *Echo*, the Council continues to strive for improved communications with residents. Important issues are communicated via hand delivered flyers and an email blast. It is difficult to know which residents are or are not included in the email blast because addresses do not directly map to residents names. If you do not currently receive official Town email from townhall@glenecho.org, you may send a request to that address to be added to the Town's email list. Note, the Town listserv, via Yahoo Groups, is not the official communica-

tion channel for the Town government. While many Town issues are discussed on the listserv, not all official Town messages are necessarily included.

Livable Town Committee

Julia Wilson, from the Livable Town Committee, attended to announce two upcoming events. A pre-Oscars family movie night was planned for the evening of February 23 in the Town Hall. The film, *Incredibles 2*, was nominated for an Oscar in the Best Animated Feature category. Looking further ahead to next month, we will celebrate the Town's birthday with a Founders' Day Game Day on April 14 from 2-5 PM. The party will be held in front of the Town Hall, and Harvard Avenue may be closed to traffic to enhance that block-party feel. Cornhole, Capture the Flag, and other games are on the agenda, and there

THE ECHO

Distributed free to Glen Echo residents. Subscriptions for non-residents: \$12 per year (to subscribe call Susan Grigsby, 301-229-7735). Copies of *The Echo* are on file at Little Falls Library. Also provided online at www.glenecho.org. Total circulation: 190.

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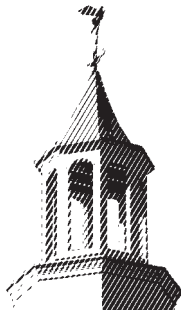
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Next Deadline: March 20, 2019

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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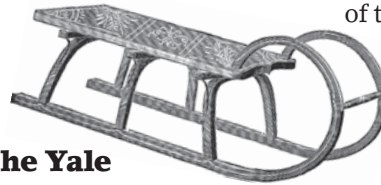
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TOWN MANAGER

Nicole Ventura (townhall@glenecho.org)

Next Town Council Meeting: March 11, 2019, 8 PM

are rumors of a birthday cake and some snacks being provided. We won't name names, but the idea of a Council Member dressing up as one of the Baltzley brothers was discussed.



The Yale Sledding Hill

As many of you may have seen on the Town listserv, the status of the traditional Town sledding hill on Yale Avenue has recently been called into question. The Council was told by Mayor Polak that the new residents on Yale had asked that the street be plowed because an older parent, also living in the house, had difficulty getting to appointments. This brought up legal and insurance implications of

purposely maintaining an unplowed street. The Mayor hopes to find a way forward that includes maintaining a plowed or shoveled path for 6001 Yale and possibly limiting the amount of time the street remains

unplowed and sled-friendly. It seems likely that an agreement can be reached, because during the *Echo's* interview with the new family on Yale (see page 5), it became clear that they are, in fact, in favor of keeping the sledding hill.

MacArthur Crosswalk

In November 2017, we reported that a pedestrian activated crosswalk light would be installed on MacArthur Boulevard at Princeton Avenue. Recently, Council Member Stiglitz checked in with the

County, and they confirmed that the design was complete and hopefully installation will take place in the next couple months.

Town Business

Ms. Ventura provided several updates regarding Town management and budget details. Four bids are in for Town



The sledding hill was plowed on February 20.


PHOTO COURTESY CONRAD HIRSCH

landscaping and right-of-way maintenance. The Council decided to award the contract to Hughes Landscaping, and the Town expects to save nearly \$1,000 per month compared to the past contracts for the same services. Several budget details and adjustments were discussed based on recent changes, including increased hours for Ms. Ventura and costs associated with the newly retained professional engineering

services. The Council also agreed to award a contract to Katchmark to install the new weathervane on top of the Town Hall, and they will guaranty the work for one year.

Town Expenses

In January, the Town paid \$9,783 to Rolling Acres Landscaping (snow removal), \$3,100 to Goode Companies (trash service), and \$2,050 to Kencor, Inc. (elevator). —**BILL VINCENT**



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ELECTION NOTICE

On Monday, May 6, from 5 to 9 PM at the Town Hall, Glen Echo will hold its election for two seats on the Town Council currently held by Dia Costello and Nancy Long. Ms. Long will be retiring after more than half a century of service (more on that in an upcoming issue!). This is a great opportunity to become more involved in your community. All seats will be for a four-year term. Candidates must be registered Glen Echo voters who have resided in the Town at least one year prior to the election and be at least 25 years of age. They are not required to be U.S. citizens. The age to vote is 18.




2019, which is 20 days prior to the election. Candidacy letters should be delivered to Jan M. Shaut, Supervisor, Board of Elections, 6004 Harvard Avenue, Glen Echo, MD 20812. Absentee ballots will be provided to those requesting them—contact Ms. Shaut (JShaut@gmail.com) prior to the election if you need one.

The Echo would like to offer space in the May issue for statements from any candidates running. The deadline for those statements to be delivered to TheEchoEditor@gmail.com (or in writing to 6001 Bryn Mawr Avenue) is April 20. Candidates can write up to 300 words and should include a headshot. If you are planning on running, please let *The Echo* know as soon as possible! —**EMILY PARSONS**

Anyone who would like to run for these offices must file a written declaration of candidacy by April 16,

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NEW TO TOWN

Word on the street was that the new neighbors at the bottom of Yale put the kibosh on the traditional sledding hill, asking that it be plowed. The newcomers have turned to *The Echo* to clear their names.



Roshini Thinakaran and her family moved into their new home at 6001 Yale in November—just in time for the darkest days of the year and a lengthy stretch of rain and miserable weather. Roshini was surprised, when snow replaced the rain for a day in January, to discover that her new home was at the terminus of a very popular sledding hill. The normally quiet street was filled with the delighted shrieks of Glen Echo's children.

After learning about this long and beloved Glen Echo tradition, she generously agreed to accommodate it. She has asked for a path to be shoveled to reach her car, which she's happy to park on Columbia Avenue when snow is predicted. Neighbors have jumped to fill the request, so there is no reason the sledding hill can't be back for any late season snowstorms!

Roshini works in real

estate, mainly on the investor and lending side of the transaction. Prior to working in real estate, Roshini was a filmmaker. She has lived in Iraq, Lebanon, and Dubai, and has worked on film projects in Iraq, Liberia, and Afghanistan, as well as in parts of the United States. Her documentary projects focused on marginalized communities, including women living in war zones.

Roshini was born in Sri Lanka but has lived in the DMV area for more than 30 years. She moved to Glen Echo from Friendship Heights, looking for more space to share with her family. Her son Sammy is 15 months old, and her father also lives with the family. Her husband, Gilmar Paulino da Silva, spends part of the year in Brazil but will join the family in Glen Echo in the coming months. Roshini's mother cares for Sammy during the day.

Like all of us, Roshini is eager for the arrival of spring and more time outdoors. Sammy will join the playgroup at Glen Echo Park, and they look forward to meeting neighbors, especially those with young kids. And when the snow returns next winter, they will be ready. "My husband and Sammy will be the first ones down the hill." —ANGELA HIRSCH

Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

March 5th—5:00—7:00pm

Ash Wednesday Services—March 6th

7:30 am, Noon, 7:30 pm

Upcoming Concert Events

Chuyoung & Eric Suter, March 2nd, 5pm

Ticket information at:

www.musicatredeemer.org

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Holy Eucharist at 8:00 and 10:30 am

Wednesday Services

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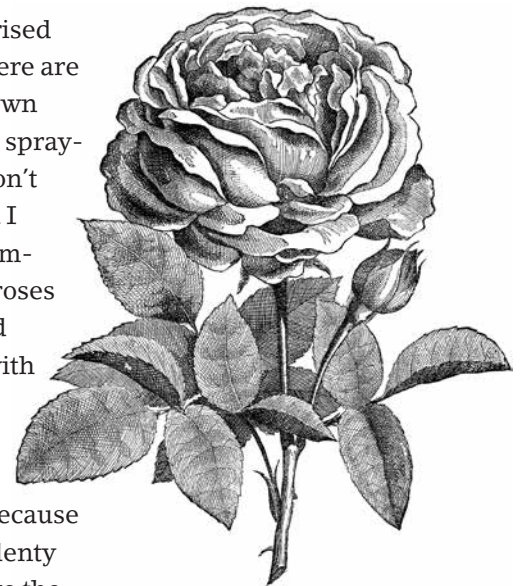
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HOLLY IN THE IVY

People are surprised to learn that there are roses that can be grown successfully without spraying chemicals and don’t require intense care. I can confidently recommend five different roses that do well here and blend successfully with other garden plants.

February or early March is the perfect time to plant roses because the roots will have plenty of time to grow before the stressful heat of summer. In late winter, roses are often planted as bare root plants. However, the usual containerized plants work as well. If given a choice, I suggest selecting roses that are grown on their own roots. If the plant has been grafted onto a different rose, the top of the plant dies back and will grow again from the base and it will still be the original rose.

Specific conditions are needed for roses to grow well. The best conditions include: a minimum of six hours of direct sunlight, a soil with good nutrition (plenty of compost added), no root competition from surrounding plants, and good air circulation to lessen the risk of leaf diseases. In order to keep your rose bush blooming, you need to dead-head regularly. This simply means cutting



off the fading flowers to encourage the rose to keep producing new flowers.

I am placing Rosa “Mrs. Dudley Cross” at the top of my list because she is almost thornless and this will alleviate the annoyance of being pricked as you putter in the garden. She has other attributes which include great repeat bloom, fragrant double flowers which open as a light yellow and darken to pink as they age, and new foliage that will be a beautiful red color. These plants will grow 4 to 6 feet tall and about the same width. This Tea rose was bred in 1907 in England and has truly stood the test of time.

Another fantastic rose that I have grown for years is Rosa “Heritage” — it is also called Rosa “Ausblush”. It is beloved for its lovely fragrance, long blooming period, and overall toughness.



IN YOUR BACKYARD

Birds have no teeth for chewing, but many consume hard foods such as grains and seeds almost exclusively. So, what helps birds digest these tough morsels?

The answer is in a bird's stomach—the lower part of its stomach, to be specific, in an area called the gizzard. Here the mixing and grinding of food that occurs in human mouths takes place. But instead of bicuspid teeth, the gizzard uses "grit"—small rocks, shells, and sand—to break apart hard foods. The bird swallows the grit specifically to help with digestion. And when the grit wears down, the bird simply passes it as waste and consumes a fresh supply. Grit is easily accessible in the wild, so it's not usually necessary to put it out at your feeding station. However, when snow covers the natural supply, you can add some. Use a ratio of about one-part coarse sand or ground clam or oyster shells to 25 parts or so of seed.

When the usual grit ingredients aren't available, some birds will pick up things such as fruit pits as a substitute. Other, more remarkable objects have been recovered from bird gizzards, once nearly starting a gold rush! Birdlore has it that way back in 1911, small gold nuggets were found in ducks shot during hunting season. The largest piece was worth about 50¢, sending an entire Northern Virginia community out "prospecting." —THE WILD BIRD CENTERS



with these plants is pruning off the wayward canes. Plants can climb 20 feet and provide one-time blooming in spring. These plants originated in China and made their way to England in 1824.

I was once the primary caretaker of an "Antique Rose Garden," and I learned that every year is different in the world of rose care

due to the weather and other environmental factors. Because of our excessive rainfall this year, we may see more disease. If you are going to plant a rose, the most important thing is to pick a great performer known for good disease resistance. It will give you plenty of enjoyment as well as gorgeous cut flowers on your table. —HOLLY SHIMIZU

Mrs. Dudley Cross



blend well in garden beds. The Marie Pavie rose dates back to 1888. For climbing roses, I have had great success with Noisette roses. Because these plants have tall canes, they are often grown as climbers. Champney's Pink Cluster, which originated in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1802, is a vigorous plant that grows clusters of pale pink double flowers with a sweet musky fragrance. The foliage is attractive, and the plant is almost thornless. I have seen it grown successfully up into trees, along fences, or on trellises.

These plants have gorgeous cupped, medium to soft pink flowers. The flowers smell like honey and citrus and will appear in flushes from spring through late autumn. Plants tend to get rather tall, around 6 to 8 feet, so allow them plenty of space in order to thrive. I adore the rose called Marie Pavie and advise growing her in areas where you want a smaller plant. She is tough and versatile, and grows well in containers or as a low hedge. She has few thorns, blooms constantly, and has a divine scent. The flowers begin with stunning small pale pink buds that open into white flowers. Since plants only grow to a height of 3 feet, she will

Champney's Pink Cluster



And last, but by no means least, is the Yellow Lady Banks Rose. This beautiful climbing rose is often seen growing along fences and up walls in Georgetown. It is a thornless, vigorous plant with masses of miniature, double buttery yellow blooms. The primary effort

Marie Pavie





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OUT AND ABOUT

Kick off Women's History Month by going way back in time to Ancient Egypt at the **National Geographic Museum** downtown. The museum's new exhibit commemorating the **Queens of Egypt** starts March 1. Artifacts from the lives of Nefertiti and Cleopatra will be on display alongside tombs from the Valley of the Queens. It runs through September 2.

Steep yourself in more arts by heading to the **Freer Gallery of Art** on March 2 to get transported by the Grammy Award winning **Kronos Quartet**. The group will be holding a master class after the show. While registration is full for the class, hopefuls can see if space is available by sticking around and join-



Cherry Blossom Festival parade

ing on a first-come basis.

If you're looking to find a new way to enjoy the spring flowers, then consider joining the adults-only botanical **scavenger hunt** on March 2 at the **US Botanic Garden**. This evening event is advertised as a "plant-based mystery" full of challenging trivia and refreshments to keep you going through all the different forensic stations.

Take note that this year **opening day for the**

Washington Nationals

arrives early on March 28. Come out and support your team in their season opener against the New York Mets. Go Nats!

No spring in the DMV would be complete without the **Cherry Blossom Festival**, this year running March 20 to April 13. Weather permitting, here's hoping we have more blooms and less rain. While most of the springtime



box, join improvisational acting coach and teachers from local **ArtStream** for a free **introduction to improv class** on March 29.

Held in the Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce, this early afternoon class will go over the basics of acting on your feet—skills that come in handy more often than you might think. —MONA KISHORE

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Glen Echo's Livable Town Committee—**Julia Wilson, Dan Spealman, Angela and Aaron Hirsch, Martha Shannon, and Tim Bragan**—have been busy. First, the group hosted another family movie night at Town Hall with *Incredibles 2* on February 23. And next month, they are planning a full-on, **Town-wide Game Day** to celebrate our founding 115



Glen Echo founders Edwin Baltzley ...

...and Edward Baltzley

years ago. Save the date for April 14 from 2–5 PM for cornhole, Capture the Flag, Town-themed Jeopardy, and various board games at the Town Hall. Some parts of Harvard

and University Avenues may be closed off for the celebration. So, bring a desert, and a Town flag if you happen to have one lying around, and come catch up with neighbors.

.....
Harvard Avenue resident **Jan Shaut** announced on the listserv that she is retiring from Case Design after 45 years. With more time on her hands, she will be taking over

as supervisor of the Town's Board of Elections from **Susan Grigsby**.

DC's Department of Transportation is considering a **new three-mile pedestrian and bike trail** along the **Palisades Trolley Trail**. This grassy stretch along the Potomac River was once home to the Glen Echo Trolley Line connecting the Park to Georgetown. It includes the Foundry Branch Trestle Bridge. The first public meeting on this will be March 7 from 6:30 to 8 PM at the Palisades Neighborhood Library.

OUR TOWN PARK

Making spring and summer camp plans? Don't forget all of the many options right here in Town. For spring break, consider a fine arts camp, polish your acting skills at the award-winning Adventure Theatre, or explore animal architects in the woods! For summer, a broad array of options in-

clude arts, crafts, dance, performing arts, music, puppetry, animation, and photography. Check out the Glen Echo Park spring/summer classes and events catalog online or pick up a copy at the Park.

Planning a big event? Consider the special rental options at the Park which offers unique spaces for corporate events, weddings, and family gatherings. The open-

air Bumper Car Pavilion has been recently upgraded with new curtain walls, fresh paint, and new lighting! The new softer LED lighting brings back the ambiance of an earlier era. You can learn more about this and other rental venues at the Glen Echo Park Rentals Open House on March 30.

Stay tuned here for more information on the ongoing

planning for building renovations and improvements including the upcoming new roof and fire suppression system for the historic Dentzel Carousel and longer-term studies on the needs of the Spanish Ballroom, the Crystal Pool, and playground areas. We will be seeking Town input on our future planning as the process unfolds. —**MARTHA SHANNON**

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The Town Environmental Committee hosted a presentation on composting on February 4 in the Town hall. The speaker was Alan Pultyniewicz of Montgomery County's Division of Solid Waste Services.

On March 30 from 9AM to noon, come shop the annual **Bannockburn Nursery School rummage sale**. But all month long, do some spring cleaning and donate furniture, clothing, shoes, toys, baby items, household goods, kitchen gadgets, appliances, working electronics,

books, and dvds—that are in good condition, please. Donation days are March 27 and 28, 9 AM to 8 PM.

Real Estate Report

30 Wellesley Circle dropped its asking price to \$999,000 and went under contract within three days.



Construction has begun at 6006 Cornell.



They Say it's Your **BIRTHDAY!**

- March 5 **Aaron Kraus**, 12
- March 5 **Zachary Kraus**, 12
- March 11 **Greta Hirsch**, 8

GOINGS ON

Glen Echo Town Hall Events

March 6, 13, 20, 27 8–10:30 PM, FSGW English Country Dance, Wednesdays, free to Town residents

Local Events

March 2 9 AM–1 PM, Church of the Little Flower rummage sale

March 8 7–9 PM, family bingo night at the Clara Barton Community Center, \$5 bingo cards

March 12 1:30 PM, Matthew Mintz discusses medical marijuana, Little Falls Library, for seniors

March 14 1:30 PM, Nancy Altman on Social Security, Little Falls Library, for seniors

March 30 9 AM–Noon, Bannockburn Nursery School rummage sale, early-bird shopping at 8:30 AM, \$5

Glen Echo Park Events

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 11:30 AM, Animal story time at the aquarium, for ages 2–5, standard entry fees apply

March 10 3–5 PM, Family Dance in the Ballroom Back Room, \$5

March 30 11 AM–2 PM, party rental spaces open house

The Puppet Co. www.thepuppetco.org; 301-634-5380 **Rapunzel**, through March 24

Jack and the Beanstalk, March 28–May 5

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

Adventure Theater MTC

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

Winnie the Pooh, March 29–May 26



PLEASE NOTE EARLIER TIME!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, AT 7:30 PM

LADIES NIGHT

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SPRING AWAKENING WEEKEND

FRIDAY MARCH 22 THEME SPRING (\$5 admission)

4:00-4:45 Journey Space Welcome
 5:00 - 5:45 Spring into Movement: Alchemical Alignment
 6:00 - 6:45 Spring into Meditation: Blossoming Your Mind
 7:00 - 8:00 Spring into Your New Teaching Location:
 Journey Space Rental Orientation

SATURDAY MARCH 23 THEME BALANCE

(\$10 admission)
 12:00-12:45 Journey Space Welcome
 1:00-2:15 Balance in Your Gut: Healthy Digestion
 2:45-4:00 Balance in Your Practice: Yoga Poses
 4:15-5:15 Balance In Your Emotions : Laughter Yoga
 5:30- 6:00 Balance in Your Soul: Shamanic Self-Awareness

SUNDAY MARCH 24 THEME RENEWAL

(\$10 admission)
 12:00-12:45 Journey Space Welcome
 1:00-2:15 Renewing our Connection to the Stars
 2:30-3:45 Renew our commitment to develop a practice:
 Yoga Beyond the Poses
 4:00-4:45 Nia Free Dance
 5:00-6:00 Heart Renewal: Restoring Your Heart with Yoga

*Consider renting the Journey Space rooms
 for your next healing event.*

Wed Mar 06, 13, 20, 27 6:30 PM - 7:45 PM
 Foundations of Yoga Julie Holly

Fri, Mar 08 2019 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM
 Shamanic Self - Awareness Christel Libiot

Sat, Sun Mar 09-10 Introduction to
 Biodynamic Crainosacral Therapy

Sun, Mar 17 2019 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM
 Circle of Compassion Lourdes Billingsley

Fri , Apr 12 2019 9:30 AM - 5:30
 Shamanic Self - Awareness Christel Libiot

Sun, Apr 14 2019 4:00 PM - 5:15 PM
 Circle of Compassion Lourdes Billingsley

Apr 25 - Apr 28 2019 8:30 AM - 6:30 PM
 Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun Alchemical Alignment

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